

Knowledge Organiser - Insects (Upper Key Stage 2) - Summer Term 2026



The Acorn Partnership

Marston Montgomery Primary School
Long Lane Primary C of E Primary School

Sticky Knowledge - What I already know

What I need to know about insects

- Insects have **three body parts**: head, thorax and abdomen
- Insects always have **six legs**, attached to the thorax
- Many insects have **wings**, which can be symmetrical and patterned
- Insects often have **repeating patterns**, such as spots, stripes or markings

What I need to know before drawing insects (UKS2)

- Careful observation** helps artists draw accurately from photographs or real life
- An **outline** shows the shape and structure of an insect
- Proportion** means how big one part is compared to another
- Shading** shows light and shadow to make drawings look 3D
- Graded shading** changes smoothly from light to dark
- Blending** mixes colours or tones smoothly together
- Texture** can be shown using lines, marks, shading or patterns
- Colour choices can be **realistic or imaginative**, but should be **intentional**
- Artists refine work by **adjusting lines, colour and shading**

What I need to know before an art lesson on insect mosaics

- A **mosaic** is made by using **small pieces** to create a picture
- Mosaics use **repeated shapes** (like squares) placed close together
- Repeating colours or shapes** helps make a pattern
- Patterns are **planned**, not random
- Colour choice** can be realistic or imaginative

What I need to know before making an insect sculpture (UKS2)

- A sculpture is a **3D artwork**, which can be viewed from **all angles**
- 3D form** means the sculpture has **height, width and depth**
- Sculptures are made by **joining and building** materials together
- Materials may include **clay, wire, card, foil, modroc or recycled materials**
- Structure** is important so the sculpture is **stable and strong**
- Proportion** means the body parts are the correct **size in relation to each other**
- Form** shows the overall shape and structure of the insect
- Texture** can be added using tools, pressure or surface marks
- Sculptures often need a **base or internal support (armature)**

Core Learning

To know how to draw an insect in pencil

To know how to draw the missing parts of an insect in colour

To know how to design an insect mosaic

To know how to make insect sculptures

To know how to finish and evaluate my insect sculpture



Artist Focus



Louise Bourgeois



Jennifer Angus

Key Vocabulary	Definition
Hatching	Hatching is a drawing technique where an artist uses lots of parallel (one-direction) lines to create light and dark areas, texture, or shading.
Cross-hatching	Cross-hatching is a shading technique where an artist draws layers of lines that cross over each other at different angles to create deeper shadows and more detailed textures. The more layers of crossing lines, the darker and richer the shading becomes.
Blend	Blending mixes colours smoothly so they change gently.
Graded shading	Graded shading shows light to dark smoothly to make things look real
Accurate patterns	Accurate patterns repeat neatly and correctly.
Arrange	Arrange means planning where pieces go before sticking them down.
Structure	Structure is how my sculpture is built so it stays strong.
Wire	Wire can help to shape and support my sculpture.
Technical vocabulary	Technical vocabulary is the special words used in a subject to help explain ideas clearly and accurately . (e.g. line, tone, shade, blend texture, form, structure, pattern, composition, proportion, evaluate, refine, technique)