Zara’s Guide to Painting Landscapes

About 15 minutes. Grown-up tip: Go for a walk in a local park and ask your child to point out which trees are in the foreground and which are in the background.

Follow these steps to paint your view of the British countryside! Example: Start with a light 'horizon line' across the middle of your paper to separate the sky from the land.

- **The foreground is the part of your landscape that is closest to you. What colours might you use to make trees look bright and near?**
- **The horizon line is the place where the earth meets the sky. Draw your horizon line slightly below the middle of your page.**
- **Middleground objects are found between the front and the back of your painting. Things here should be smaller than those in the foreground.**
- **Background elements, like distant hills or clouds, should be painted with softer, lighter brushstrokes to show they are far away.**
- **Texture adds detail! You can use short, dabbing strokes to show the rough bark of an oak tree or the soft petals of a daffodil.**

> *Did you know? Did you know? Artists use a trick called 'atmospheric perspective' to make things look far away. Objects in the distance often look paler and bluer than objects close to us!*

Key vocabulary: Foreground · Middleground · Background · Horizon Line · Perspective