

Zara's Cubist Adventure: Exploring Picasso

Learning objective: To explore the style of Pablo Picasso by identifying shapes and patterns in portraits and using them to create a unique piece of art.

Look at the artwork created by our friend Zara the Zebra. She has been inspired by an artist named Pablo Picasso. Picasso liked to paint faces by showing them from the front and the side at the same time! Use the questions below to explore this style.

Zara the Zebra loves to paint. She has been looking at the work of Pablo Picasso. Picasso created a style called Cubism, where he used lots of different shapes to build a picture. Sometimes, he would draw an eye looking at you, but the nose would be turned to the side! Zara thinks it is fun to mix up colours and shapes to show how a person feels.

Word bank: Portrait · Shape · Pattern · Colour · Cubism · Face

1. Zara used squares and triangles to make a face. Can you point to a square in your own face or the face of a friend? (2 marks)

2. Picasso liked to use very bright colours. If you were painting a portrait of a happy friend, what colour would you use for their cheeks? (1 mark)

3. In Cubism, we draw parts of the face in different places. If you had an extra eye, where would you put it on your drawing? (2 marks)

4. Look at a mirror. How many shapes can you see in your own face? (For example: are your eyes like circles or ovals?) (2 marks)

5. If you bought a special paintbrush for £1 and a pot of paint for £2, how much money would you spend in total? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a self-portrait using only triangles, circles, and squares. Try to draw one eye looking forward and one eye looking to the side, just like Picasso!



Extension challenge: Find a piece of paper and cut out different shapes from coloured card. Stick them together to make a 'shape-face' collage.