

Exploring Sculpture with Zara the Zebra

Learning objective: To understand key terms, materials, and techniques used in sculpture, reflecting the UK Grade 4 Art curriculum.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of sculpture. Zara the Zebra sees patterns and shapes everywhere—can you master these art terms just like her?

What does 3D mean in sculpture?

3D stands for 'three-dimensional', meaning an object has height, width, and depth, and can be viewed from different angles.

What is 'Form' in art?

Form is the 3D shape of an object that occupies space, unlike a 2D shape on a piece of paper.

What is a 'Relief' sculpture?

A relief sculpture is a piece that projects from a flat background surface, so it is not fully detached from the wall or base.

What is an 'Armature' in sculpture?

An armature is the internal skeleton or frame used to support a sculpture while it is being built with soft materials like clay.

What is 'Additive' sculpture?

Additive sculpture involves building up a form by adding material, such as clay, wax, or found objects.

What is 'Subtractive' sculpture?

Subtractive sculpture involves removing material from a larger block to reveal a form, such as carving stone or wood.

What is 'Modelling'?

Modelling is an additive process where a soft or malleable material, like clay or plasticine, is shaped by hand or with tools.

What is 'Carving'?

Carving is a subtractive technique where a sculptor cuts away pieces of a hard material, such as wood, stone, or plaster.

What is 'Casting'?

Casting is a process where a liquid material (like molten metal or plaster) is poured into a mould and left to harden into a specific shape.

What is 'Texture' in sculpture?

Texture is the surface quality of a sculpture, which can be smooth, rough, bumpy, or patterned, affecting how it feels or looks.

What are 'Found Objects' in sculpture?

Found objects are everyday items (like scrap metal or wood) that an artist chooses to include in a sculpture to give it new meaning.

What is 'Balance' in a sculpture?

Balance is the way a sculpture is distributed so that it stands up correctly and does not fall over.