

Mastering the Sketch: Zara's Art Studio

Learning objective: To understand the techniques of sketching, including line weight, shading, and observation, as per the Year 5 Art curriculum.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of sketching techniques. You can use them to quiz a partner or study on your own to prepare for our next sketching session with Zara the Zebra.

What is 'Line Weight' in sketching?

Line weight refers to the thickness or darkness of a line, used to show depth, shadow, or the importance of a shape.

What is the sketching technique called 'Hatching'?

Hatching is the use of closely spaced parallel lines to create shade or texture in a drawing.

How does 'Cross-hatching' differ from hatching?

Cross-hatching involves drawing layers of parallel lines that cross over each other to create darker tones.

What is 'Stippling'?

Stippling is a technique where you create tone and texture using many small dots rather than lines.

What is a 'Contour Drawing'?

A contour drawing focuses on the outline of a subject, capturing the edges and main shapes without much internal detail.

What does 'Tone' mean in art?

Tone refers to the lightness or darkness of a colour or a pencil mark, used to show light and shadow.

Why is 'Observation' important for a sketcher?

Observation involves looking closely at the subject's details, proportions, and light sources to make the drawing accurate.

What is the purpose of 'Blending' in a pencil sketch?

Blending is the technique of smoothing out marks to create soft transitions between light and dark areas.

Which pencil grade is best for very dark, soft shading?

A 'B' grade pencil (like 4B or 6B) is softer and creates darker, richer marks.

What is a 'Thumbnail Sketch'?

A small, quick, rough drawing used to plan the composition of a larger piece of work.

What does 'Composition' mean?

Composition is the arrangement of objects or subjects within the drawing space.

Why do artists use a 'Viewfinder' when starting a sketch?

A viewfinder helps an artist isolate a section of a scene to help them focus on the composition.