

Creative Collages with Zara the Zebra

Learning objective: To explore the art of collage by experimenting with textures, overlapping layers, and composition to create a mixed-media masterpiece.

Read each question carefully and apply your knowledge of artistic techniques. Remember to consider how Zara the Zebra uses patterns and materials to create her vibrant artwork.

Zara the Zebra loves to collect scraps of coloured paper, fabric, and natural materials to build her art. A collage is a technique where different materials are glued onto a surface to create a new, exciting image. By layering these items, artists can add depth and tactile interest to their work.

Word bank: Texture · Composition · Layering · Mixed-media · Overlay · Contrast · Ephemeral · Assemble

1. Define the term 'mixed-media' in the context of collage. Why might an artist choose to use more than one type of material in a single piece? (2 marks)

2. Zara is planning a collage of a forest. Explain why overlapping pieces of paper in the foreground might create a better sense of depth than placing them side-by-side. (2 marks)

3. Compare and contrast using 'rough' materials (like sandpaper or twigs) versus 'smooth' materials (like glossy magazine paper). How does each change the viewer's experience? (2 marks)

4. Justify your choice: If you were creating a collage of a stormy ocean, would you use torn edges or straight-cut edges? Explain your reasoning using artistic vocabulary. (2 marks)

5. What might happen if an artist did not use a glue or adhesive with enough strength for their chosen materials? Consider the long-term stability of the artwork. (2 marks)

Draw: In the space below, sketch a design for a collage titled 'The Texture Garden'. Label which materials you would use for the sky, the flowers, and the ground to show a variety of textures.



Extension challenge: Design a 'found object' collage plan. List five items you could scavenge from your home or school that are usually thrown away (like old newspapers, fabric scraps, or dry leaves). Write a short paragraph explaining how you would arrange these to create a pattern that reflects Zara the Zebra's love for stripes and geometric shapes.