

Zara's Radiant Rangoli Patterns

Learning objective: To explore the cultural significance of Diwali Rangoli and apply mathematical symmetry to create traditional-style designs.

Zara the Zebra loves patterns! In Diwali, families create Rangoli designs on the floor to welcome guests and bring good luck. These designs often use geometric shapes, floral motifs, and perfect symmetry. Look at the questions below to test your knowledge of Rangoli traditions, then use your skills to complete the creative task.

Word bank: Symmetry · Diwali · Colored powder · Geometric · Floral · Welcoming · Reflection

1. Why do families create Rangoli designs at the entrance of their homes during Diwali? Use the word 'welcoming' in your answer. (2 marks)

2. Explain how 'symmetry' is used in Rangoli art. What happens to the design if you draw a line down the center? (2 marks)

3. True or False: Rangoli patterns are only ever made using blue and green colors. Explain your reasoning. (2 marks)

4. List three common shapes or motifs Zara might find in a traditional Rangoli pattern. (2 marks)

5. If a pack of colored Rangoli sand costs £1.50 and you buy four packs to create your design, what is the total cost? (1 mark)

Draw: Using a pencil, draw a square frame. Inside the square, draw a Rangoli design that features a central lotus flower. Ensure your design has 'reflective symmetry' so that the left side is a mirror image of the right side.



Extension challenge: Research the 'Kolam' style of Rangoli. Can you draw a grid of 10x10 dots and try to connect them to create a continuous line pattern without lifting your pencil?