

Zara's Autumnal Artistry: Investigating Patterns and Atmosphere

Learning objective: To analyse the use of colour, contrast, and pattern to create an atmospheric seasonal artwork.

Follow Zara the Zebra's guide to designing your own seasonal masterpiece. Think about how professional artists use light and dark to create a specific mood. Use the boxes below to plan your composition, experiment with colour palettes, and reflect on your artistic choices.

Word bank: Contrast · Silhouette · Atmospheric · Composition · Texture · Foreground · Background · Vibrant · Eerie · Symmetrical

1. Composition and Perspective: Describe the main focal point of your artwork. How will you arrange your objects to draw the viewer's eye into the image? (3 marks)

2. Colour Palette and Contrast: Justify your choice of colours. How will you use high-contrast shades (like deep purples against bright oranges) to create an eerie atmosphere? (3 marks)

3. Pattern and Texture: Zara loves patterns! Explain how you will incorporate repeated shapes or textures into your background to add depth to your piece. (2 marks)

4. Compare and Contrast: Compare your planned artwork to a traditional landscape. What elements make your design feel more mysterious or 'Halloween-inspired'? (4 marks)

5. Justify your Answer: If you were to change the lighting in your artwork from moonlight to sunset, how would that alter the overall mood and why? (4 marks)

6. Creative Extension: What might happen if you used mixed media (such as collage or textiles) instead of paint? Describe the effect this would have on the final texture. (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Challenge: Research the work of a printmaker or a silhouette artist. Create a secondary sketch using only two colours that demonstrates the concept of 'negative space' to evoke a spooky atmosphere without using traditional imagery.