Using shade cards

In this example I select a palette of **eight shades** by matching **J&S** yarn shade cards against some flowers picked in my garden. I use a range of criteria for editing my choices down, including:

☐ **prioritising the colours in the inspiration source which are of greatest importance to me** (in this case there is a quest to get the right shades of blue/purple to describe **the luminous Borage blossoms**)

☐ **matching the inspiration source continually to the shade cards** to keep trying to understand its colours

☐ **tinkering with the palette** to ensure I don't end up with a whole range of yarn shades that are too similar in value

I also reflect on many of the lessons learned from a similar set of shades used in an earlier KNITSONIK swatch and discuss the value of keeping our "mistake" knitting as a valuable learning resource to help us build our skills for colour blending in stranded colourwork.