

Zara's Easter Pattern Workshop

Learning objective: To analyse the use of symmetry, geometric patterns, and colour theory in seasonal artistic design.

Use your knowledge of patterns and colour to answer the following questions. Refer to the word bank to help explain your artistic choices.

Zara the zebra is preparing for the spring festival. She believes that Easter art is the perfect opportunity to explore the mathematical beauty of nature through patterns. Zara uses radial symmetry to create balanced egg designs and selects colour palettes that create visual harmony. She reminds us that an artist must consider not just the colours used, but how they interact with one another to draw the viewer's eye.

Word bank: Symmetry · Complementary colours · Geometric · Motif · Hue · Intricate · Contrast · Radial balance

1. Explain why 'radial symmetry' is a popular technique when designing circular or oval-shaped Easter ornaments. How does this technique affect the viewer's perception of the artwork? (2 marks)

2. Compare and contrast the use of 'complementary colours' versus 'analogous colours' in an Easter design. Which would you choose to make a pattern stand out, and why? (3 marks)

3. If you were to design a series of Easter eggs based on a 'spring growth' theme, describe three geometric motifs you would use to represent this concept. (3 marks)

4. Justify your answer: Does adding more intricate detail to a pattern always improve the final result? Consider the balance between simplicity and complexity in your response. (2 marks)

5. What might happen if you used only primary colours in a design intended to look like a soft, pastel-themed spring garden? Explain the visual impact. (2 marks)

Draw: Using a pencil, draw a large oval shape. Divide it into four equal quadrants and create a unique, symmetrical geometric pattern in each section that incorporates at least one floral motif.



Extension challenge: Research the tradition of 'Pysanky' or intricate egg decoration from Eastern European cultures. Write a short paragraph explaining how these artists use specific symbols and colours to convey meaning, then design a 'hidden message' egg of your own using these traditional techniques.