

Maud Purdy

Maud was an America botanical artist and also designed textiles and tapestries and decorated china and ceramics. Her artwork was not only appreciate for its beauty but for its education value too! She was hired by scientists to document their collections.



Why study Maud Purdy?

To build on the drawing techniques that were taught in Year 1. During our fieldwork unit of work in Geography we will observe botanical gardens first hand like Maud.

Key facts

Full Name	Maud Purdy
Born	1873
Died	1965
Life	Maud was already a professional artist when she was hired by Brooklyn Botanic Garden to support scientists. She would draw detailed illustrations of the plants whole and dissected. She would record the scale of the drawings too so that the observer of her work would know how big parts of the parts were. As photography became more widely used, Maud's work was largely forgotten.



She dissected specimens at different stages of their development and examined them both with the naked eye and under a microscope

On this picture, you can see how she would show the scale of her drawings (1cm)



Key Vocabulary

Botany- plant science

Dissect- cut up (plant)

Scale (drawing to scale)- a drawing which has been reduced or enlarged from its original size.

Tone- areas of lightness or darkness of colour

Texture- a feel, appearance or consistency of a surface.

