

Exploring Impressionism with Zara the Zebra

Learning objective: To understand the Impressionist style by using short, visible brushstrokes and light to capture a moment in time.

Follow Zara the Zebra's guide to create your own Impressionist-style landscape. Focus on how light changes the colours of objects rather than drawing sharp outlines.

Draw: Draw a local park or garden scene as if you are standing outside at sunset. Use a variety of short, thick brushstrokes (or pencil marks) to show movement. Focus on capturing the 'flicker' of light on leaves or water. Do not use a black pen for outlines; instead, define the shapes of trees and flowers using contrasting colours like deep blues, purples, or warm oranges.



Label words: Impressionism · Brushstrokes · Light · Texture · Palette · Vibrant · Landscape

Steps:

1. Why did Impressionist artists prefer to use small, visible brushstrokes instead of smooth, blended lines?
2. Look at your drawing. Which colour did you use to represent the sunlight, and why did you choose it?
3. Label the part of your drawing where you used 'broken colour' (placing two unmixed colours side-by-side).
4. Step 1: Sketch the horizon line lightly in pencil.
5. Step 2: Apply your sky colours using short, quick dashes rather than long strokes.