



8. Minibeasts and people (pre-1800) – drawing case study

Requirements: online internet access; drawing materials

7-11 years: teacher-led class review of Getty Museum webpage, or individual/ pair review; individual drawing activity

12-14 years: **self-led** individual/ pair review; individual drawing activity. Plenary discussion as a class

Curriculum: Science (living organisms; biology); Art (history; drawing); computing (responsible online use)

Time: 20 minutes

Study [Albrecht Dürer's Stag Beetle](#) artwork at the Getty Museum Collection.

When Dürer painted this insect over 500 years ago (in 1505) he was creating something very new in the art world. Most artists at that time believed insects were the lowest of creatures not worth their time or paint. However, Dürer had a keen interest in and respect for nature. He spent time carefully painting this beetle as the only subject on the page, probably using quick sketches from nature and memory.

Choose an insect you have recently seen from memory and make a quick sketch on paper using pencils/ crayons, in the style of Dürer.