

Natural History Illustration: Drawing Hummingbirds and Bees

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Materials List

Paper

- A few sheets of drawing paper. I'd recommend smooth paper.
- Brown craft paper works well for color pencils, pastels, graphite, and charcoal.
- Hot pressed watercolor sheets if you plan to use watercolors.
- Use the sizes that you are comfortable with. 9x12" sheets should be fine.
- If you enjoy doing digital paintings/drawings, then an iPad with Apple pencil is the best.

Drawing materials

Hummingbirds come in a wide range of colors. Choose a few bright colors.

- A color pencil set. Any good brand would do. Pencil sharpener.
- A pastel set if you want to draw in pastels. I use Cretacolor pastels.
- If you plan to use charcoal, bring charcoal pencils (2B) and/or a few sticks of vine/willow charcoal. You may also need x-acto knife to sharpen your charcoal pencils. And sandpaper to smooth the charcoal tip. I will be demoing using charcoal and pastel colors.
- A watercolor set if you want to paint in watercolors. Three different sized synthetic brushes based on your paper size, a small saucer for mixing and a small container for water.
- Erasers—both kneaded rubber eraser and the white plastic eraser.
- For iPad, I use Clipstudio Paint software to paint. However, there are many software options including inexpensive ones like Procreate. FYI, I haven't used Procreate.

If you're bringing loose sheets for drawing, make sure to also bring a pad to support them and some paper clips. Bring as many colors as you can. In the first class, we'll focus on drawing birds using simple shapes, so just a few colored pencils and graphite pencils will be enough. We can talk about any additional materials if needed during the class.