

Festive Patterns with Zara the Zebra

Learning objective: To explore symmetry, pattern, and composition in Christmas-themed art using geometric shapes and repetitive motifs.

Follow Zara the Zebra's guide to creating a symmetrical festive design. Use your pencil to lightly sketch your shapes before adding colour and detail. Focus on keeping your patterns balanced on both sides of the page.

Draw: Create a symmetrical festive composition. Start by drawing a large, six-pointed snowflake in the centre of your page. Surround the snowflake with four identical baubles arranged in the corners. Decorate each bauble with a different geometric pattern (such as zig-zags, circles, or triangles). Use a ruler to ensure your lines are sharp and precise. Finish by adding a border of repeating leaf shapes or holly berries around the edge of the paper.



Label words: Symmetry · Geometric · Tessellation · Ornament · Contrast · Radial balance

Steps:

1. Step 1: Draw a large vertical line down the centre of your paper. Why is this useful for creating symmetry?
2. Step 2: Draw two identical baubles, one on the left of your line and one on the right. How do you ensure they are the same size?
3. Step 3: Add a geometric pattern to your baubles. Describe the shapes you have chosen to use.
4. Label the 'Radial balance' point at the centre of your snowflake design.

5. Step 4: Use a mix of warm and cool colours for your design. Which colours did you choose to create contrast?