

draw

NATURE



MOIRA HUNTLY

Draw *Nature*

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Making a start

The countryside, garden, park and seashore provide an endless source of interesting subjects for drawing—stones, leaves, grasses, fruits and flowers, shells and fossils, as well as the trees and hedgerows, fences, gates and rocks that are part of the landscape.

Take a sketchbook with you whenever possible so that when something catches your eye you can stop to sketch it. When I go for a walk I take a plastic bag containing a small rubber cushion and my sketch pad and pencils—and a rug, in cold weather. You can usually find somewhere to sit, and if the ground is wet you can put your feet on the plastic bag; there's nothing worse than cold wet feet!

Don't be in too much of a rush to start—take time to look for forms, shapes and textures that interest you. The more you learn to look, the more you will see.

Sit straight at whatever you are going to draw, to avoid having to turn your head all the time and getting a distorted view of your subject.

You can also collect things to take home, so that you can make detailed studies of them or use them to make still-life groups or as the basis for a design.

