

Autumnal Patterns with Zara the Zebra

Learning objective: To explore color theory and pattern through the observation of fall foliage.

Zara the Zebra is inspired by the changing colors of fall leaves. Read the descriptions below and match them to the correct artistic technique. Then, use your knowledge of warm colors to complete the patterns in the questions.

Word bank: Warm colors · Texture · Symmetry · Contrast · Hue

1. 1. Zara wants to use 'warm colors' for her leaf painting. Name three colors she should choose to represent a crisp fall day. (3 marks)

2. 2. If Zara creates a leaf rubbing by placing a leaf under her paper and shading over it with a pencil, which element of art is she highlighting? Explain why. (2 marks)

3. 3. A maple leaf is often perfectly balanced on both sides of its stem. What is the mathematical term for this 'mirror image' pattern? (1 mark)

4. 4. If Zara paints a bright orange leaf against a dark blue background, she is using a technique to make the leaf stand out. What is this called? (1 mark)

5. 5. Imagine Zara finds a leaf that costs 5p to buy as part of an art collage pack. If she buys 12 leaves, how much will she spend in total? (2 marks)

Draw: In the frame below, draw a large fall leaf. Inside the leaf, create an intricate pattern using only geometric shapes (triangles, squares, and circles). Color the pattern using at least three different shades of red, orange, yellow, and brown.



Extension challenge: Research a famous landscape artist who painted fall scenes. Write a short paragraph explaining how they used light and color to show the changing seasons.