



We Love Lichens

Draw and Learn



Have you ever noticed these unusual colours and patterns when you have been out walking? They are **lichens**. Lichens can be found on walls, roofs, tree barks and stone. Lots of lichens can be found on older buildings like a church or on a gravestone in a churchyard.

Lichens can be colourful, large (or small) and are very surprising...

Interesting Lichen Facts:

- Lichens are not one living thing, it is a partnership between a fungus and one or more algae
- The fungus offers shelter and the algae provides the food in the partnership
- Mushrooms are a type of fungus and seaweed is a type of algae
- Lichens absorb water and minerals directly from their environment
- Lichens are good indicators of pollution and air quality
- Lichens have adapted to survive in the most extreme places in the world.

More about Lichens:

- Lichens can be used to dye clothes
- Ancient Egyptians used lichens to help make their mummies.





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Why don't you try to spot and draw some lichen when you are next out walking?

You will need:

- Paper
- Coloured pencils or crayons
- Magnifying glass or torch – optional
- Something to lean your paper on
- Peg – to stop your paper flying away

How to make:

1. Explore with your eyes only - don't ever touch lichens
2. If you have them, use a magnifying glass or torch to get a better look at their unique patterns, colours and detail
3. Attach your paper and to the board using a peg
4. Try to use only colour pencils or crayons – this can help when you are drawing something new, as you can be a little braver with the marks and colours you use
5. Fill your whole page with your drawing or drawings.

Top Tip Spend more time looking at the lichen itself, rather than at your piece of paper. You will then start to notice more of the lichens unusual patterns and colours.

Watch out for this sign  - it means adult help is needed for this step
Tweet us with an image of your creations: @TheCCT #AdventuresInChurches



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Get inspired



From ancient cave paintings to today, the natural world has inspired artists to create art. Why not use the lichen drawings that you have created and use them to make a new artwork.

Don't be afraid to experiment and go BIG with your ideas!

Can you be inspired to make your own large lichen likeness?

You will need:

- Pastels / chalks / crayons and or paint
- Pencil - optional
- Ruler - optional
- Eraser - optional
- Aprons or wear clothes that you don't mind getting mucky
- Large pieces of paper – any colour will do

How to make:

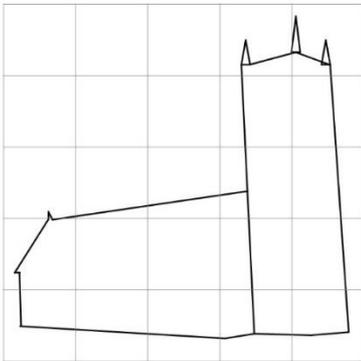
1. With an adult, have a look at artists that have been inspired by natural objects and forms in their drawings, e.g. Terry Winters and Peter Randall-Page 
2. Decide if you would like to do an accurate copy of your drawing. If so, use the guidance on the next page to help you
3. Copy your drawings onto the large piece of paper – remember to fill the whole page, don't be scared!
4. You could make the picture black and white or do the opposite - exaggerate the colours of the lichens.

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Create an accurate copy



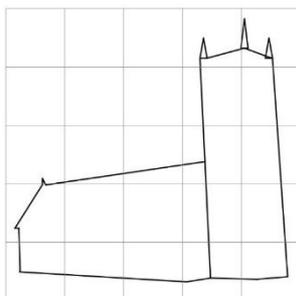
You can create an accurate copy of a drawing or image. There are lots of online tutorials that you can ask an adult to help you to find or use this simple technique. 🦉 If you want to experiment you can change the number of boxes and see how this changes your original drawing.

You will need:

- Lichen drawings
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Eraser
- Large piece of paper

How to make:

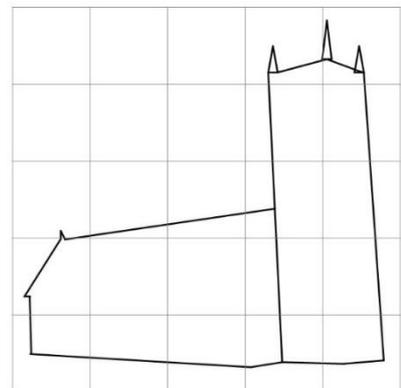
1. If you want to keep your original picture, copy it first. Using a pencil and ruler, first measure then draw horizontal and vertical lines on your small drawings, these should be roughly 2cm apart. All your lines should eventually make perfect squares.
2. Measure and draw the same number of lines on your large blank piece of paper, again each should make a perfect square – do not press hard with your pencil as you will be rubbing the lines out later.
3. Match the drawing from each of the squares on your small picture to each of the squares on your large piece of paper.



Small picture,
turned into a...



Large picture



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