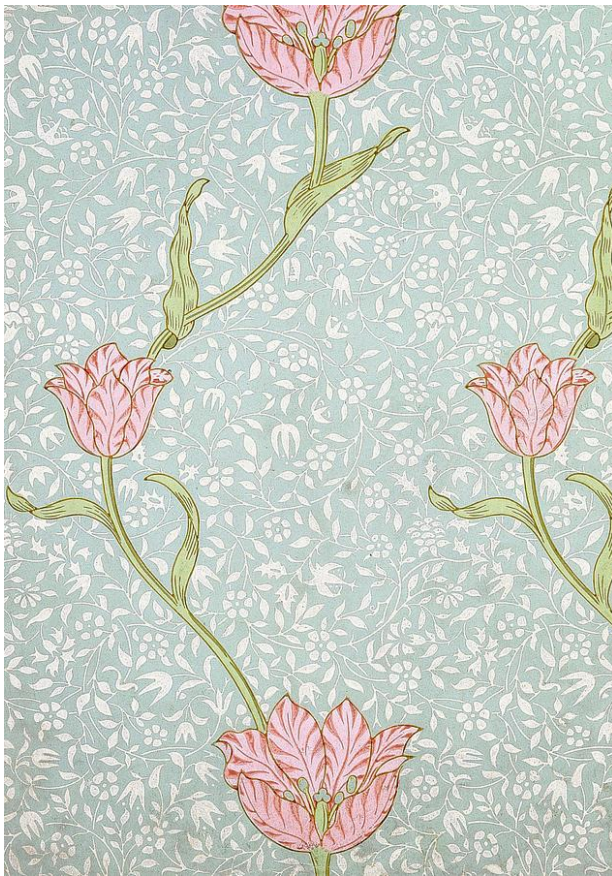


Let's draw a tulip! Illustration activity

We need:

- Real tulip to draw from or the images below for inspiration
- One folded piece of A4 card to make a card or any plain paper to practice on
- Yellow, red, purple and green sharpies (or coloured pencils)
- Pencil
- Rubber



Lots of William Morris's designs feature beautiful flowers and inspiration from the natural world. We especially love this design called 'Garden Tulip' featuring tulip flowers.

Follow our simple instructions to learn how to illustrate a tulip in two different ways, one lengthways and one inside the tulip.

Once you have practiced, try it again on card to make a lovely card for a friend or family member!

Be careful with real tulips

Tulips are not food, do not eat any part of the plant. Tulips can also irritate the skin and eyes. For this reason, it's best to wear gardening gloves when planting tulips and always wash hands thoroughly after handling tulips. All parts of tulips should be kept away from cats and dogs as they can make them very ill if eaten.



Let's draw a tulip:

1. Use a pencil to make your drawing. Don't press too hard because you will want to rub out some of the drawing later.
2. Look at the picture of the tulip or a real tulip.
3. What shape is the flower? It's almost a circle. Draw a circle for the flower.
4. What shape is the stem? Is it thick or thin? Is it straight or curved? Draw a stem under the flower.
5. What shape is the leaf? Is it round or pointy? Draw a leaf.
6. How many petals can you see? Are they all the same? Are they flat or rounded? Draw the petals.





7. Are there any bits of your drawing you want to change or don't need now? Rub them out. Do you want to add anything else? Can you see a little line running down the second petal?



Let's colour in the flower:

8. Use yellow first, starting at the base of the flower.
9. Then use red. Try to colour in with lines following the shape of the petals.
10. After that, colour in the tops of the petals with yellow.



Now let's colour in the stem:

11. If you have two green pens (or pencils), colour in the light side of the stem with light green
12. And use dark green for the other side.

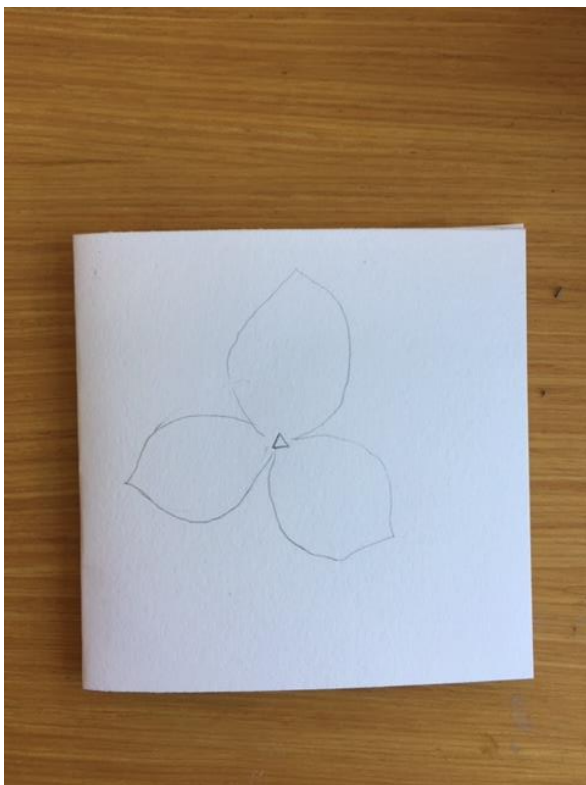
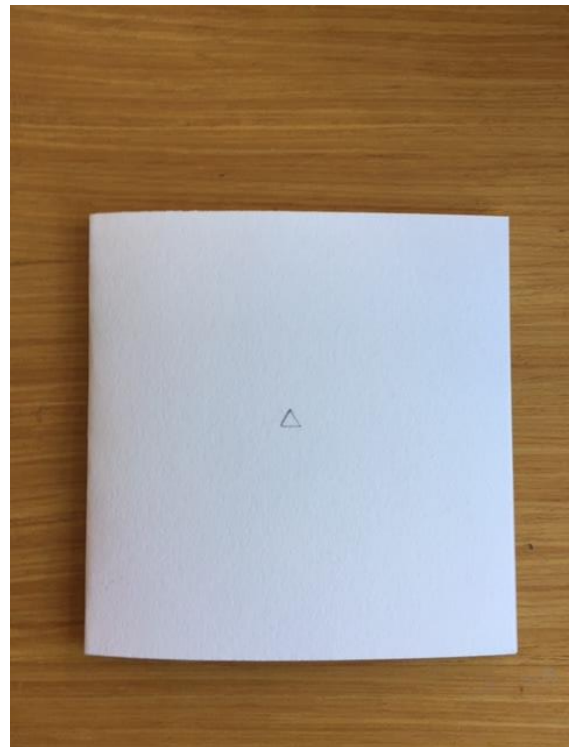
Finally, let's colour in the leaf.

13. Use the dark green for the shadow side of the leaf and light green for the bright side.



Let's draw the inside of a tulip:

1. Use a pencil to make your drawing. Don't press too hard because you may want to rub out some of the drawing later.
2. Look at the photograph of the tulip or a real tulip.
3. Look at its shape. How many petals can you see? Are they all the same? Are some in front of the others? Are they pointed or round at their ends? No two tulips are exactly the same. Sometimes petals curl in and sometimes they open out.
4. What can you see in the middle of the petals?
5. Draw the little triangle in the centre of the flower first.
6. Draw the three petals at the back. These make another triangle.
7. Now draw the three petals in the front. These overlap the back petals.



Look again at the tulip. Can you see little 'arm' shapes around the triangle in the centre? (The 'triangle' is called the 'stigma'; the six little arms are the 'stamens'- these make pollen.)

8. Draw the six 'arms' carrying pollen.

Let's colour in our tulip flower.

9. You might find it helpful to colour in the yellow centre first as this is a lighter colour.

10. Colour in the top part of the petals purple. Try to shade out from the centre in one direction as shown. It is helpful to turn the paper sometimes.

11. Colour in the triangle in the middle and the little arms. Here we have used both yellow and purple mixed together.

12. Add some leaves if you wish. Only a very small part of the leaves is shown in the photograph.

13. If you have two purple pens you could shade the lighter parts with the lighter purple and the darker parts with the darker shade of purple.

