Zara’s Secret Sketchbook Skills

Learning objective: I can use light pressure to sketch outlines and add simple shading to my drawings.

About 15 minutes. Grown-up tip: Encourage your child to hold their pencil further back from the tip; it makes the lines lighter and easier to change.

To sketch, hold your pencil lightly near the end. Use short, soft strokes instead of long, heavy lines. If you make a mistake, you can gently rub it out! Look at this example: To draw an apple, start with a faint circle, then add a tiny 'v' shape at the top for the stalk.

Word bank: outline · shading · texture · pressure · sketch

1. Zara is sketching a hedgehog in the garden. She wants to show that the hedgehog is round. Should she press hard with her pencil or use soft, light strokes? Give a reason for your answer. (2 marks)

2. Look at the oak leaf below. Sketch the outline of this leaf in the space provided. Remember to use light lines first. (2 marks)

3. Shading makes a drawing look 3D. If the sun is shining on the left side of a stone, which side should you add darker shading to? Explain your answer. (2 marks)

4. Max the monkey is drawing a banana. He wants to show the texture of the peel. Should he use long, smooth lines or short, dashed marks? Explain why. (2 marks)

5. Find an object in your classroom or at home, such as a pencil case or an apple. Sketch it in the box below using at least two different types of lines (e.g., curved and straight). (3 marks)

Draw: A close-up view of a child's hand holding a pencil lightly, sketching a robin on a branch, showing soft lead marks on paper.

Extension challenge: Choose a piece of fruit. Sketch it three times: once with very light lines, once with medium pressure, and once with heavy, dark lines. Which one looks most realistic and why?

I did it! **Name:** _____ **Date:** _____

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