

Zara's Watercolour Exploration Journal

Learning objective: To experiment with and evaluate different watercolour techniques, including washes, wet-on-wet, and colour blending.

Use this journal to document your watercolour experiments. Follow Zara the Zebra's guidance to test how water and pigment interact. After each technique, record your observations about how the colours behaved and how the paper responded.

Word bank: pigment · translucent · wash · dilute · saturation · blend · texture · gradient · opacity · absorb

1. Technique One: The Flat Wash. Describe the consistency of your paint and explain how you ensured the colour remained even across the paper. (3 marks)

2. Technique Two: Wet-on-Wet. Observe how the colours moved when you added paint to a damp surface. Compare this to how they behave on dry paper. (3 marks)

3. Colour Mixing: Select two primary colours. Explain the process of creating a secondary colour directly on the paper versus mixing it in your palette. (3 marks)

4. Justify your choice of brush size for creating fine details versus covering large areas of the page. (3 marks)

5. Explain why the amount of water you add changes the 'value' or lightness of the watercolour paint. (3 marks)

6. What might happen if you used a thicker, textured paper compared to a thin, smooth paper? Predict the difference in the final result. (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Choose a natural landscape. Create two versions: one using a monochromatic colour scheme (different shades of just one colour) and one using a complementary colour scheme. Write a paragraph evaluating which version expresses the 'mood' of the landscape more effectively and why.