

Zara's Watercolour Garden

Learning objective: To explore the properties of watercolours and identify how mixing water with paint changes its appearance.

Help Zara the Zebra create her rainbow garden! Follow these steps: 1. Dip your brush into a little bit of water. 2. Choose a colour from your paint set. 3. Paint a small circle on your paper. 4. Now, add more water to your brush and paint another circle next to it. Observe how the paint changes when you add more water. Use the questions below to talk about your discovery.

Word bank: water · colour · brush · light · dark · mix

1. When you added more water to your brush, did the colour get lighter or darker? (2 marks)

2. What happens if you let a blue circle and a yellow circle touch while they are still wet? (2 marks)

3. If a box of paints costs £4 and you have £5, how much change would you get back? (2 marks)

4. Can you name one thing in nature that you could paint using the colour green? (2 marks)

5. Why do we need to wash our brush in a jar of clean water before picking a new colour? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a beautiful garden for Zara the Zebra using only watercolour paints. Try to make some flowers look light and pale, and others look bright and bold by changing how much water you use.



Extension challenge: Try painting on dry paper versus painting on paper that you have lightly dampened with a sponge first. How do the colours move differently?