

Zara's Watercolour Wonders

Learning objective: To understand the techniques, materials, and terminology used in watercolour painting.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of watercolour painting. Zara the zebra loves using these techniques to paint the stripes of her friends!

What is a 'wash' in watercolour painting?

A technique where a large area is covered with a thin, fluid layer of diluted paint to create an even background colour.

What is the substance that gives watercolour paint its colour?

Pigment.

What does 'opacity' mean in the context of painting?

How much light can pass through the paint, watercolour is typically transparent, meaning you can see the paper through it.

What happens during the 'bleed' or 'wet-on-wet' technique?

Wet paint is applied onto paper that is already damp, causing the colours to spread and blend into each other softly.

What is the 'dry brush' technique?

Using a brush with very little water and paint to create a textured, scratchy effect on the paper.

Why do artists use a 'resist' method with masking fluid or wax crayons?

To prevent the paint from sticking to certain parts of the paper, keeping those areas white or a specific colour.

What is 'glazing' in watercolour?

Applying a thin, transparent layer of paint over a layer that has already dried to change the colour or depth of the painting.

What is 'stippling'?

Creating patterns or textures by dabbing the tip of the brush onto the paper to make many small dots.

What is the purpose of a palette?

A flat surface used for mixing different colours of paint and water before applying them to the artwork.

What is 'cold press' watercolour paper?

Paper with a slightly textured or 'toothy' surface, which helps the paint stay in the dips and creates interesting effects.

How do you make a watercolour colour lighter?

By adding more water to the mixture, rather than adding white paint.

Why is it important to let a layer dry before 'glazing' over it?

To prevent the colours from mixing together and becoming muddy, and to ensure the new layer stays transparent.