

Zara's Colour Theory Masterclass

Learning objective: To understand and apply the principles of the colour wheel, specifically focusing on primary, secondary, and complementary colours.

Follow Zara the Zebra's guidance to complete your colour wheel and apply these principles to your artwork. Use your knowledge of colour mixing to create vibrant contrasts.

Draw: Draw a large, symmetrical 12-segment colour wheel in the centre of your page. Around the outside of the wheel, draw a botanical scene (like a garden) using only complementary colour pairings to make the flowers 'pop' against the foliage. Use precise brushwork to demonstrate colour blending in the tertiary sections.



Label words: Primary · Secondary · Tertiary · Complementary · Hue · Contrast · Saturation · Warm · Cool

Steps:

1. Explain why artists often place complementary colours next to each other in a composition. What effect does this have on the viewer's eye?
2. If you are painting a sunset, which colour 'temperature' group would you primarily use? Justify your choice.
3. Label the three secondary colours on your wheel and state which two primary colours were mixed to create each one.
4. Compare and contrast the effect of using a monochromatic colour scheme versus a complementary colour

scheme in a landscape painting.

5. What might happen if you mixed all three primary colours together in equal amounts? Describe the result.

6. Step 1: Divide your circle into 12 segments. Step 2: Paint the primary colours in their correct positions.

Step 3: Mix and paint the secondary and tertiary colours.