

Still Life Masterpiece with Zara the Zebra

Learning objective: To explore composition, light, and shadow in still life drawing, focusing on how objects overlap to create depth.

Follow Zara the Zebra's guide to creating a still life drawing. Pay close attention to how light hits your objects and where the shadows fall.

Draw: Create a still life drawing using three items from your classroom or home (e.g., a piece of fruit, a mug, and a book). Arrange them so that they slightly overlap. Use light, sketchy lines to build the composition, then apply pressure with your pencil to create darker shadows and softer, lighter areas to show where the light hits the objects.



Label words: Highlight · Shadow · Overlap · Composition · Texture · Reflected light

Steps:

1. Why is it important to 'overlap' your objects when setting up your still life arrangement?
2. Describe where the 'highlight' should be placed on a round object like an apple.
3. Step 1: Sketch the basic shapes of your three chosen objects lightly with an HB pencil.
4. Step 2: Add shadows to the side of the objects furthest away from your light source.
5. Step 3: Label the 'Highlight' and the 'Shadow' on your finished drawing.