

DISCOVER LINDOW SCHOOLS ART PROJECT 2024



Illustrations of aspects of the Iron Age culture and the natural history of Lindow Moss

These images have been prepared to provide inspiration and ideas to pupils as they work towards making their part of the multiple artwork to be placed on the Moss this summer. They are for the use of teachers and are not intended to be restrictive or to be followed rigidly. Teachers and students are welcome to work on the theme in whatever way they wish, the only requirement being that work relevant to the theme is made on the 50 x 25 cm canvas banners provided.

We hope you find them useful!

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Jackie Gradwell Illustrator: Gee Macrory Historical Advisor:

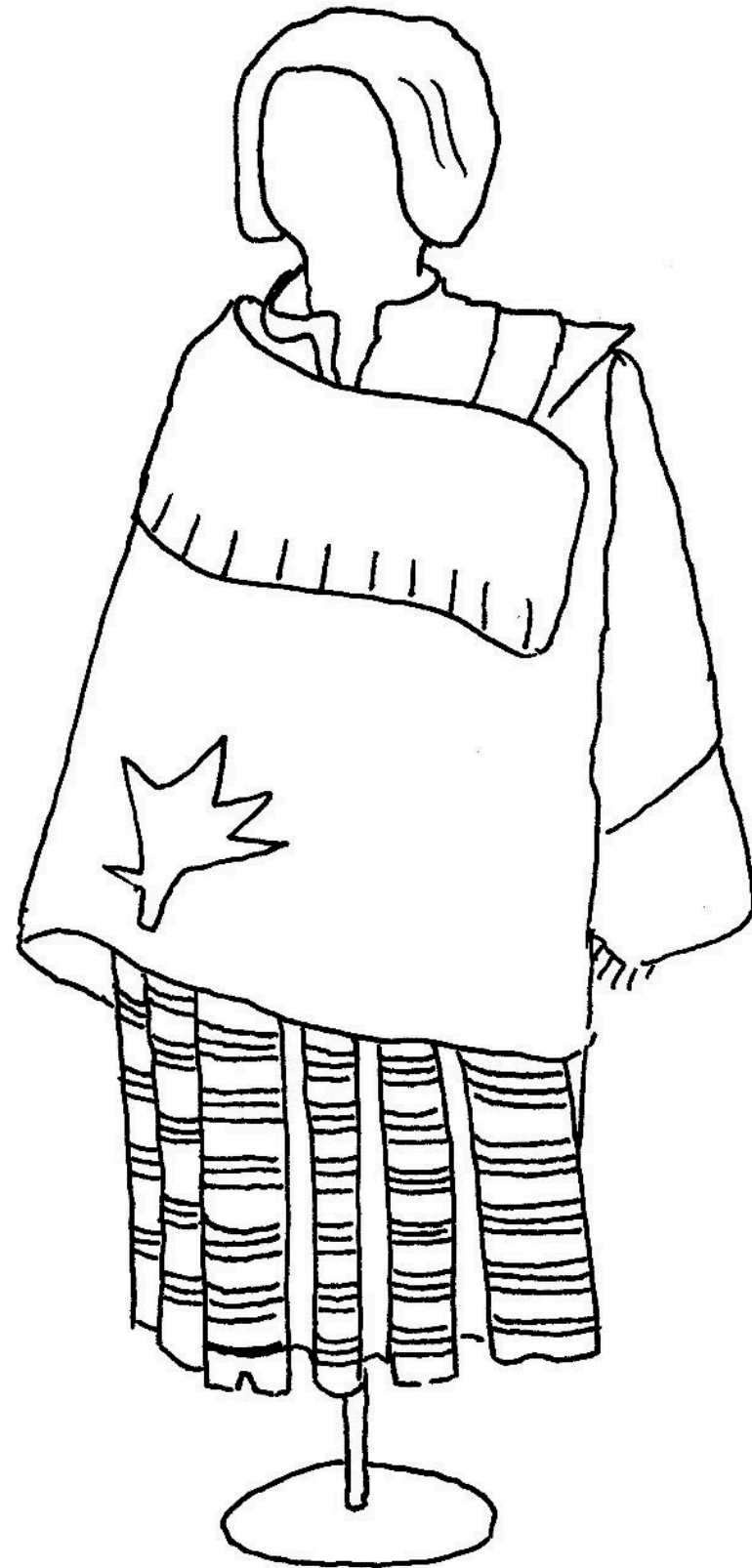
Melanie Giles

Pages 2 – 8	Iron Age Cultural Artifacts (© Gee Macrory 2024) Natural History on Lindow Moss
Pages 9 - 16	past & present (© Gee Macrory 2024) Examples of Iron Age decorative motifs (©
Pages 17 - 20	Melanie Giles 2024)
Page 21 -22	Lindow Moss Screenprints by Phil Barton (© 2023/4) and drawing tips from Gee Macrory

We are most grateful for financial support from Wilmslow Town Council, Evans Arts Trust, Cheshire East Council and the Levelling Up Fund, and Manchester University.

Clothing is often well preserved in a bog.

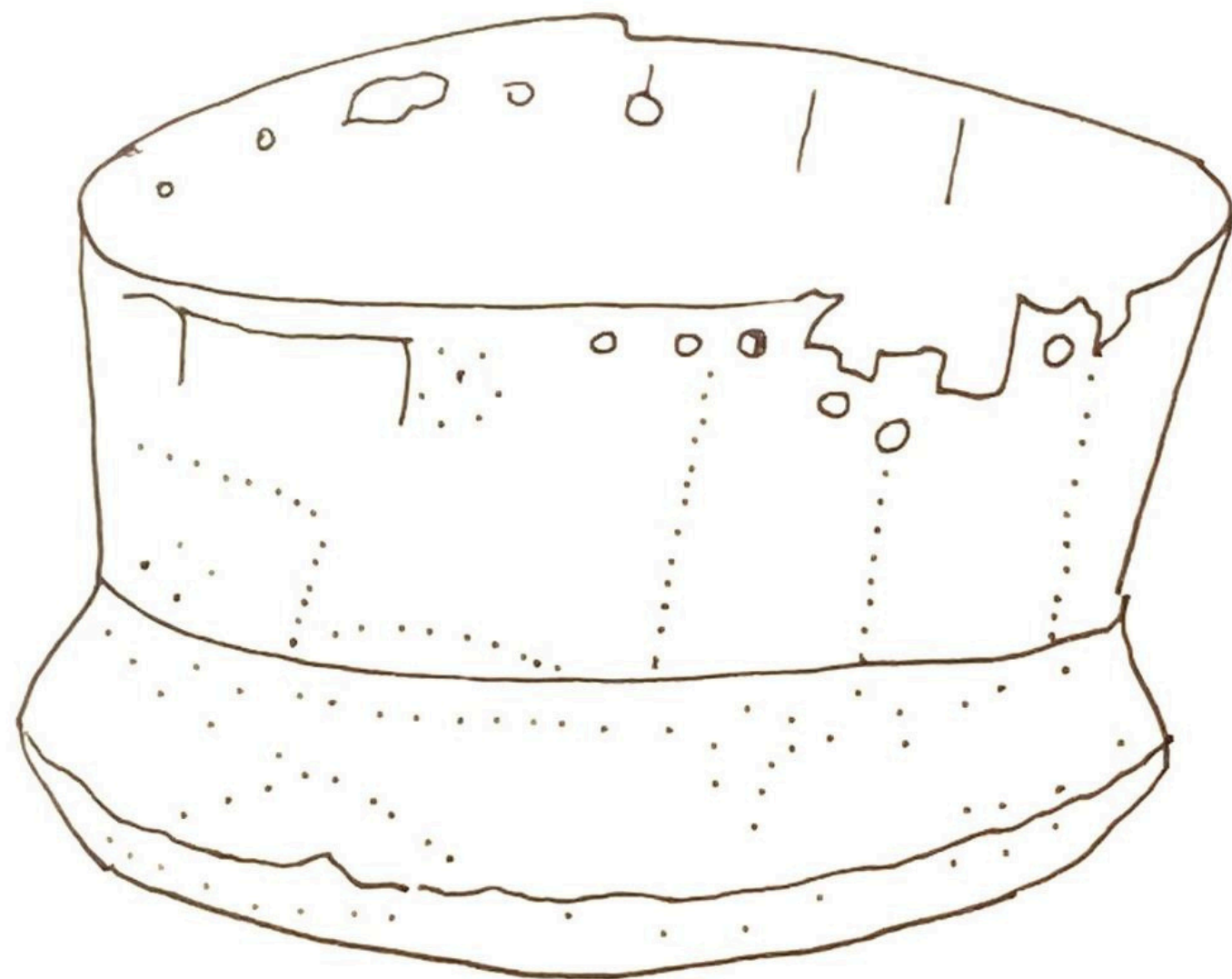
Here are a woman's cloak, dress and hat which are at least 2,000 years old.



These clothes have been dressed on a dummy so that we can see how they would have looked.

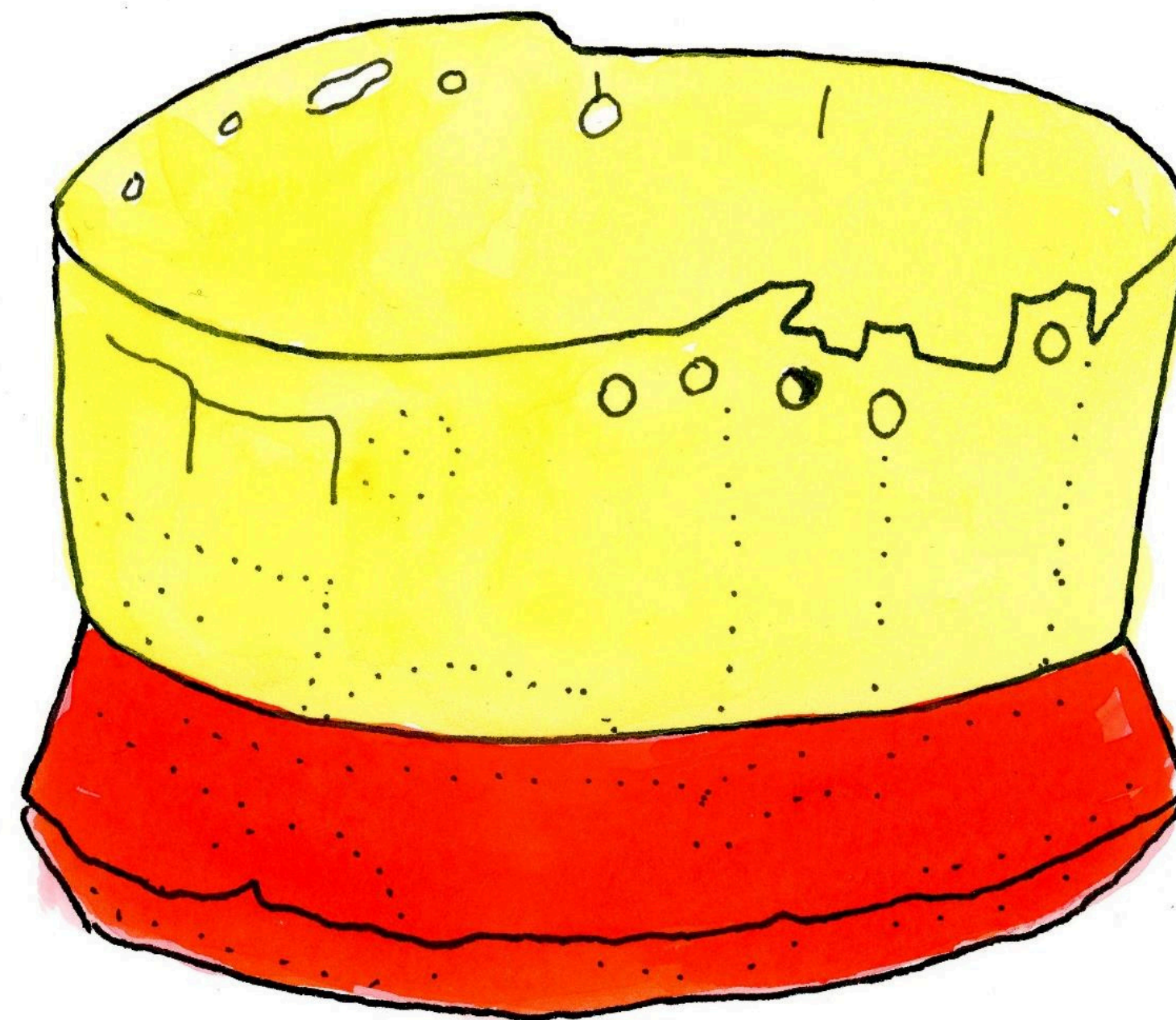
There are lots of ways you can paint them. Here are a few ideas. You can imagine for yourself how they might have looked when they were new.



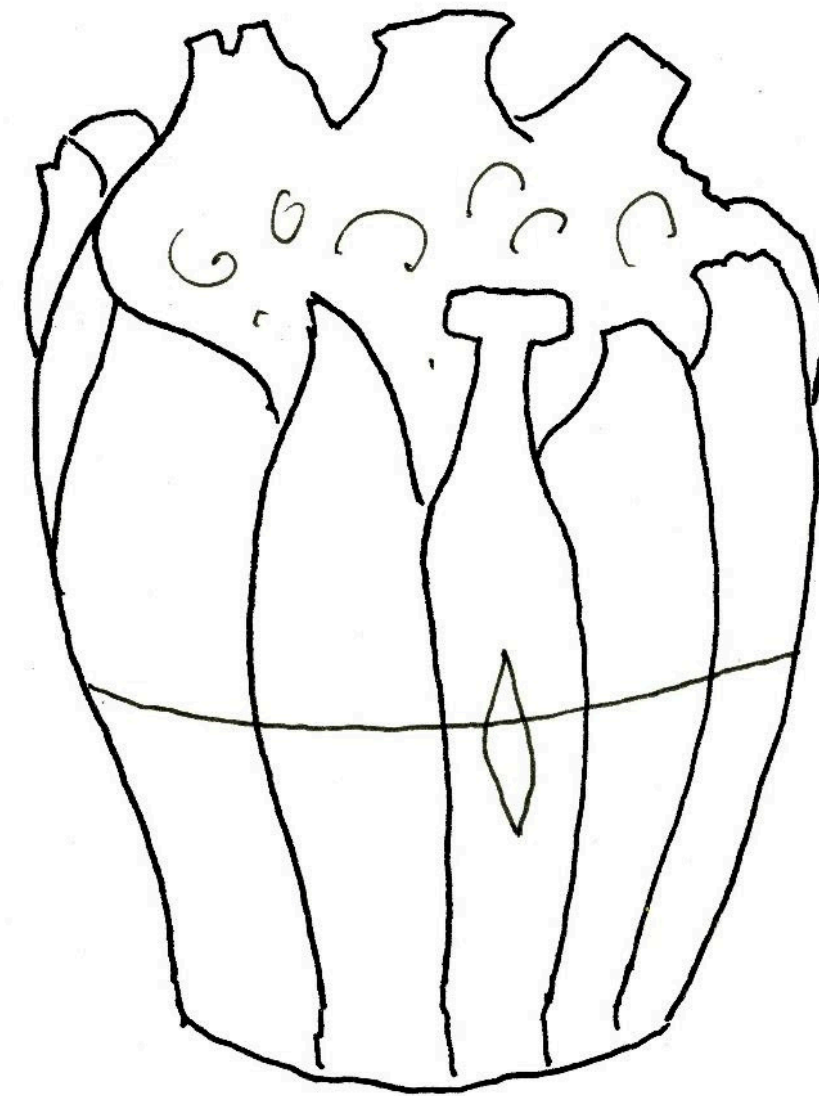
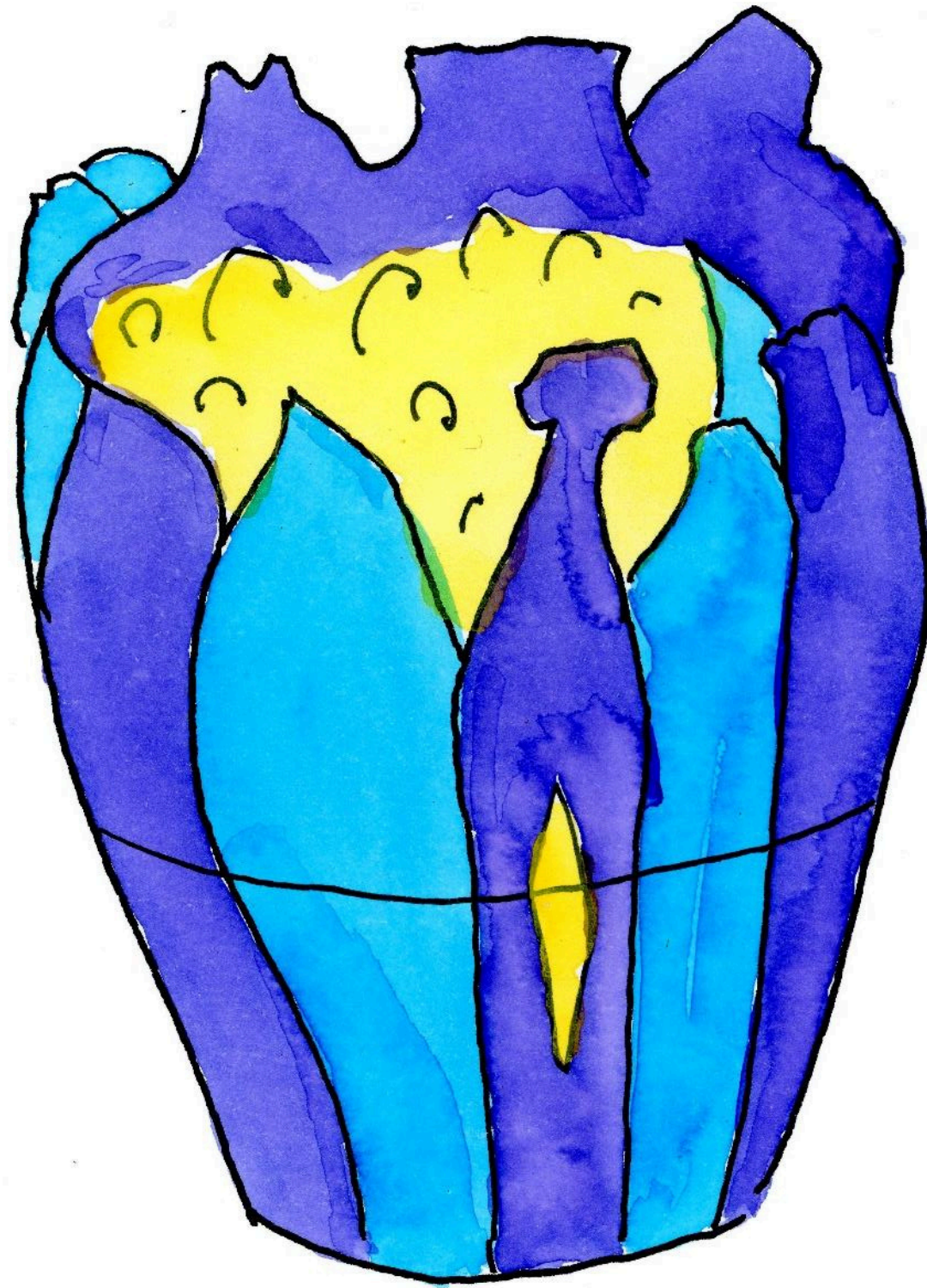


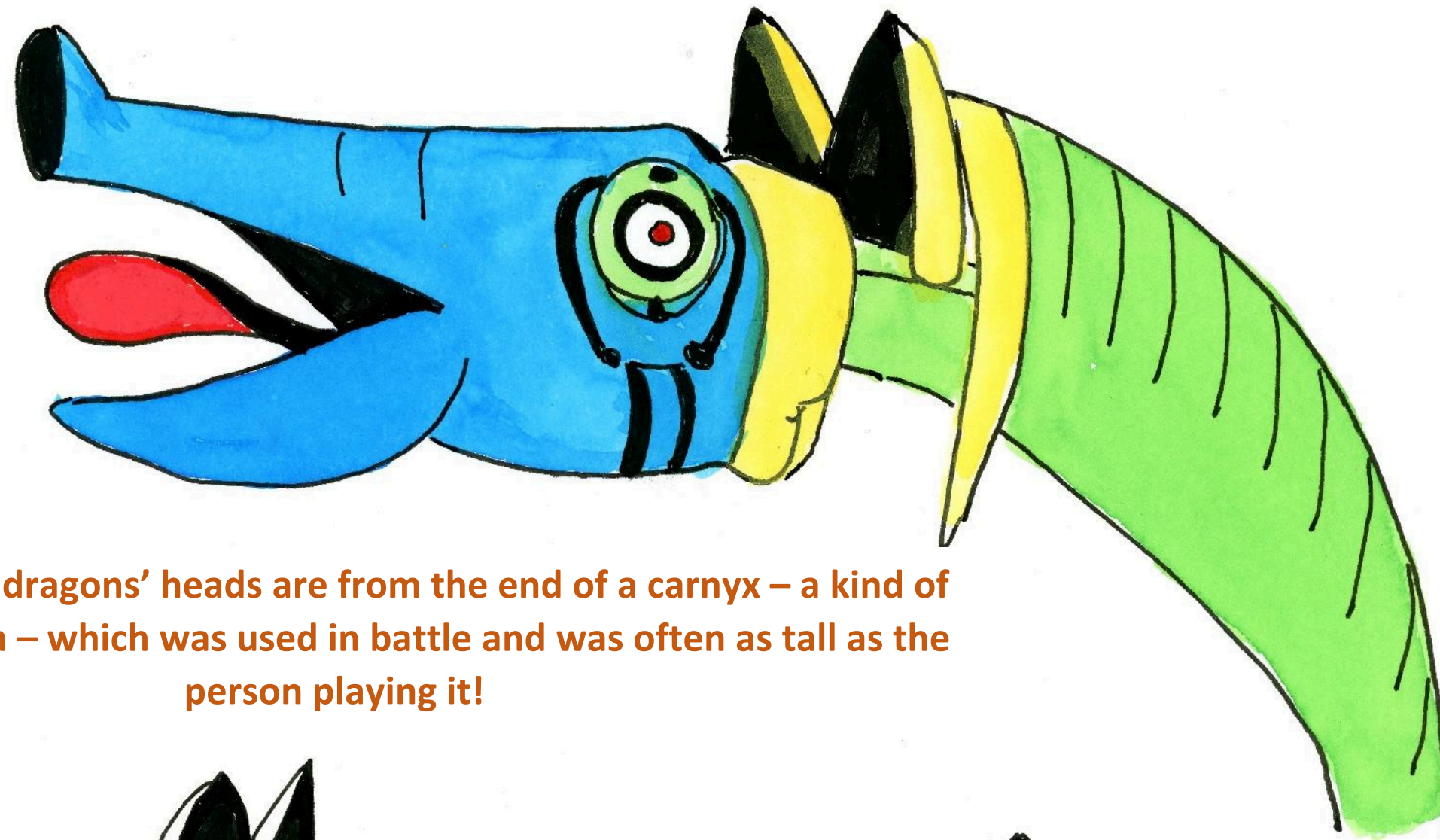
A bronze cauldron used for cooking. It would have been hung over an open fire.

Because it was covered by peat in the bog for hundreds of years, some of it has eroded away.

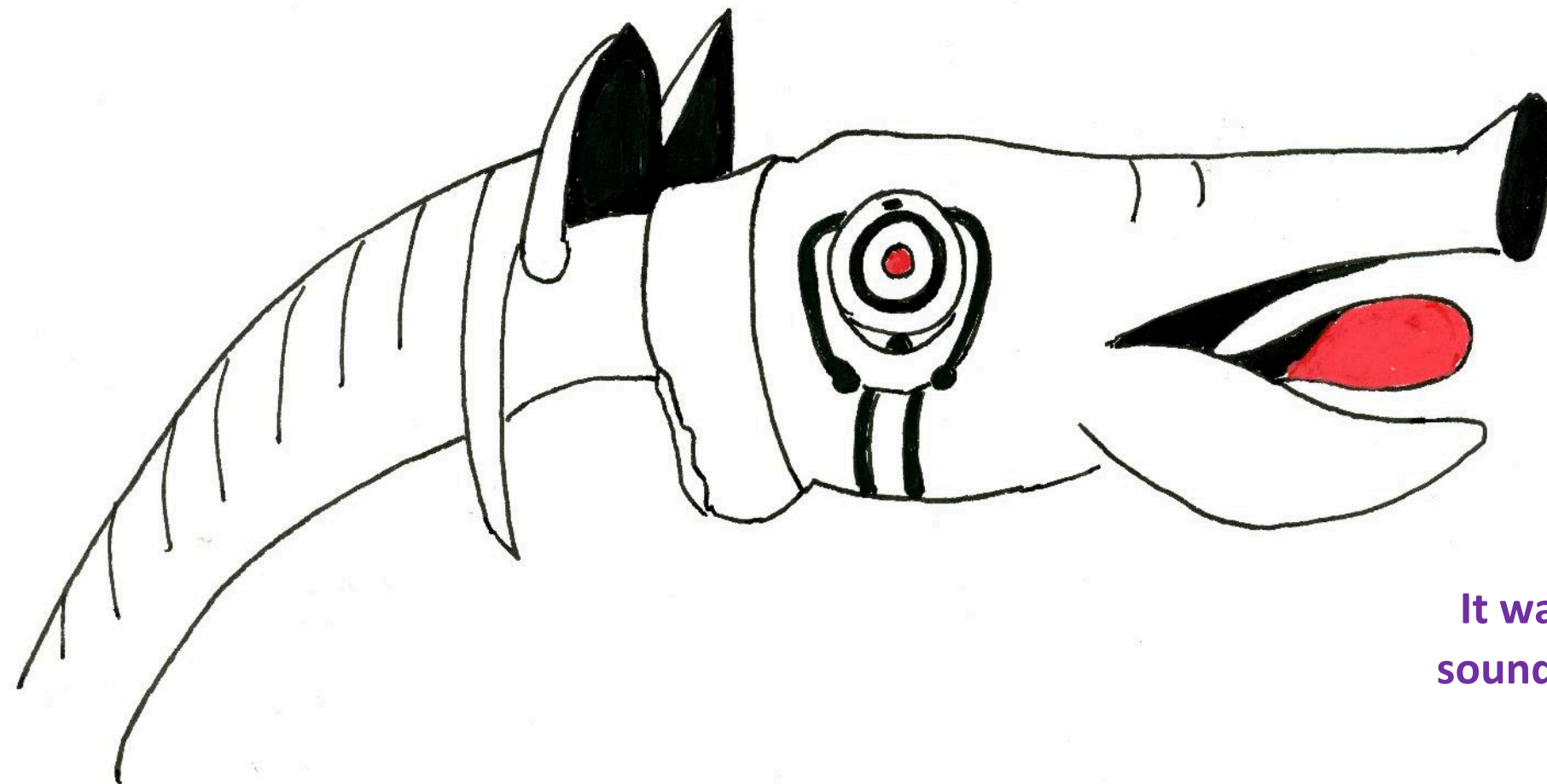


All sorts of things can be preserved for hundreds of years buried in peat. Here is a wooden storage container which still contains butter!

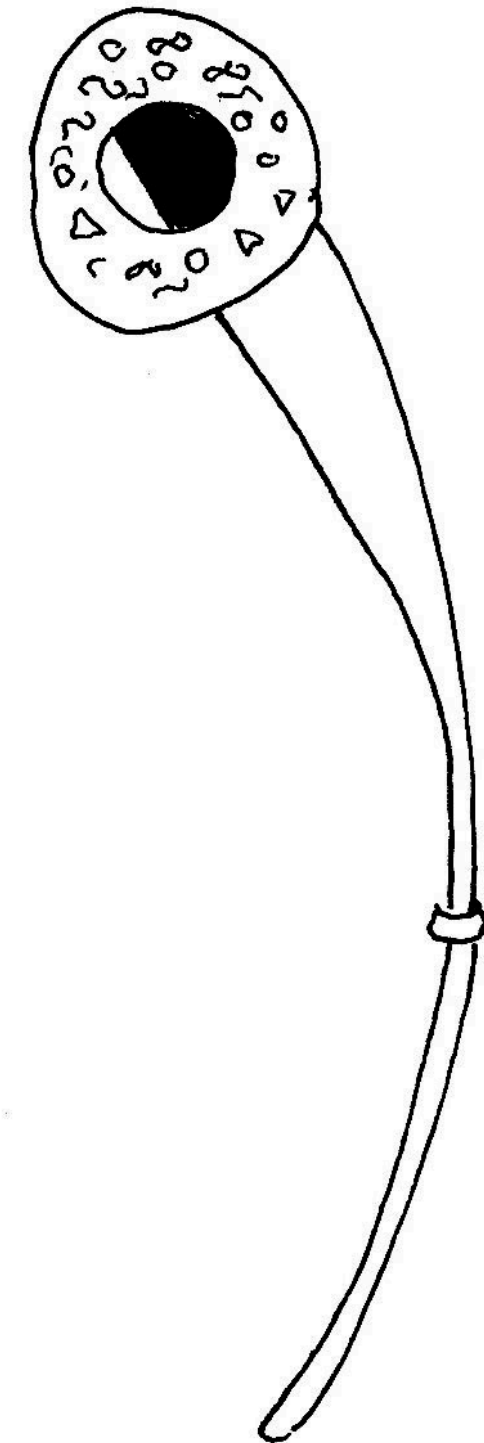




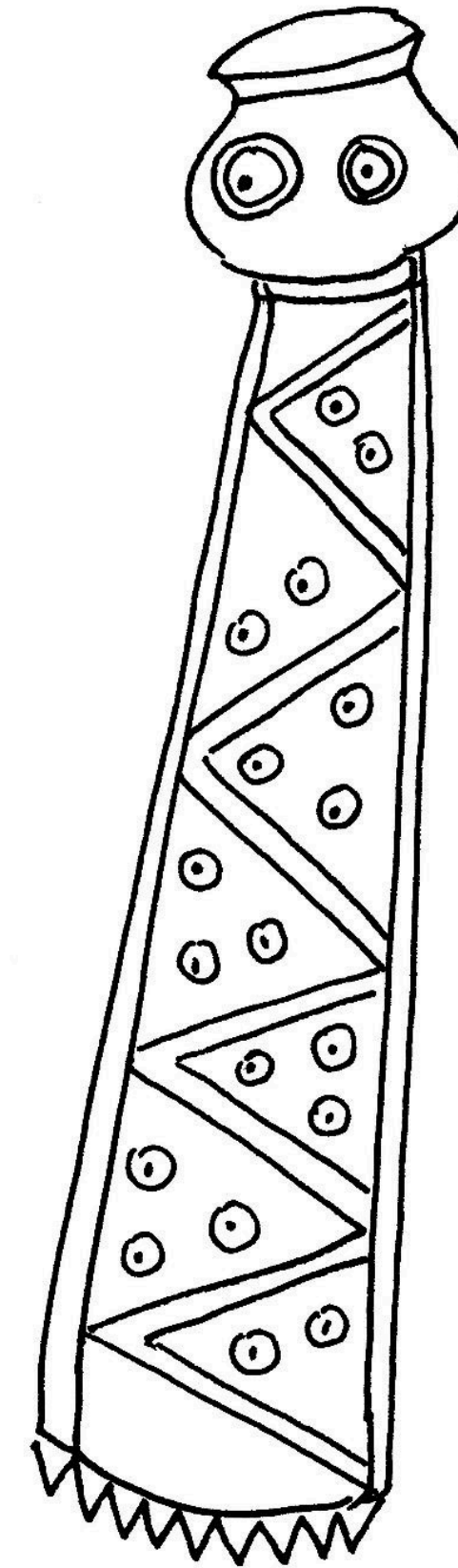
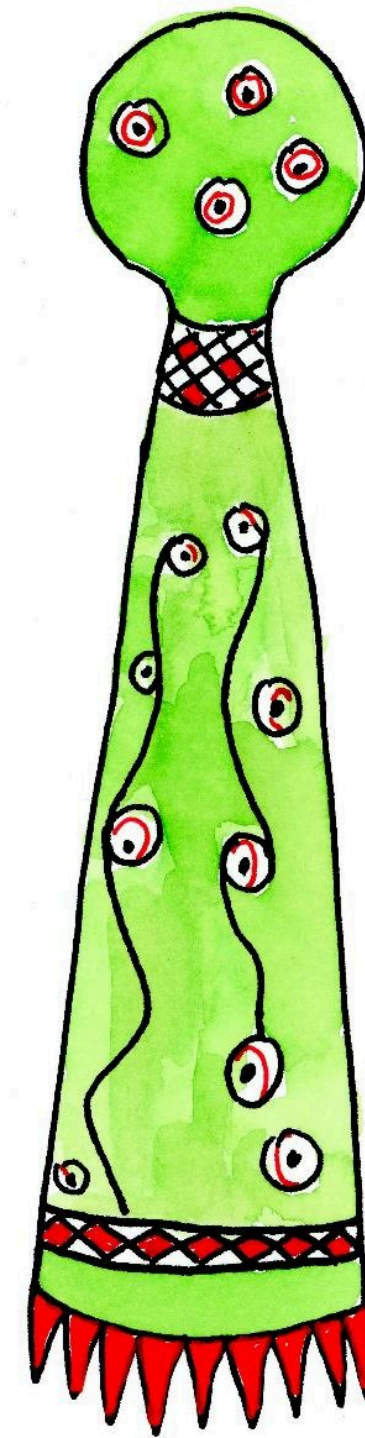
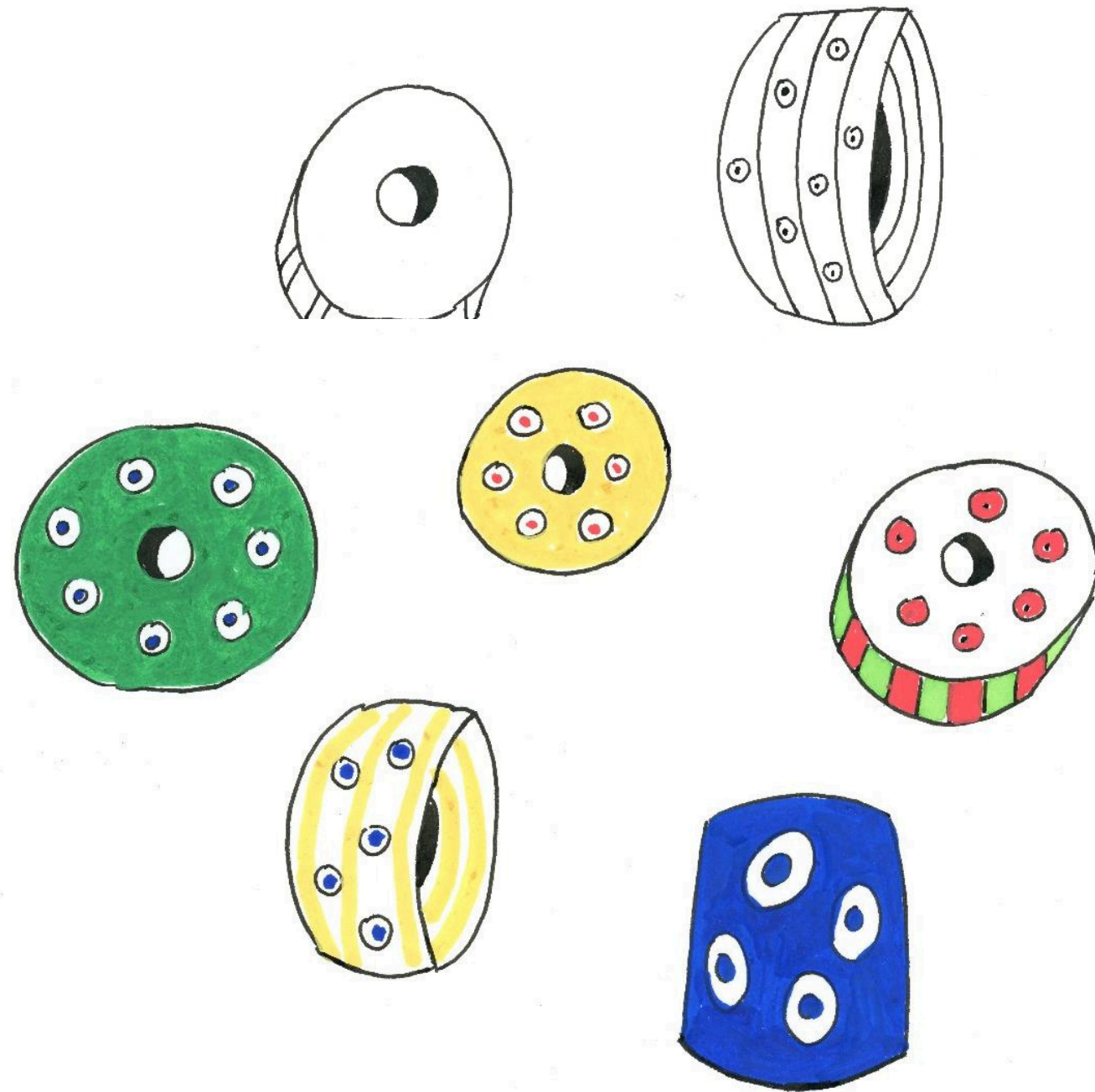
These boars' or dragons' heads are from the end of a carnyx – a kind of trumpet or horn – which was used in battle and was often as tall as the person playing it!



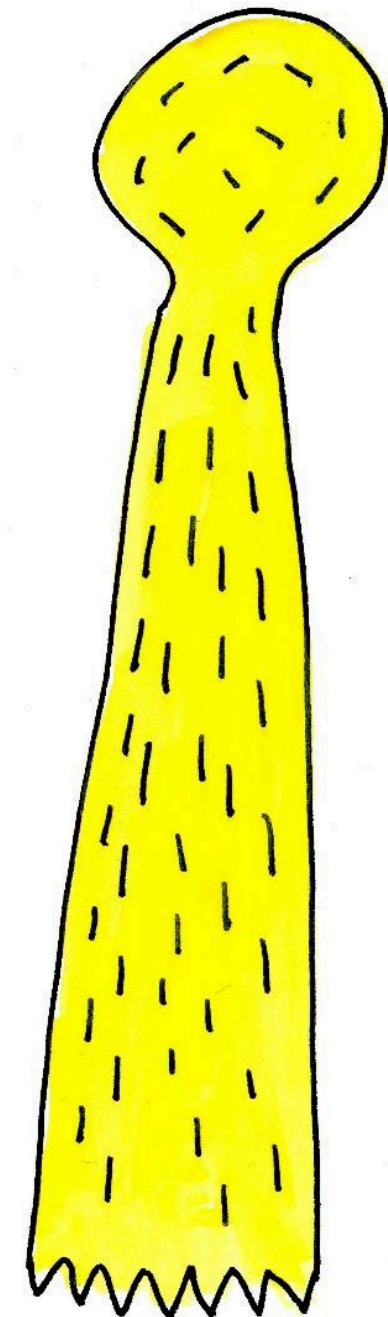
It was held upright so the mouth from which the sound came out was way above the player's head.



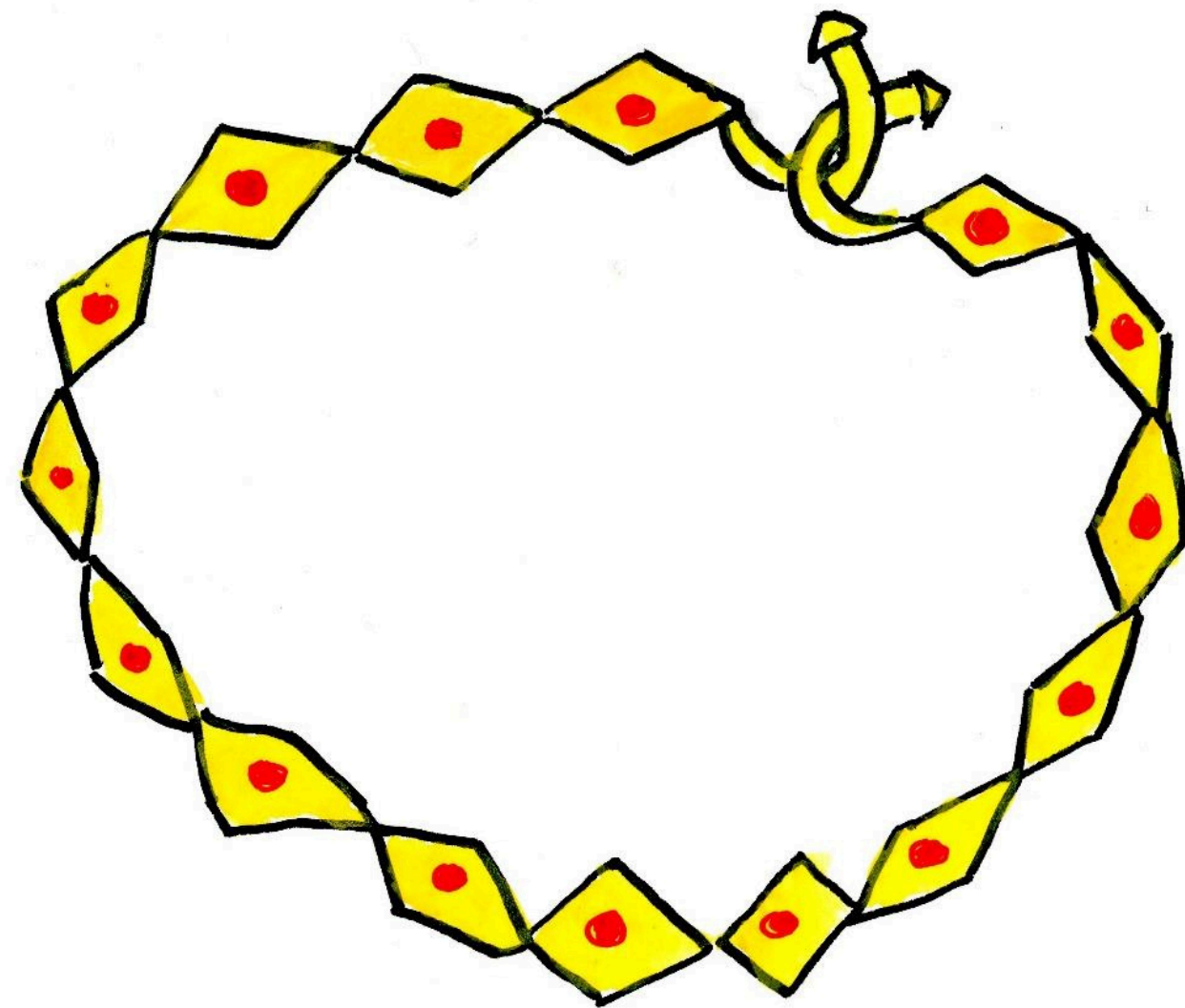
Coloured and decorated beads have been found at many Iron Age sites. The leather cords on which they were strung has usually rotted away.



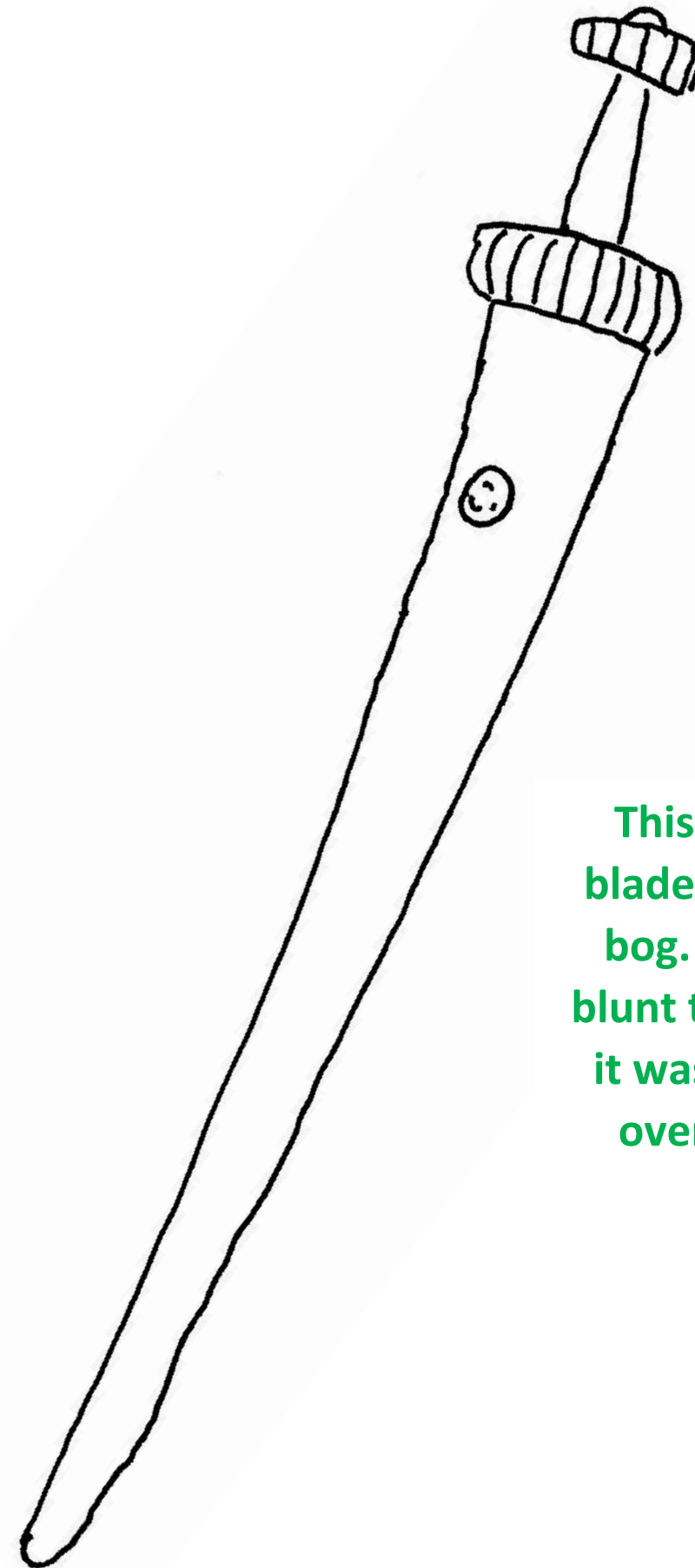
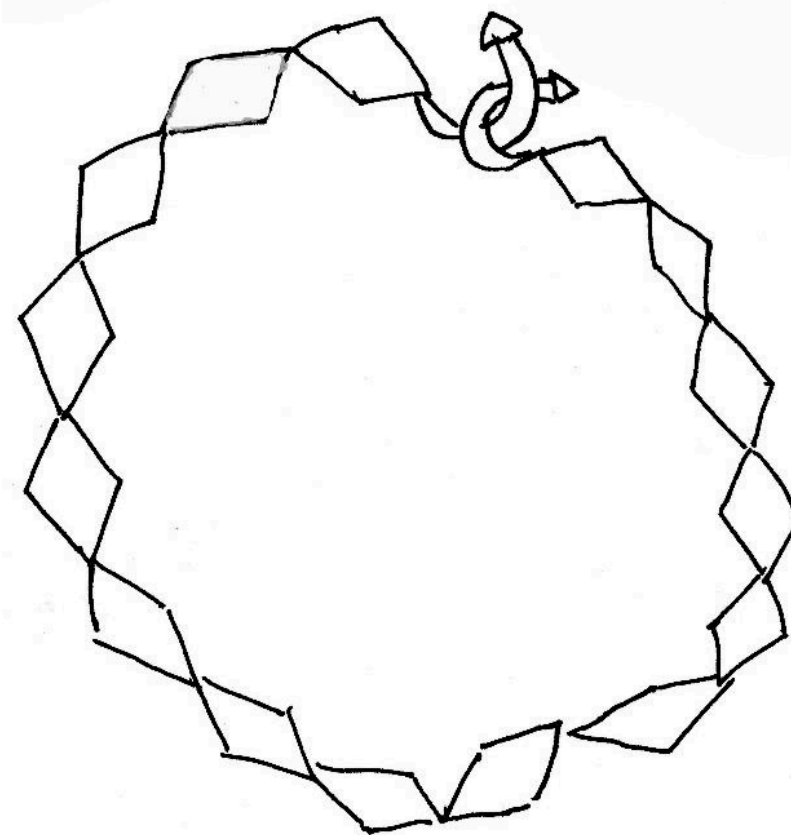
These combs are about 10 to 15 centimetres long and are made of antlers or bone.



We are not sure whether they were used for combing hair, or as a tool used in weaving woollen cloth.



This beautiful gold torc from Iron Age times would have been worn as a necklace or a bracelet depending on size. They would have been highly valuable and their owners may well have put them into the bog as an offering to the gods. They have come to light from time to time recently as we have dug out the peat.



This sword has an iron blade which rusted in the bog. Nowadays it is too blunt to be dangerous, but it was a fighting weapon over 2,000 years ago!



People living near Lindow Moss at around the time of Lindow Man would almost certainly have lived in round houses like these. They were made of wood with thatched roofs made of reeds or straw.



The whole family would have lived in one room – parents, children and grandparents!



Raised Bogs support a lot of insect life. Here are a Large Heath Butterfly and a White Faced Darter Dragonfly. You can decide what colours you would like to make them!





Water voles are now rare in many parts of Great Britain. Imported minks escaped from farms and are major predators on voles. But Lindow Moss is an important habitat where water voles are thriving.

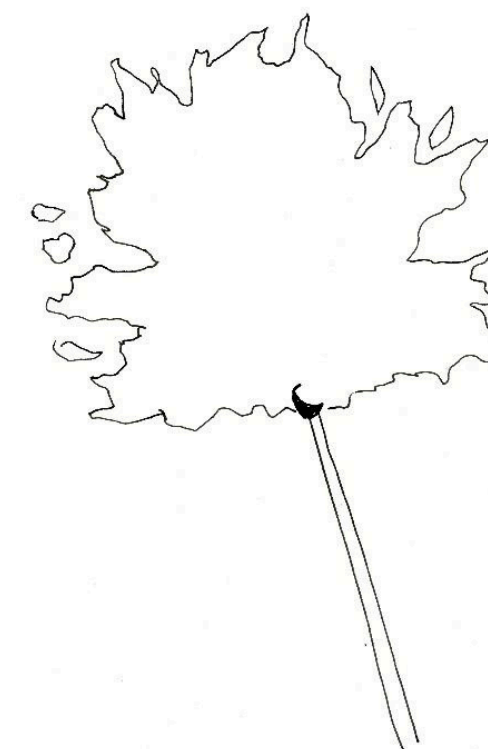
They are shy creatures and very hard to spot.

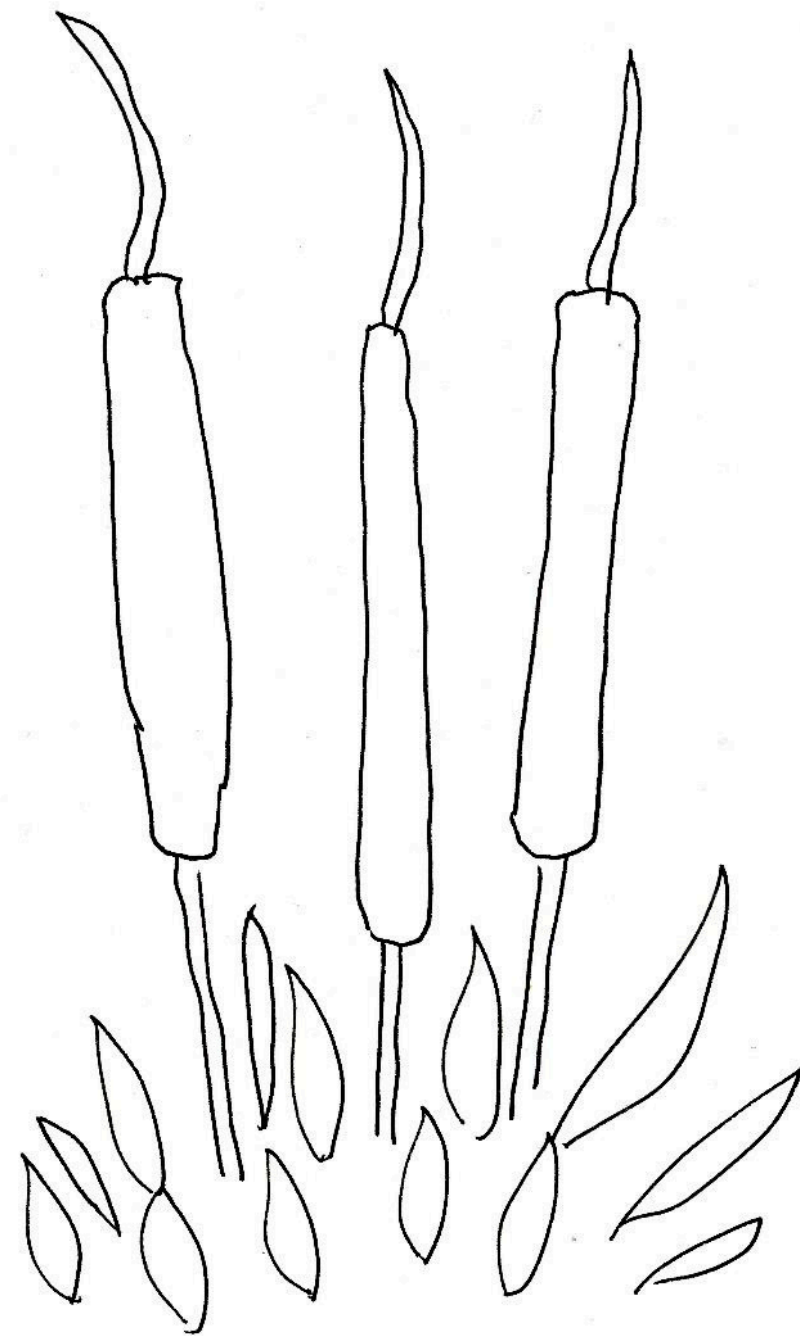
This one is eating a blackberry!



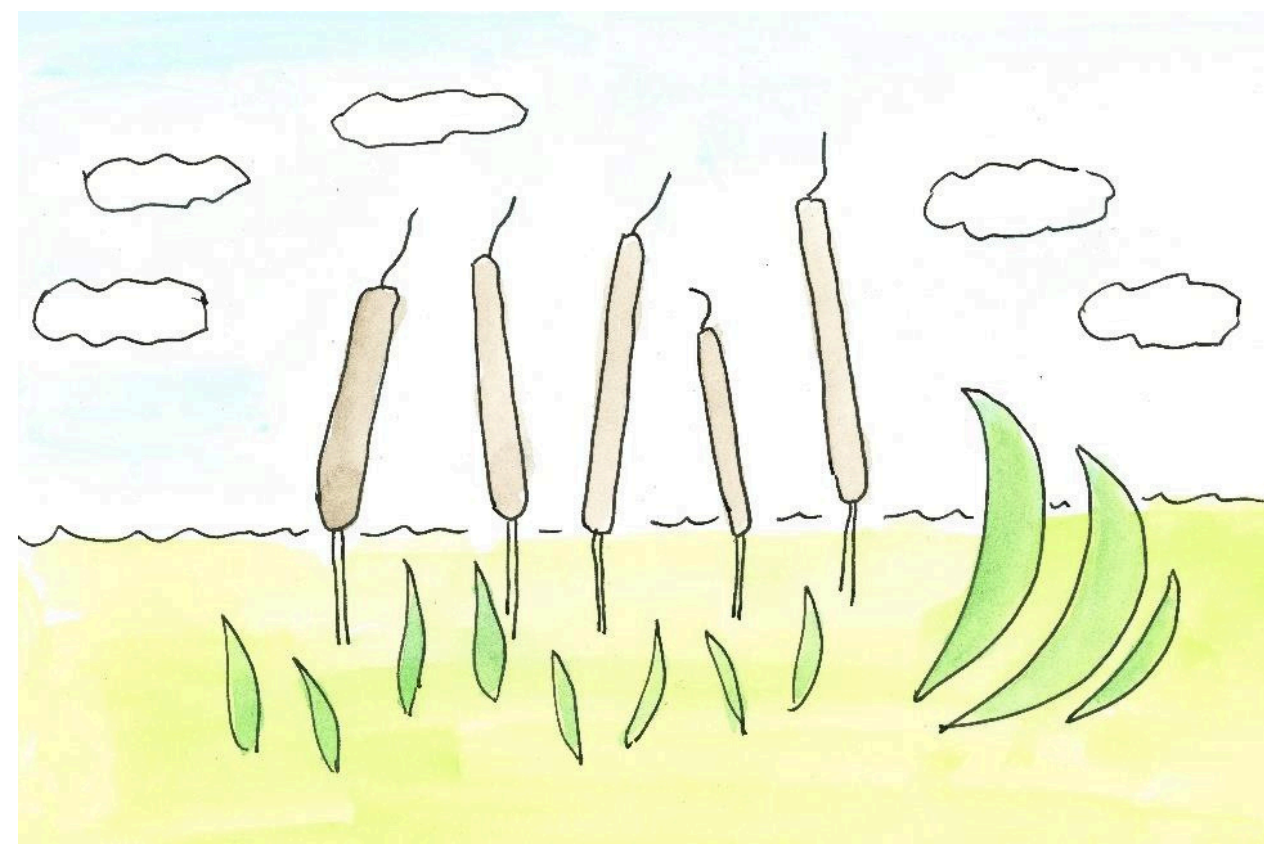


Cotton grass grows freely on wet bogs and moorland. Blowing in the breeze, it brings Lindow Moss and places like it to life in summer. Despite its name, cotton grass is a member of the sedge family, not a grass!

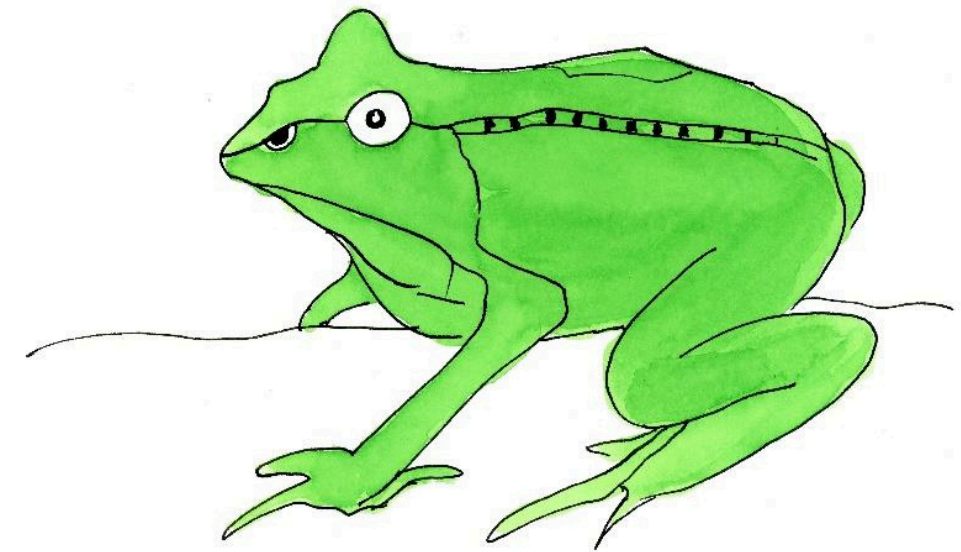
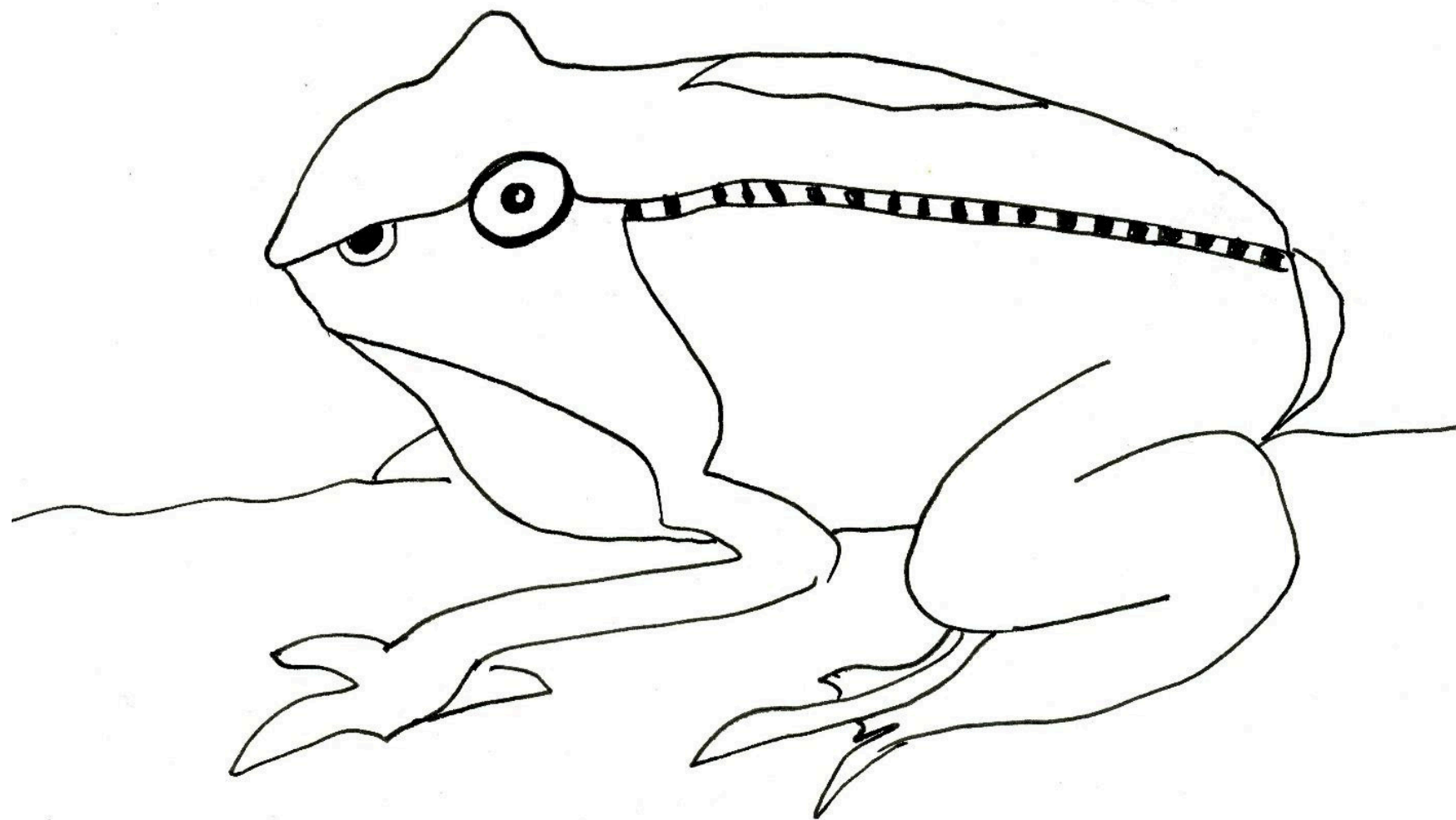




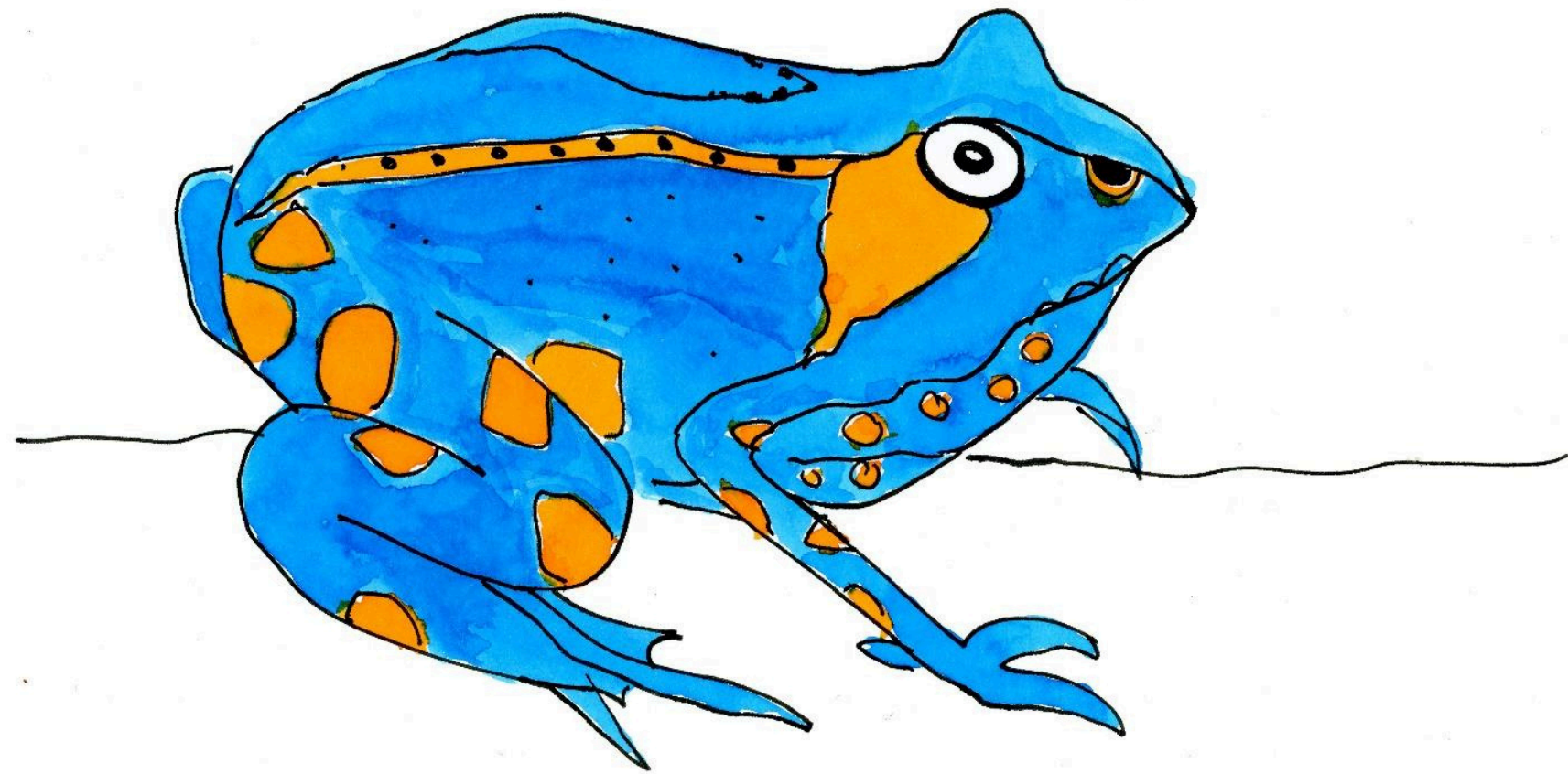
Bulrushes can be seen throughout the year beside the ditches on Lindow Moss. Also called Great Reedmace, they have long leaves and tall stems.

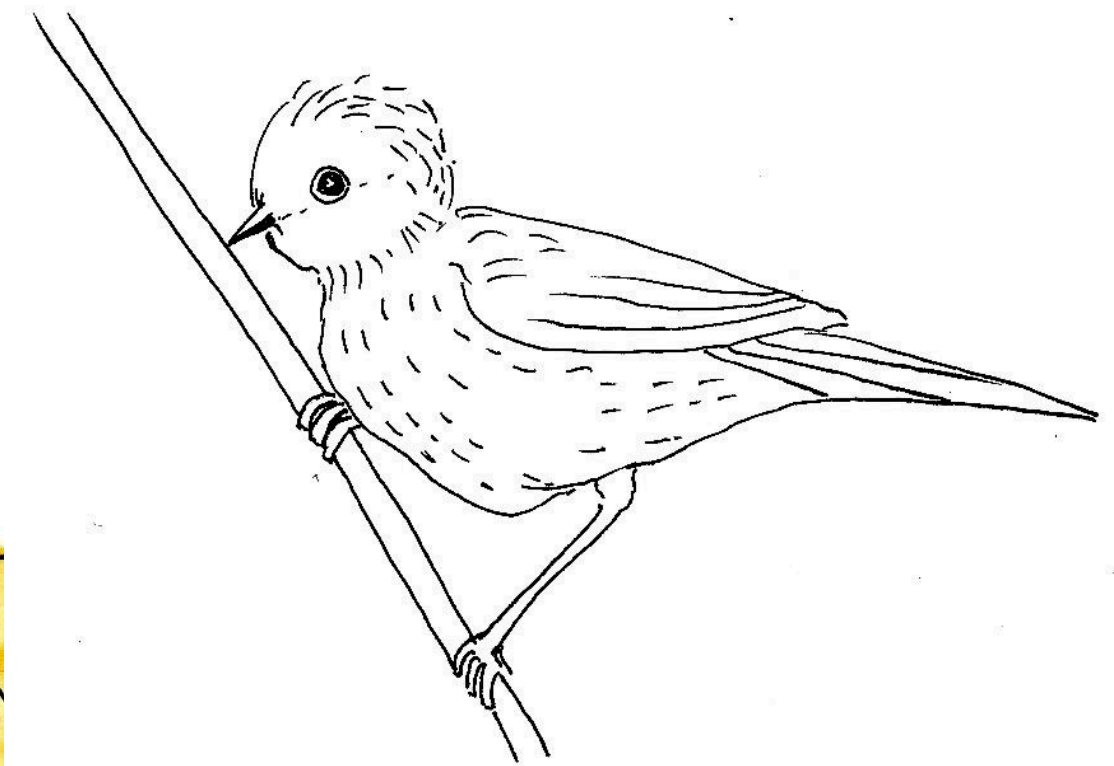
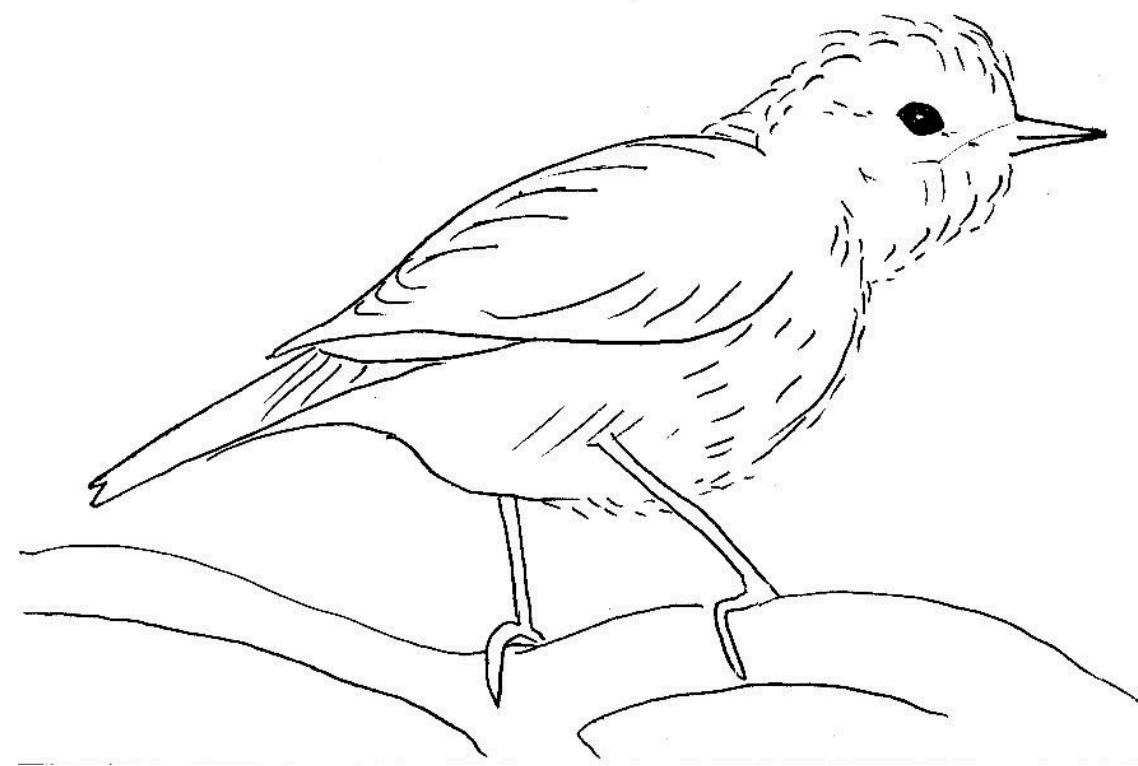


Their velvety, sausage-like flower heads appear in the summer and last well into the winter, releasing their seeds in the autumn.

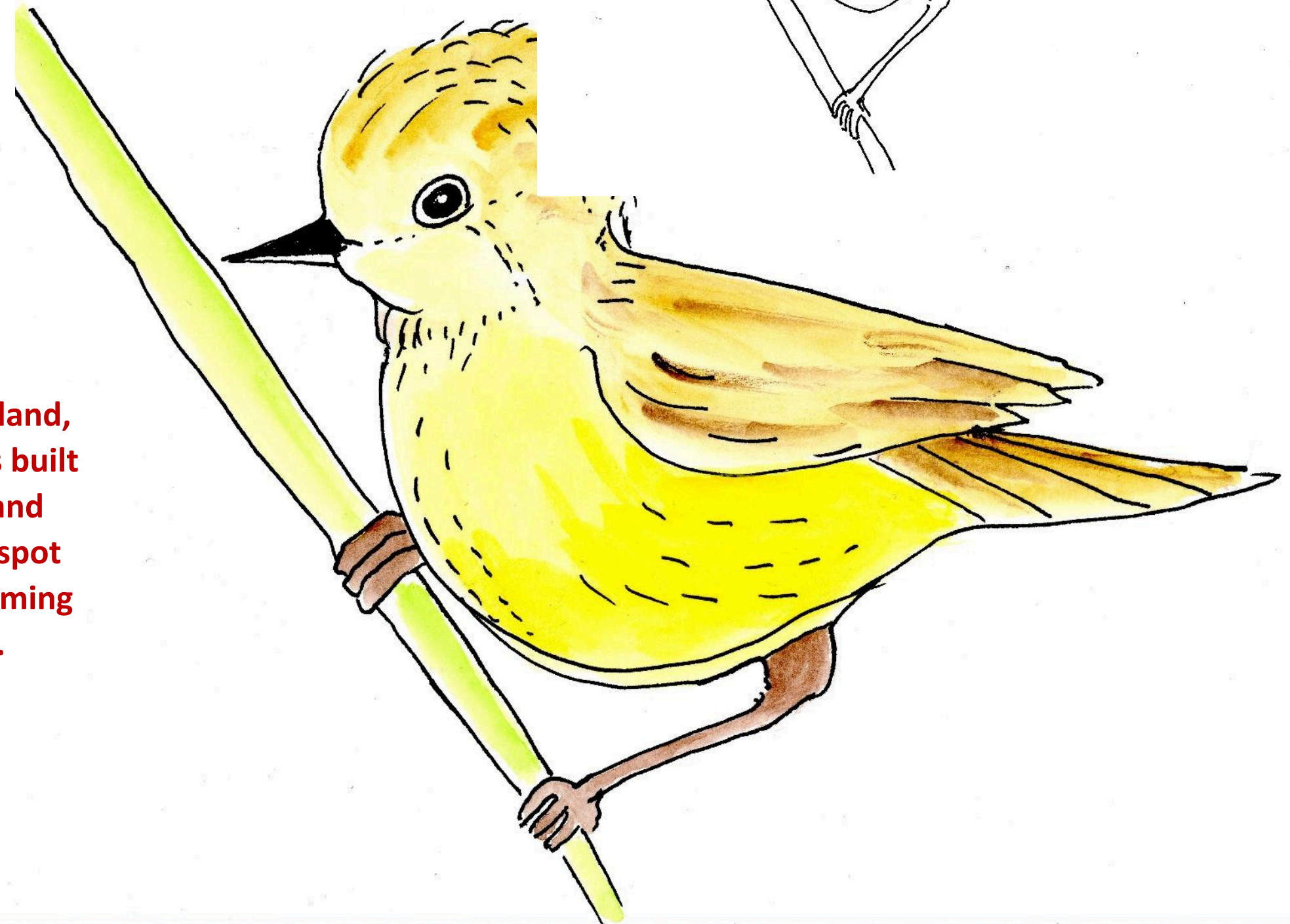


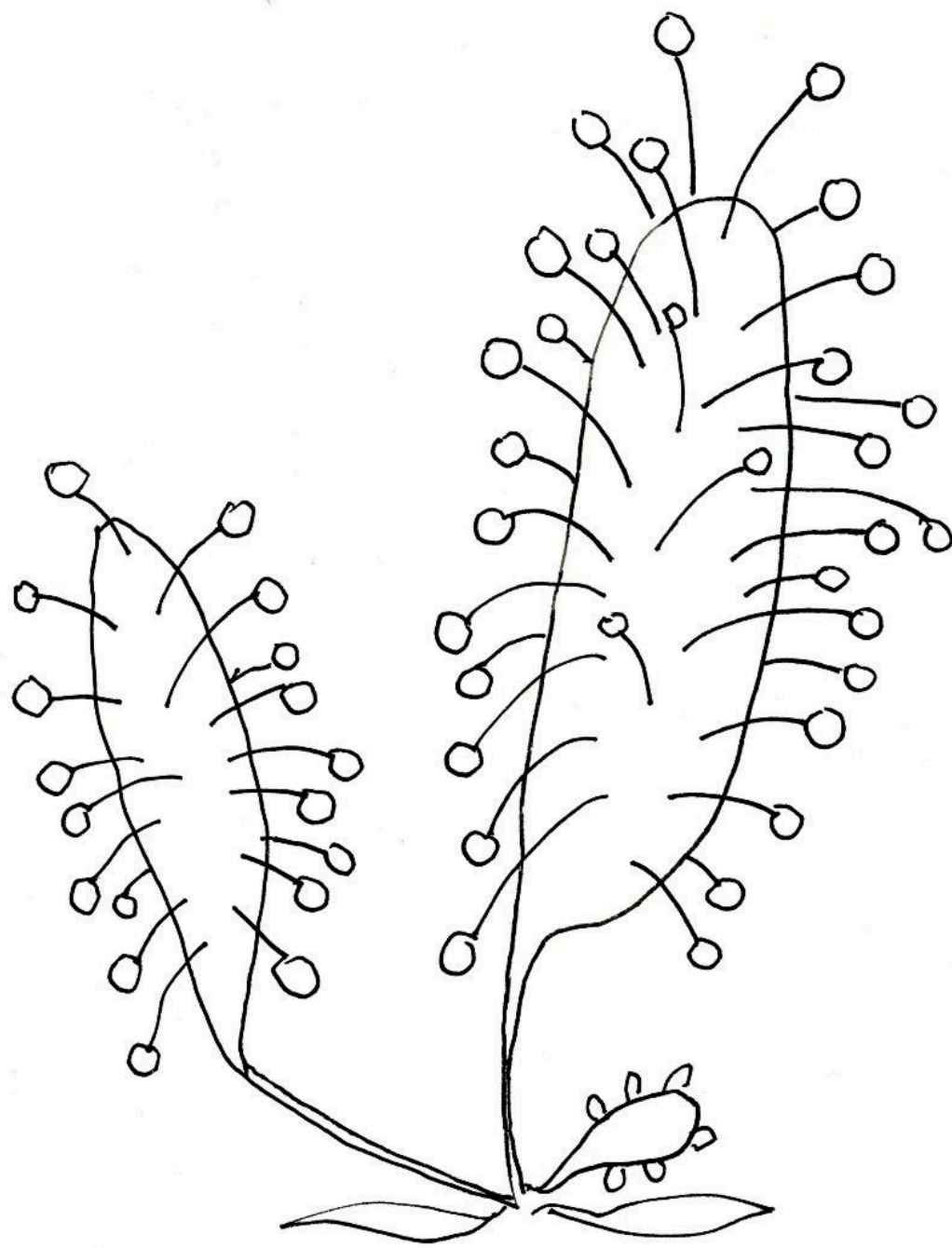
Frogs love wet and boggy places, but not peat bogs themselves as they are too acidic for frogs to thrive. They are less common than they used to be, with many ponds having been ploughed up for farming or buried under development. Cheshire is famous for its dew ponds which, like Lindow Moss, have formed in hollows in the landscape.



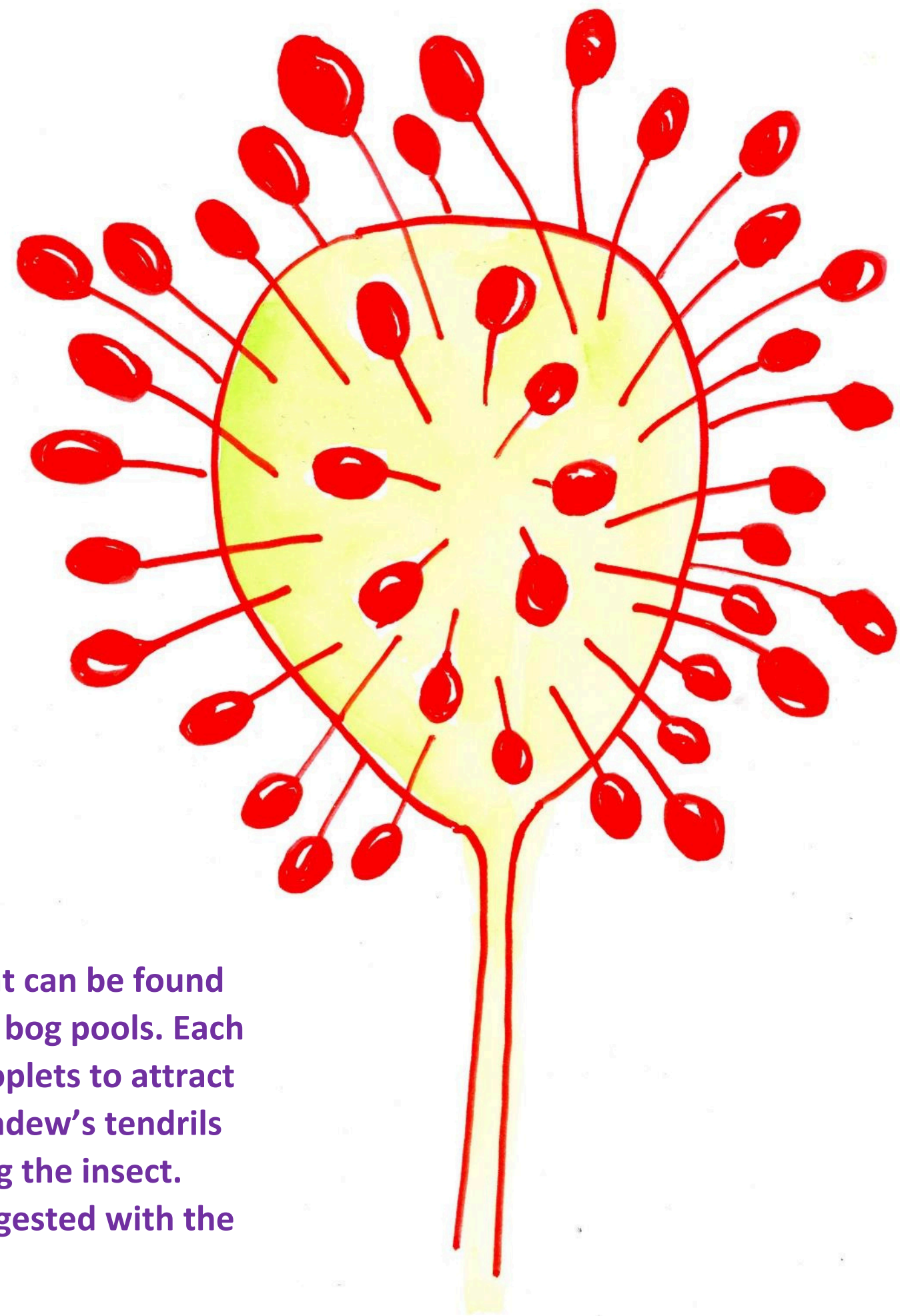


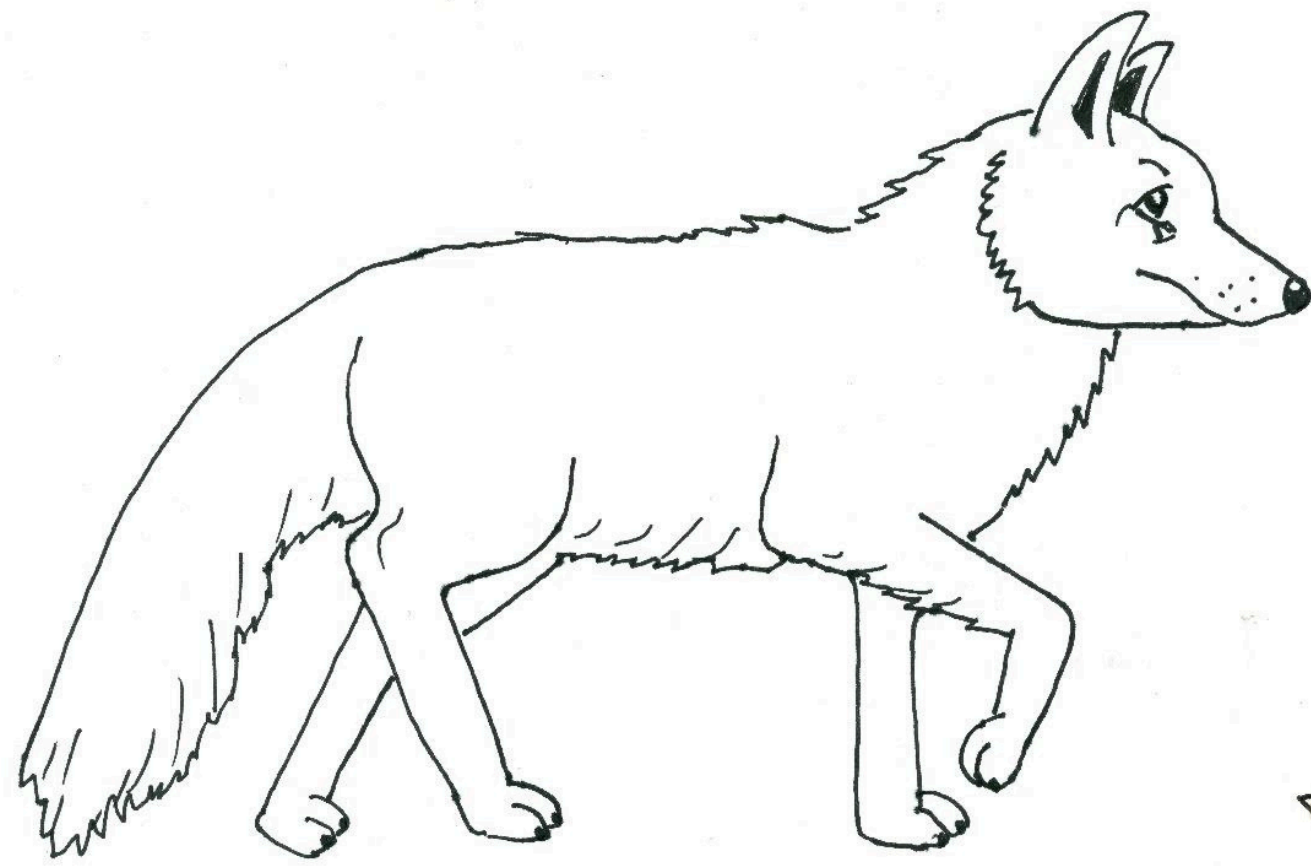
The Reed Warbler is a summer visitor to England, living on wetlands and laying its eggs in nests built deep within reedbeds. With brown wings and back and a light brown tummy, it is hard to spot but you can often hear its chattering song coming from the reeds growing on Lindow Moss.





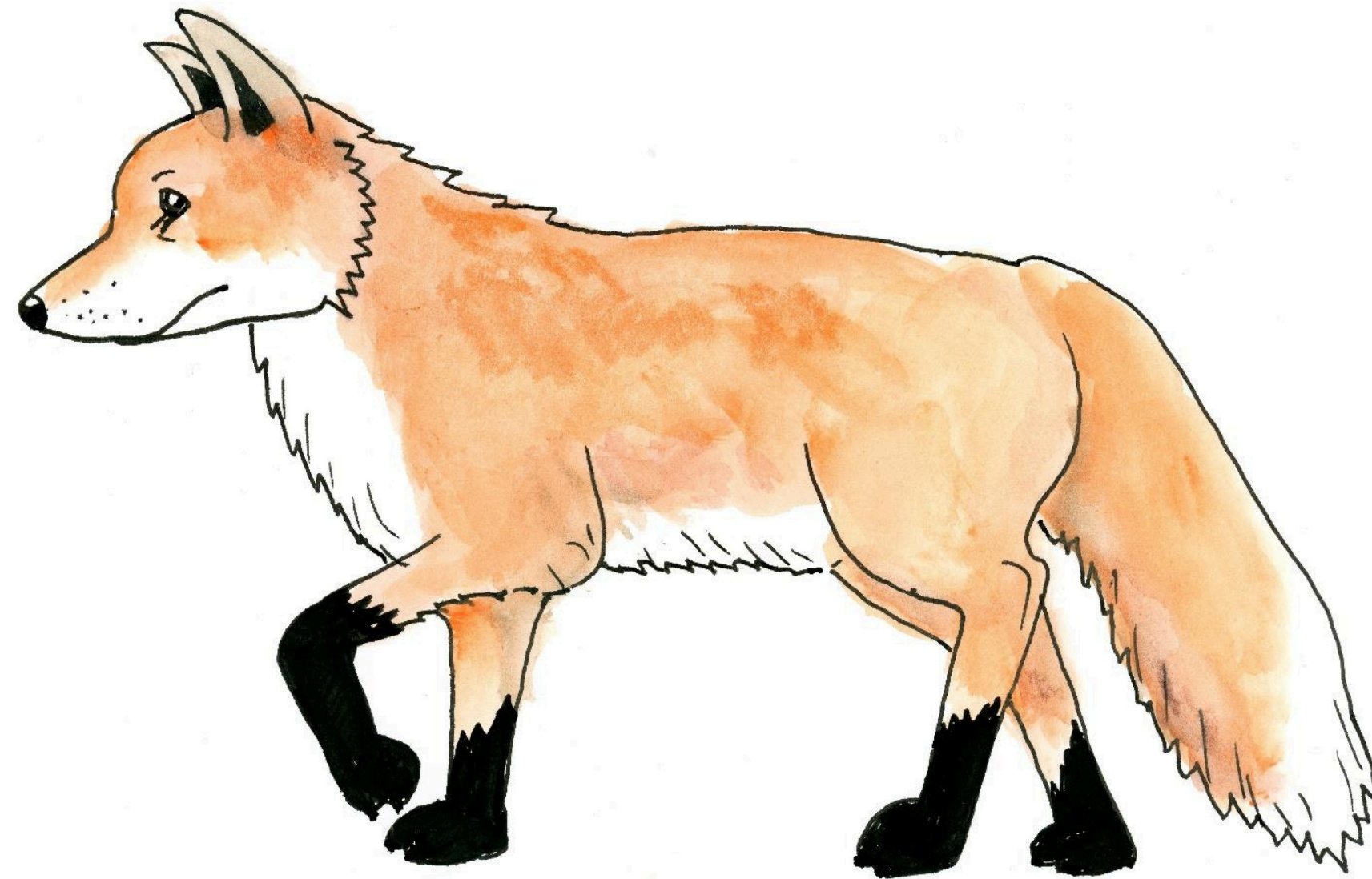
The round-leaved sundew is a strange and beautiful plant that can be found sitting among the soggy sphagnum mosses along the shores of bog pools. Each of its leaves carries hair-like tendrils tipped with glistening droplets to attract passing insects. But this 'dew' is very sticky and when the sundew's tendrils detect the presence of prey, it curls them inwards, trapping the insect. Eventually, the whole leaf wraps around the insect and it is digested with the nutrients absorbed by the plant as its food.





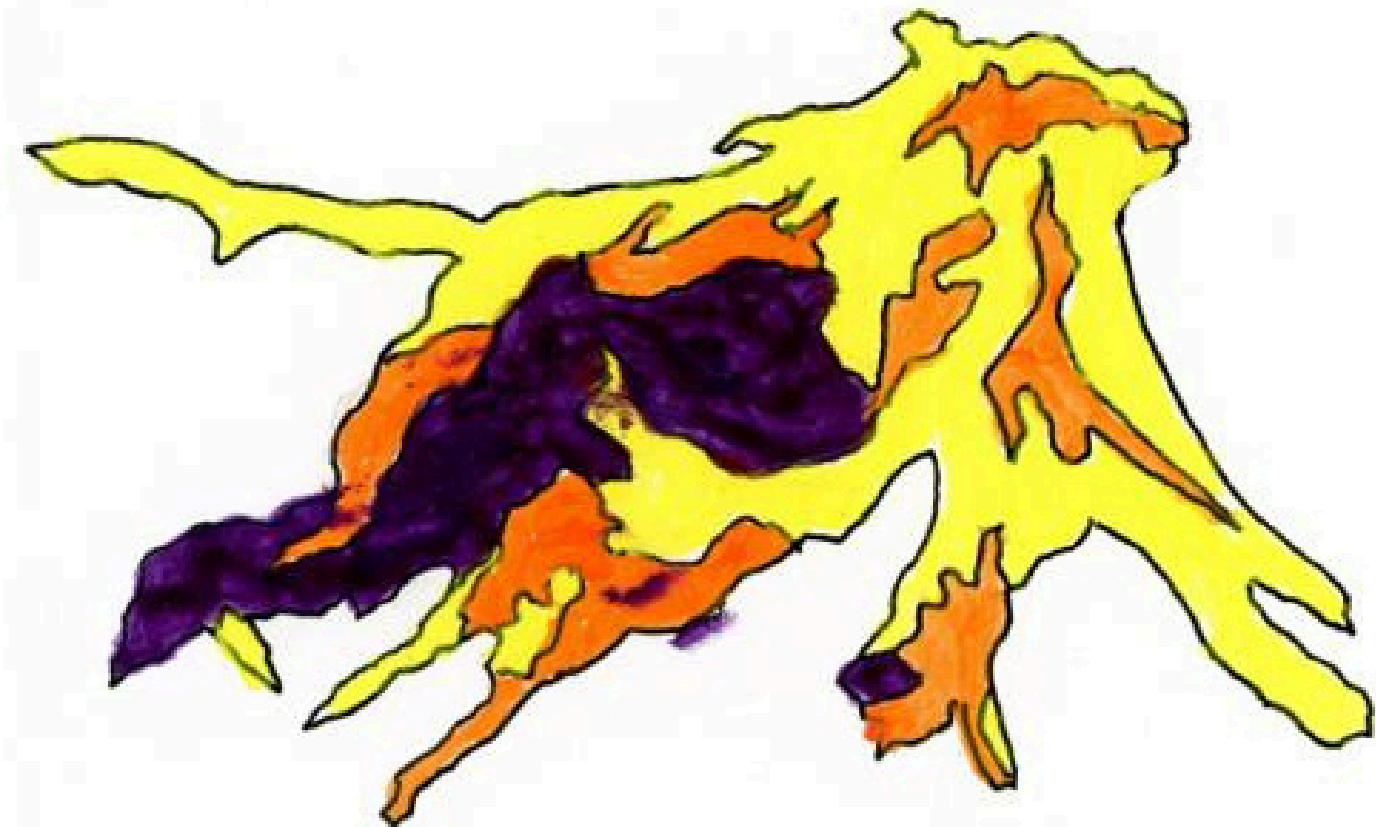
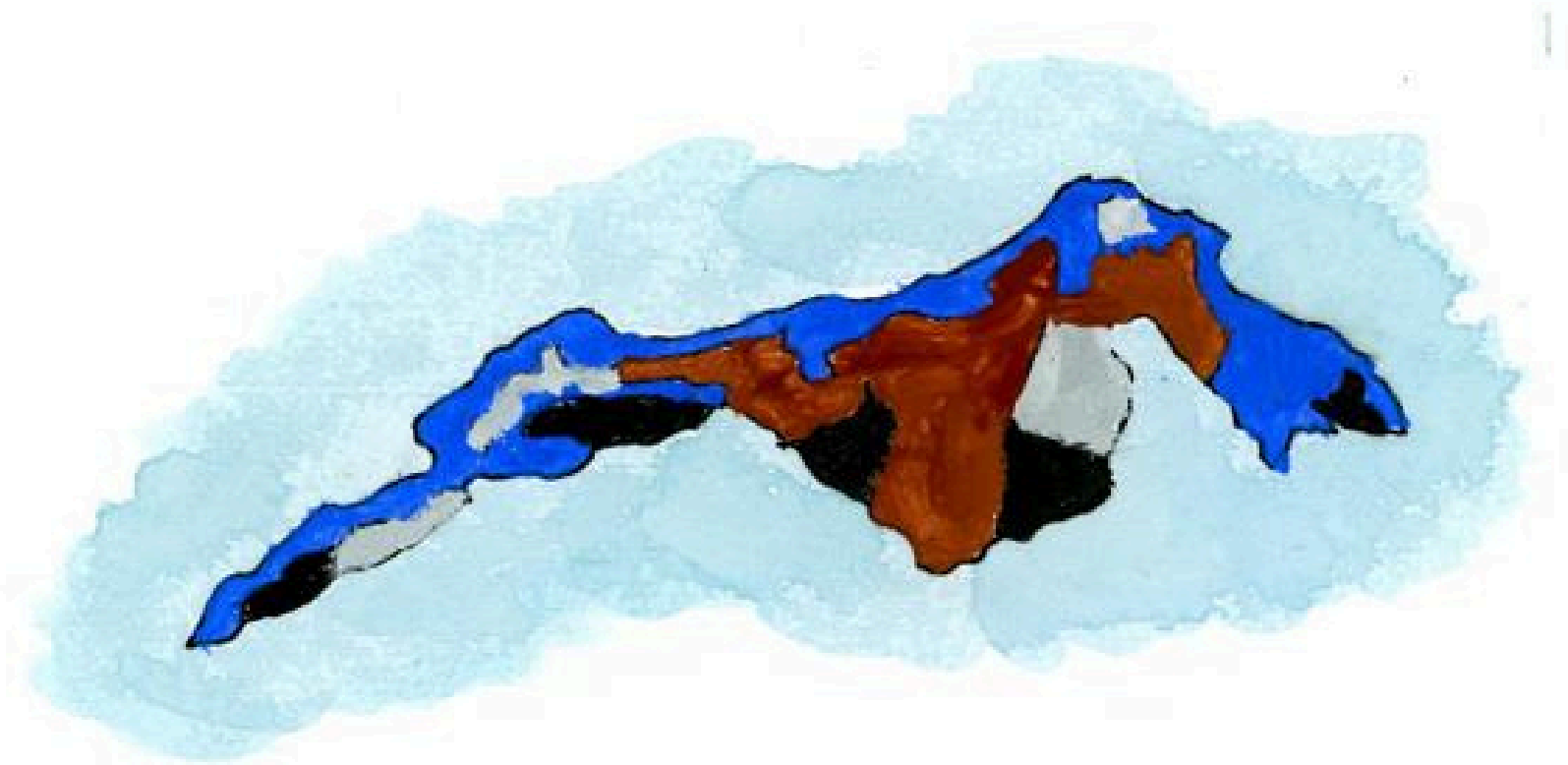
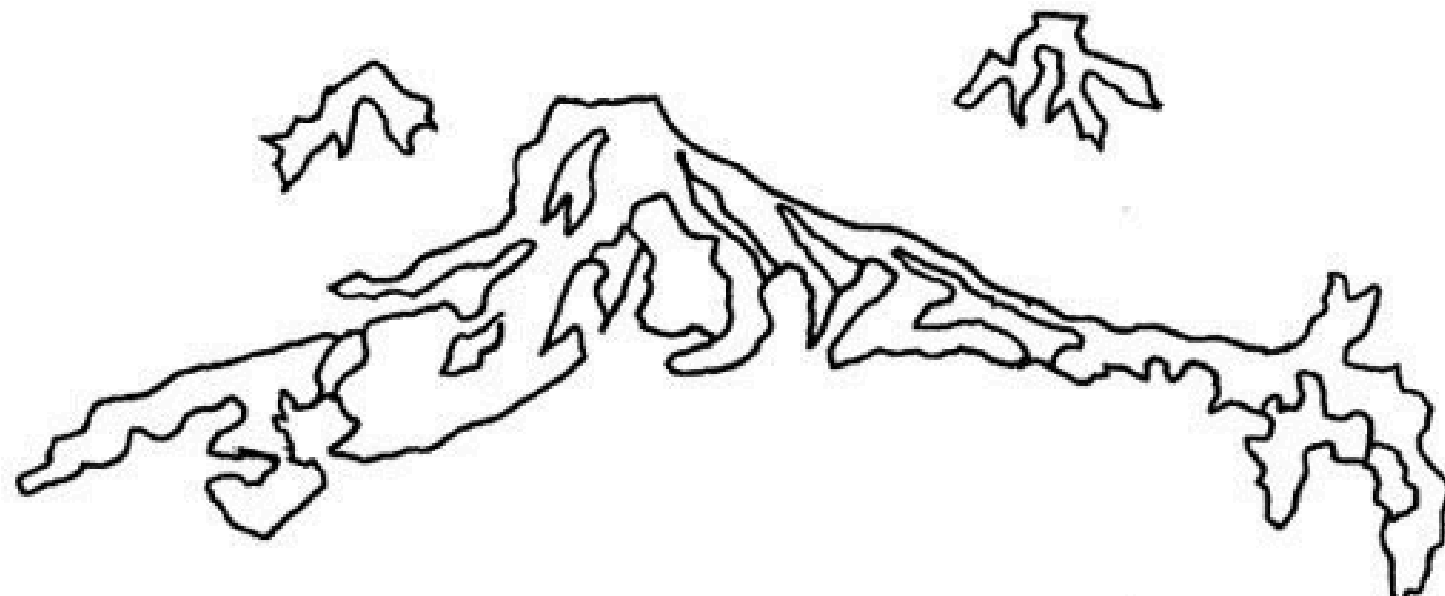
Foxes are widespread in the countryside and towns and have reddish coats and a long bushy tail called a brush. They live on what they can catch as well as on human rubbish.

When Lindow Man was found, he had a fox fur armband on his right upper arm. None of the rest of his clothing had survived.





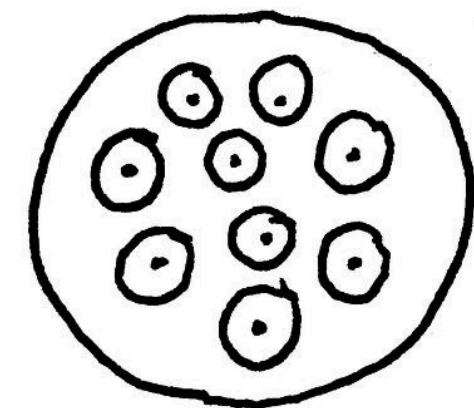
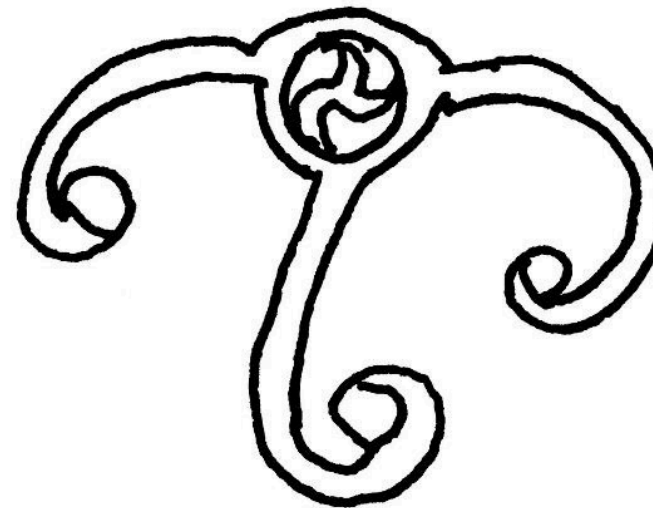
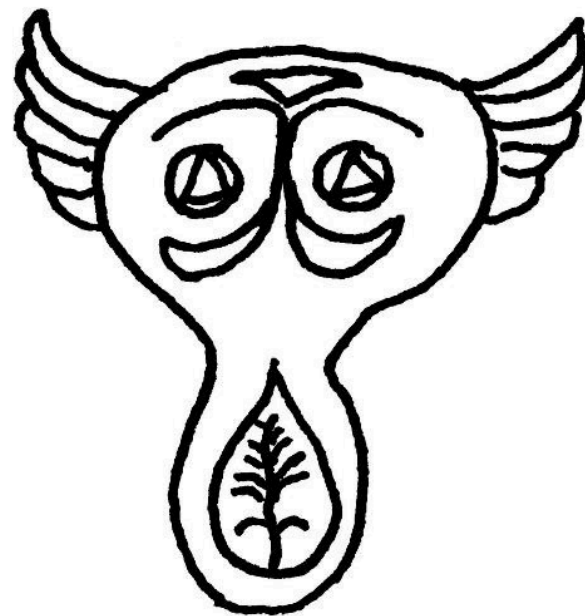
When you go to Lindow Moss you will see lots of wood slowly rotting away. It comes from pine trees which grew on the Moss around 4,500 years ago. It was petrified (preserved) underneath the peat where there is no oxygen and only started rotting when it was dug up while the peat was being cut for use in gardening. Here are some old tree stumps which lived four millennia ago!

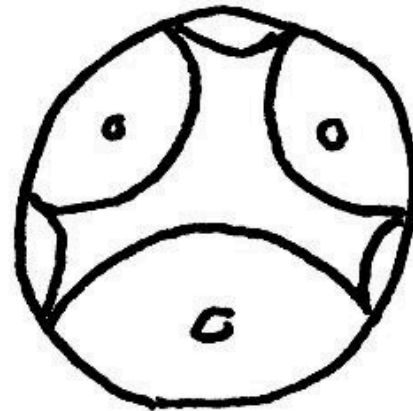
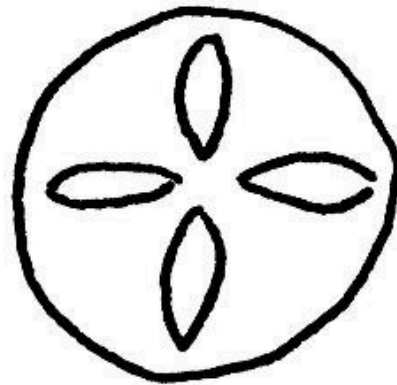
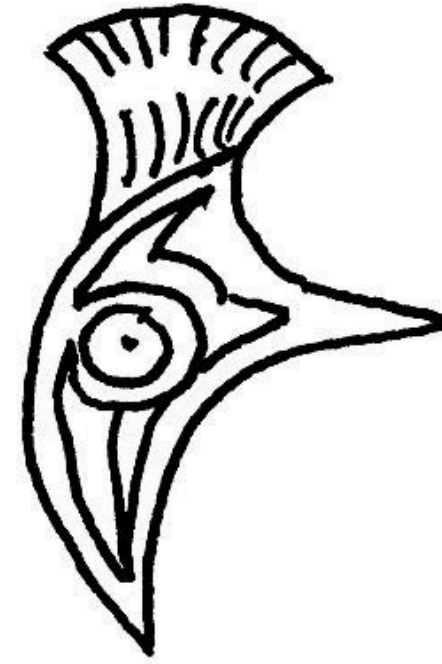
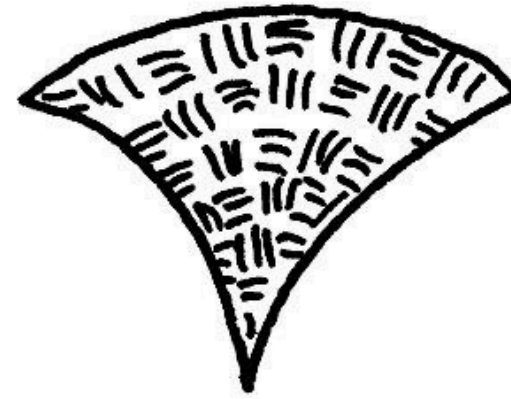
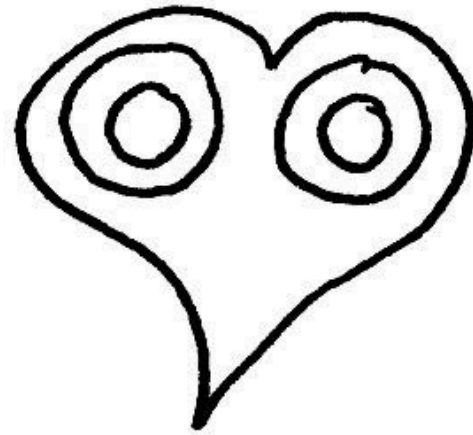
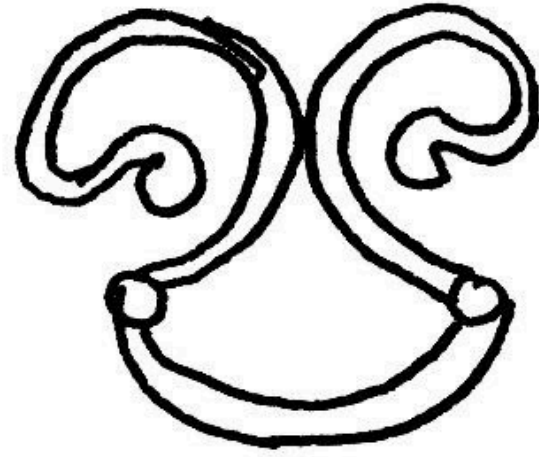


Iron Age people developed decorative designs which they used on a variety of objects, including jewellery, pottery, ironwork, clothing and, possibly, their skin.

They were often based on what they saw around them.

These ones include a swan, a cat and a human face. What do you think s/he is thinking?

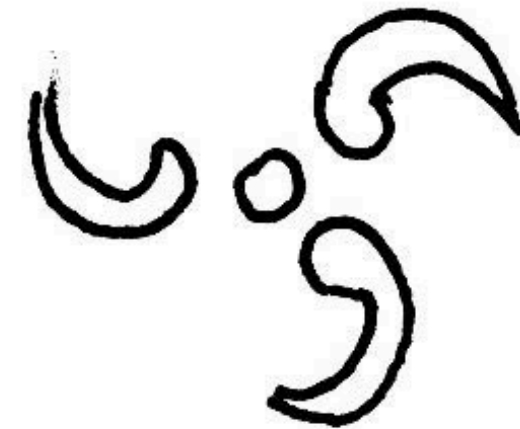
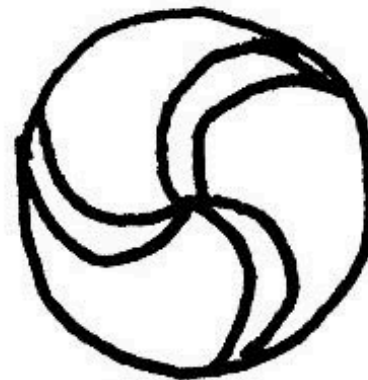


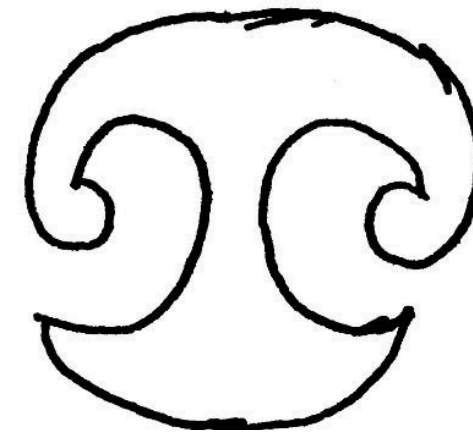
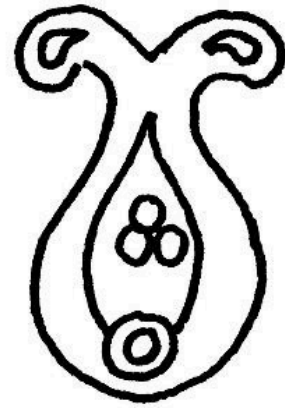


Other designs are less obvious and usually made up of circles and curves, sometimes with short straight lines for shading.

Almost all are symmetrical on at least one axis.

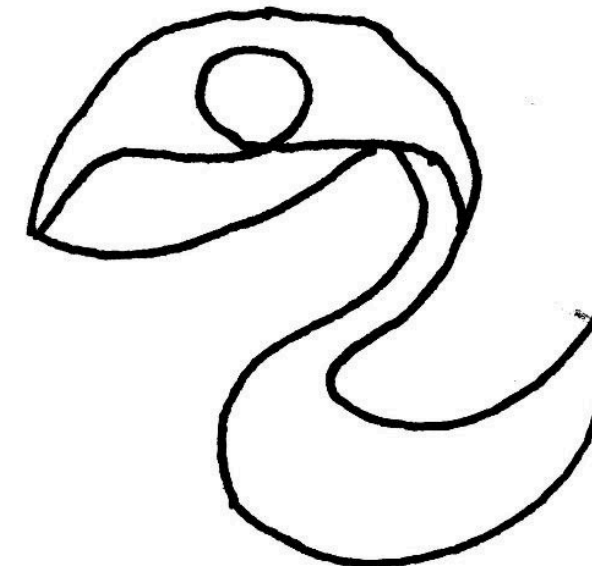
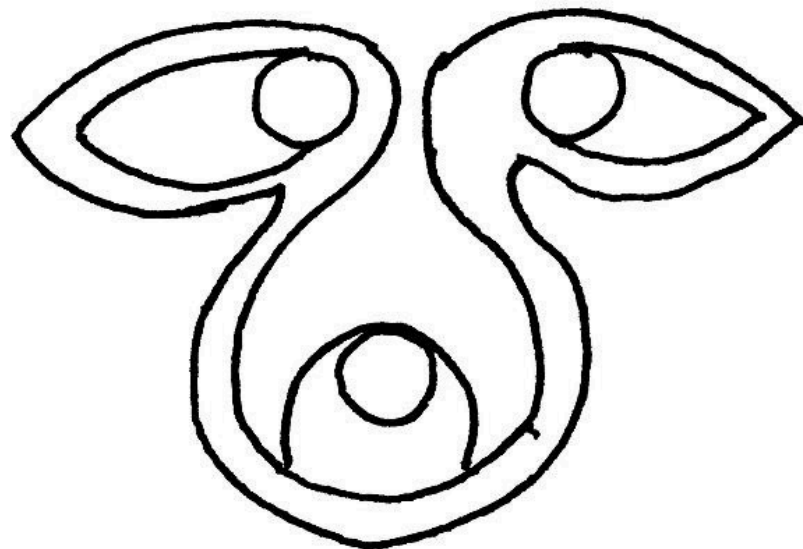
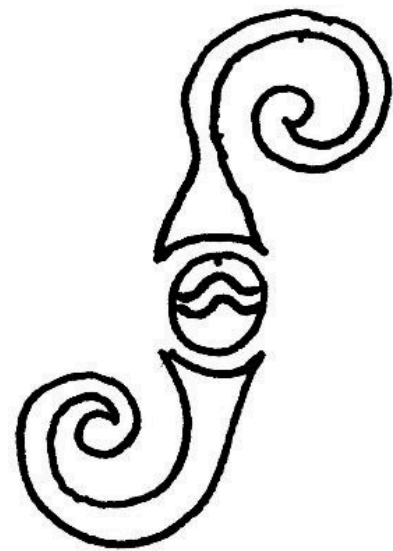
What bird do you think is represented above?





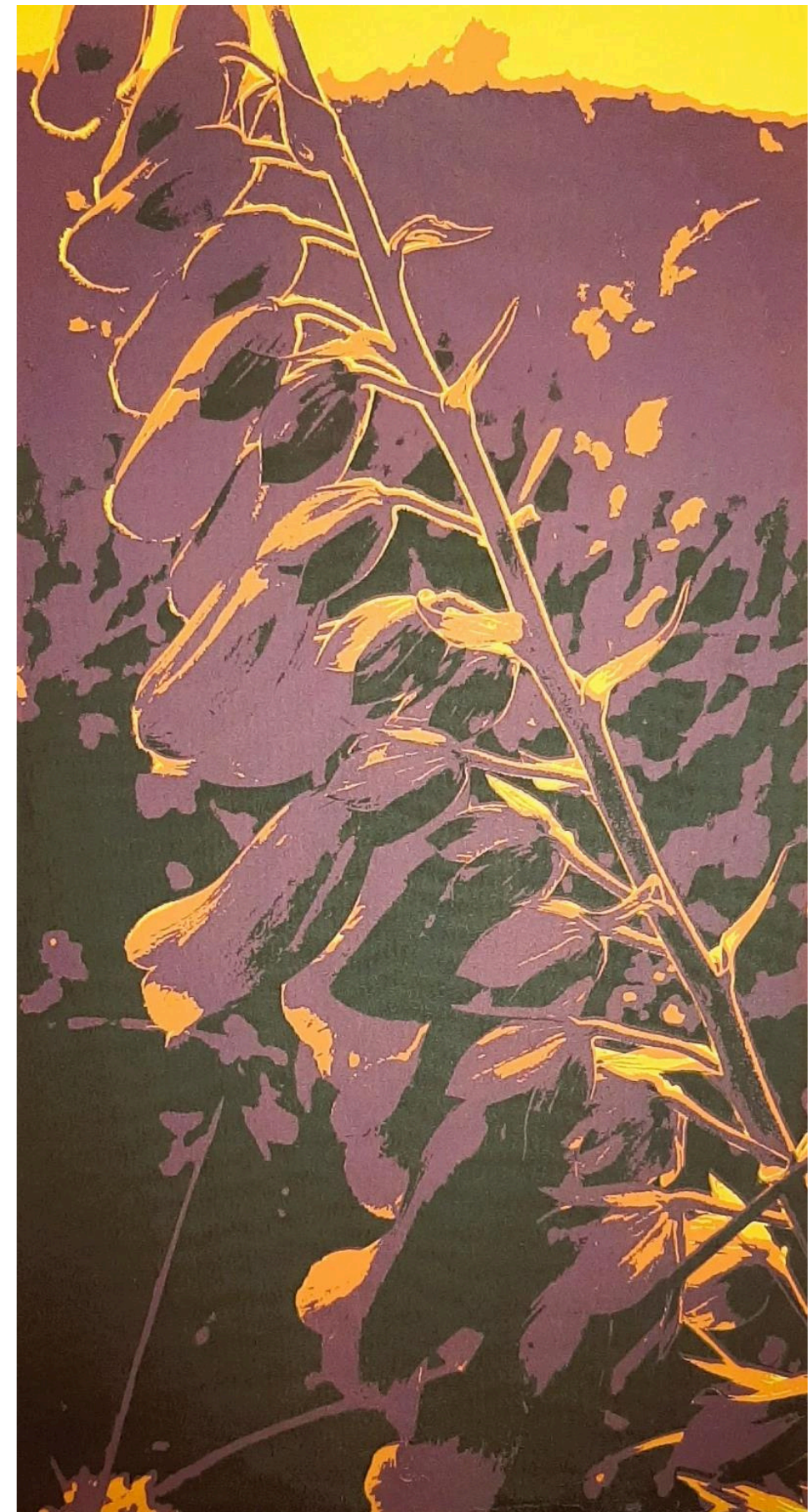
Other natural features are also often included in the designs. On this page, one design indicates water, another may include a water drop and yet another berries.

Why don't you try making your own designs based on the original ones on these three pages?





Discover Lindow
and enjoy!



Some drawing and painting tips from Gee Macrory

Bullrushes

Use acrylic for grass and sky – blue and green. Paint all over, and while wet, scratch lines in the green to look like grass. Allow to dry. Add darker green for longer leaves of grass. Use black to do the bullrushes. Finally, use white acrylic for the clouds.

Water vole

Do outline of vole in pen or pencil. Mix brown (or any colour) and paint the vole with acrylic that's not too thick. Allow to dry. Take a stiff dry brush and thicker brown paint and add dashes of paint on top – the edges should look fluffy. Use black for feet and purple (or red) for berries. Allow to dry. For the background, use thinnish green acrylic for the background and grey for the surface he is on – while wet, smudge with kitchen roll.

Fox

Do outline first. ArtLand on YouTube very useful. Mix orange acrylic and apply loosely, leaving parts white. Add a little brown where there might be shadow. Use black to do feet and nose.

Bog cotton

For the single one, use brown and green acrylic all over and while wet, scratch lines in. Allow to dry. Once dry, use a stiff dry brush and thick white acrylic for bog cotton, a little black at top of stem and then yellow for stem. When it's dry, go back to the black bit and cover partially with white.

For the one with **several**, first paint all over with brown and green acrylic. Do upwards strokes to look like grass. Allow to dry. Use black acrylic on a fine brush (or a pen) to draw in the bog cotton. Make lines bend in the same direction as if the wind were blowing it. You could add white acrylic as well.

Sundew

Use red acrylic to draw outline and then colour in each pod, leaving a tiny bit of white to look like the light is catching it (or you can add this after). Allow to dry. Use thinnish green paint to do the plant itself.