

Zara's Festive Pattern Workshop

Learning objective: To explore the use of symmetry, line, and rhythm in festive art by creating original Christmas-themed patterns.

Zara the zebra is fascinated by how patterns can create a sense of harmony. For this creative task, use the grid provided in your sketchbook to design a festive wrapping paper pattern. You must incorporate the principles of rotational symmetry and alternating rhythm. Use the word bank to ensure you are using the correct artistic terminology in your design notes.

Word bank: Symmetry · Motif · Rhythm · Tessellation · Primary colours · Geometric · Contrast · Repetition

1. Explain why using a repeating 'motif' is an effective way to create a professional-looking festive pattern. (3 marks)

2. Compare and contrast a 'geometric' Christmas pattern with a 'naturalistic' or organic festive design. (3 marks)

3. Justify your choice of colour palette. How does the contrast between your chosen colours help the design stand out? (3 marks)

4. What might happen to the visual balance of your design if you removed the symmetry? Describe the potential effect on the viewer. (3 marks)

5. If you were to print this design on high-quality paper costing £2.50 per sheet, calculate the total cost for 12 sheets of wrapping paper. (2 marks)

6. Propose a way to adapt your pattern so that it could be used for a different celebration while keeping the same 'rhythm' and structure. (3 marks)

Draw: Create a 10cm x 10cm square pattern design that features a central festive motif. Ensure your design uses at least one line of reflectional symmetry and one instance of rotational symmetry. Use a ruler to ensure your geometric lines are precise.



Extension challenge: Design a 'Limited Edition' festive product (such as a gift tag or a luxury card) that incorporates your pattern. Write a short marketing blurb justifying why your design is unique, using at least four terms from the word bank.