Zara’s Colourful Circles: A Kandinsky Adventure

Learning objective: To explore the art of Wassily Kandinsky, focusing on the use of concentric circles, pattern, and colour mixing.

Zara the Zebra loves to see patterns everywhere! Today, we are looking at the famous paintings by Wassily Kandinsky. Look at the patterns below and help Zara complete the missing parts of her geometric artwork. Use your favourite colours to draw the circles, making sure to layer them from smallest to largest.

Word bank: Circle · Pattern · Bright · Shape · Colour · Art

1. Zara is looking at a painting with many circles. If you have 1 red circle and you add 1 blue circle, how many circles do you have altogether? (1 mark)

2. Kandinsky liked to use bright colours. Can you name two colours you might find in a bright, sunny garden? (2 marks)

3. Look at a circle. Does it have any sharp corners like a square? Tell us why. (2 marks)

4. If a small circle costs £1 and a medium circle costs £2, how much would you spend to buy one of each? (1 mark)

5. Zara wants to make a pattern. If she draws a big circle, then a small circle, what should come next to keep the pattern going? (1 mark)

Draw: Using a pencil, draw three large squares. Inside each square, draw a set of 'concentric circles' (circles inside circles) just like Kandinsky! Use your brightest wax crayons to fill them with different colours.

Extension challenge: Find items around your classroom that are shaped like circles (like a glue stick lid or a circular coaster). Dip them in paint and stamp them onto a piece of paper to create your own 'Kandinsky-style' overlapping circle masterpiece!