

Poetic Patterns with Zara the Zebra

Learning objective: To identify and use poetic devices, including alliteration, onomatopoeia, and rhyme schemes in descriptive poetry.

Read each question carefully and use your knowledge of poetry to help Zara the Zebra complete her nature-inspired poem collection.

Zara the Zebra is painting a picture with words. She loves to use sounds that match the action, words that start with the same letter for effect, and patterns that make her poems bounce along when read aloud.

Word bank: Alliteration · Onomatopoeia · Rhyme · Stanza · Rhythm · Imagery

1. Zara wants to write a line using alliteration about a busy bee. Write a line where at least three words start with the same sound. (2 marks)

2. What is the term for a word that sounds like the noise it describes (e.g., 'buzz' or 'splash')? Give two examples of these words. (2 marks)

3. Look at these two lines: 'The lion paced across the floor, / He let out a mighty, golden roar.' Which two words create the rhyme? If you added a third line, what word would need to rhyme with them? (3 marks)

4. Explain in your own words what a 'stanza' is in a poem. (2 marks)

5. Think of a piece of fruit. Write a sentence using 'imagery' to describe it so that the reader can see, smell, or taste it without you naming the fruit. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of a magical garden that Zara the Zebra might visit. Around the edge of your drawing, write three 'onomatopoeia' words that you might hear in that garden, such as 'crackle', 'rustle', or 'pop'.



Extension challenge: Choose a favourite animal. Write a four-line poem (a quatrain) about them using an AABB or ABAB rhyme scheme. Make sure to include at least one example of alliteration.