

Mastering Movement: Zara's Post-Impressionist Study

Learning objective: To explore the Post-Impressionist style of Vincent van Gogh by using short, expressive brushstrokes and bold colour choices to convey mood.

Follow the steps below to create your own landscape in the style of Van Gogh. Remember, Zara the zebra loves how patterns and textures can make a picture feel like it is moving!

Draw: Create a landscape scene using short, dashed marks (dabs) rather than long, smooth lines. Include a large, circular sun or moon in the top corner. Use 'swirling' patterns in the sky to show movement, like wind or clouds. Focus on choosing complementary colours (colours opposite each other on the colour wheel, like blue and orange) to make your drawing pop. Fill the entire page with texture—no empty white spaces!



Label words: Impasto · Vibrant · Swirls · Texture · Contrast · Post-Impressionism

Steps:

1. Step 1: Sketch a simple landscape outline, including a large sun or moon in the sky. Label the 'horizon line' on your drawing.
2. Step 2: Van Gogh used 'impasto' technique. Explain why using thick, visible layers of paint might make a drawing look more energetic than using smooth, flat colours.
3. Step 3: Compare and contrast the colours you have chosen for your sky and your ground. How do they

create contrast?

4. Step 4: Draw a series of short, dashed lines in your sky to represent 'swirls'. Label these as 'rhythmic brushstrokes'.

5. Step 5: Justify your choice of colour for the sun or moon. Why did you choose this specific tone to create a mood?

6. Step 6: What might happen to the 'mood' of your artwork if you used only grey and black instead of vibrant colours? Explain your reasoning.