

# Macro Photography and Illustration

Year 6 Summer Term 1

Click the below link to watch an introduction from Mrs Side

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nigzie-ZICCqvuXOL4HMESRqkUztRrTx/view?usp=sharing>



For this project

**You are going to explore macro photography**

You will need a mobile phone or a camera and objects to take photos of.

This project will take you up to half term

On the next slide is a break down of how to explore the project

I've put it into hourly (weekly) slots but you can do this as and when you like!

Do try to give the project it's 5 hours. If you want to spend even long then go ahead!!

*If you have no access to a camera just follow the project as a drawing and painting project. You can still do all the same things - your eye is the camera and the drawing / painting is your 'photo'*

**Session 1 - Play.** Learn your camera lens (either on your phone, ipad or camera). Find the macro setting / work out the best way to take close up shots then practice on everything and anything! Play around with lighting.

Remember to watch the video clips for ideas.

**Session 2 - Create.** Decide on your theme. Slides 6 -9 will give you ideas. Take lots of photos. By the end of the session have a collection of 6 - 8 of your favourite photos on a given theme - eg Fur, Tree, Water, leaves, Metal .....- it really could be anything. Make sure you store these photos safely on your phone or computer for the next session

**Session 3 - Develop.** Now is time to edit your photos. You can use the software on your phone or computer. Google photos has some simple editing tools or you could try a free editing app such as PIP Camera editor.

Remember to keep a copy of your original photo before you start editing!

Once you're happy with your final photos, create a page in your artbook displaying your photographs or you may prefer to create a slideshow.

**Session 4 + 5 - Illustration.** Choose your favourite close up photo and use it to create a detailed A4 illustration. If you prefer you could create an illustration based on 2 or 3 photos. Slides 10 + 11 give some examples

Don't rush - this should take time. It's a close up. If you don't finish that's fine, but the work you do should be detailed and full of interest. Do this in any media you like. And why not play some music whilst you work?!

## Session 1 - Explore

Close-ups or macro photographs often reveal a world that we would ordinarily ignore.

Macro photography focuses on hidden patterns, textures and shapes.

It makes us look again at something familiar in new ways.

The aim is to find interesting patterns, lines, shapes and colours

WATCH FIRST

These 2 short clips will give you a few tips and ideas



[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Yx7Jg\\_cpO36ihiXoje1D7tLQe8lkkgTv/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Yx7Jg_cpO36ihiXoje1D7tLQe8lkkgTv/view?usp=sharing)

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MLVFyxylHwTc4\\_wpkb2U6nhpq50UnbVu/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MLVFyxylHwTc4_wpkb2U6nhpq50UnbVu/view?usp=sharing)

Now earn your own camera lens (either on your phone, ipad or camera).

Find the macro setting / work out the best way to take close up shots then practice on everything and anything!

Play around with lighting (use a torch/ a lamp) to create interesting effect

Remember if you don't have a camera - you can use your eye as the lens.

Create a viewfinder out of card



and use it to find interesting compositions.

Do you have a magnifying glass to look at things closely?

**Session 2 - Create.** Decide on your theme. Slides 6 -9 will give you some ideas.

The vast majority of macro photos are taken of flowers and insects.

But try looking for other macro subjects.

the inside of fruit or vegetables

Walls around the house

Tree textures - bark, leaf, branch

Oil and water mixed together

Washing up liquid shaken

Crystal glass catching the light

Foil or shiny paper

Cutlery

Feathers

Eyes - your pets, your family

If you have a pet - it's fur or claws or teeth!

Items around the house - shoe laces, book pages, clothes pegs, pencils, ornaments, towels, the floor

Really - the list is endless!



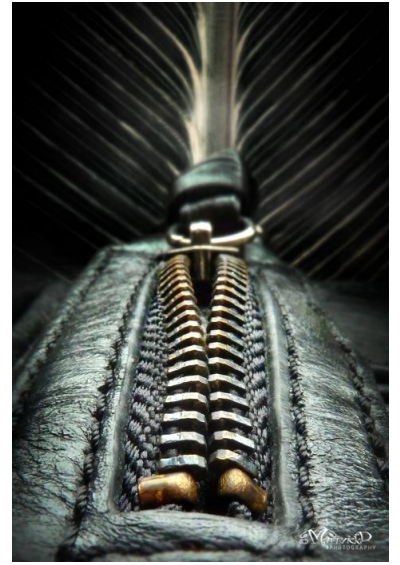
Once you've decided take lots of photos

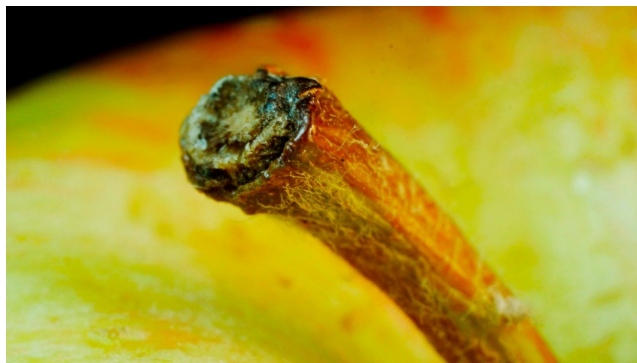
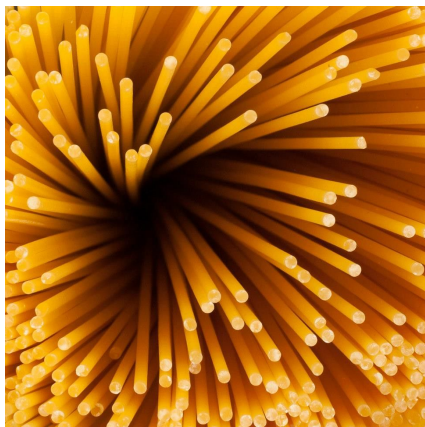
By the end of the session have a collection of 6 - 8 of your favourite photos on a given theme

Make sure you store these photos safely on your phone or computer for the next session

If you are drawing, find your theme then fill a double page in your sketchbook with lots of small sketches, drawing from different angles using your viewfinder.



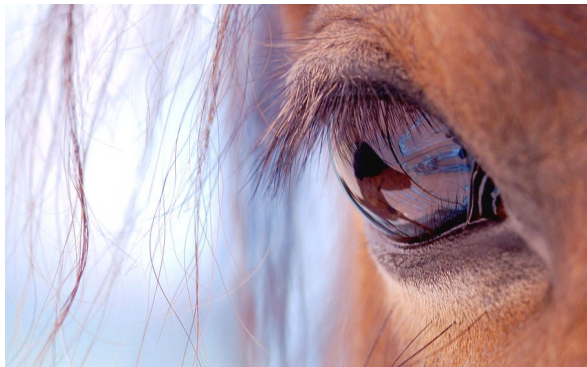












**Session 3 - Develop.** Now is time to edit your photos.  
You can use the software on your phone or computer.  
Google photos has some simple editing tools  
You could try a free editing app such as [pixlr.com](https://www.pixlr.com).



Remember to keep a copy of your original photos before you start editing!



Once you're happy with your final photos, create a page in your artbook displaying your photographs or you may prefer to create a slideshow.

If you are working with sketches, explore different colour combinations on a few of your favourite sketches, adding in detail

## **Session 4 + 5 - Illustration.**

Choose your favourite close up photo or sketch and use it to create a detailed A4 illustration.  
If you prefer you could create an illustration based on 2 or 3 photos.

The main thing is to spend time on this, getting absorbed in the abstract of your work

Things to consider

media - watercolour, pencil, pen, collage etc or a mix?

Colour - limited colour palette?, black and white, neon or pastel

Contrast and tone - make sure you use light and dark tones to add depth. Highlights are useful too.

Detail - this adds interest to your work so, once the first layer is done, work back into your illustration with further detail

Slides 12 + 13 give some examples



