

LILY & THISTLE



NATURE'S ART CLUB

Holly and Partridge
Watercolor Painting and Educational Packet



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Supply List for Nature's Art Club

You will be using the same basic set of supplies for each painting every month. You can easily find these supplies on Amazon, Blick Art, or at your local arts and crafts stores. Below is a list of these supplies:

- Canson Watercolor Paper pad (size 9x12)
- Winsor & Newman Cotman Sketcher's Pocket Box Set
- Round Brush Set (we will mainly use size 2 and size 6)
- *Waterproof* Black Pen to use for outlining (if desired)
- Pencil
- Paper Towel
- Water
- Graphite Paper (optional if you plan to trace not using your windows or a light box)

Kid-friendly options for younger artists. Most younger children naturally aren't as careful with paint (which can be a bit stressful!) so washable, less expensive, and mess-free options are what we had in mind with these supplies:

- Watercolor Brush Pens
- Washable Watercolor Paint set
- Card stock paper for printing outline (size 8.5 x 11)
- Crayons (to use with the coloring pages for kids who don't want to paint or to avoid the paint mess for the day)
- Tray (or cookie sheet) to keep art in one place

[Check out this page for links to all items listed above on Amazon.](#)

Tips for keeping your supplies organized and ready to use:

- Keep everything in one place. Use a basket or a bin to hold all of your papers, paints, brushes, pens, water cups, paper towels, etc.
- If each person has their own paints and brushes, consider keeping each person's supplies in a Ziploc gallon bag. It will make it easy to gather and put away supplies, plus it's easy for grab-and-go if you decide to venture outside.

How to Paint a PARTRIDGE Step-by-Step Guide



Gather your supplies and trace your partridge onto your watercolor paper. You can use a window and trace it with a pencil or use graphite paper. You will need your Round Brush Size 6 for this painting.



Let's start by blocking in the leaves. I'm using a coat of Sap Green (light green) with good amount of water. Just fill them in...don't worry about getting them even.



Next, with a light coat of Intense Blue (dark blue with lots of water), block out the partridge's back and throat.



Now bring in Yellow Ochre (brown/yellow) just on the back of his body.



Now using your Burnt Umber, go over the lines on his breast. You can let the color vary. Push down on your brush so the lines vary in thickness.



With your Cadmium Red (orange/red) fill in the eyes, feet and beak of your partridge.

PARTRIDGE

continued...



With your Burnt Umber (darker brown) mixed with Intense Blue (darker blue) make a nice dark grey/black color.



Now paint stripes on his belly/breast and around his eyes.



Now you will add Burnt Umber (darker brown) over the top layer of your partridge to get a nice brown/gray color. Paint the tips of the tail feathers with this. You can also add a bit of Yellow Ochre to the white part of his face to add some depth.



Add the your gray mixture throughout the body as just one more layer. I used it for shadowing the breast/throat area.



After your painting is completely dry, you can choose to outline everything with a fine tip, waterproof pen. I like the No Bleed Sharpie pen.



And that's it! Now go and hang up your partridge or even better, give it to someone you love!

How to Paint HOLLY Step-by-Step Guide

1.



Gather your supplies and trace your holly onto your watercolor paper. You can use a window or light box and trace it with a pencil or use graphite paper. You will need a Round Brush Size 6 for this project.

2.



We will only be using two colors on this project. Let's start with our Sap Green (light green) and block in all of the holly leaves. Don't worry too much about getting it even. Just get it blocked out and let the water and pigment vary.

3.



Once you have all of your leaves and stems blocked in, move on to our second color: Alizarian Crimson (red).

4.



Now I'm going to show you a cool trick. On your berries, try to leave just a little part white. This will give your berries a nice highlight which will help them look shiny. You can use this trick on lots of other watercolor projects too!

5.



Now I am mixing a deeper green by mixing my red and green together. Depending on how much red you mix with your green, this can also make a nice brown. I'm adding more green to this mixture because I want it to be a nice deep green color for my leaves.

6.



Now I'm just painting the underside of the leaves with the deep green color.

HOLLY

continued...



Next, I am adding a bit of the darker green to the middle of my leaves and just fanning it out a bit to add some shadow and dimension.



Once my paint has dried, I am outlining everything with my waterproof sharpie. You can choose to do this or not. I like the way it makes the colors pop!



And you are finished! Give it to someone who makes you happy or hang it up for some beautiful Christmas decor!

Watercolor Outline and Reference Photo

Included you will find a watercolor reference photo of the final painting. You can use this as inspiration or as a guide as you paint. Remember that your painting doesn't have to look like mine. You can add different colors, details, backgrounds, etc.! Just have fun with it. Know before you start that you will have good painting days and days that you just can't seem to "get it". This is normal and part of the learning process. Embrace your mistakes and keep going!

Also included on the following page is a watercolor outline that you can use as a guide to either sketch the project yourself or to trace using a light board or the nearest window! Not sure how to do this? Just tape your outline to any window during the day, lay your watercolor paper over it and trace away! You can also purchase a light board or download the Softbox app for your iPad (I use the white setting).



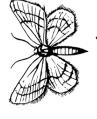
Coloring Pages

We've included coloring pages of each natural friend we will be studying this month. If you aren't up to painting or have a child who isn't quite ready to paint, print the coloring pages and have some fun! Coloring is therapeutic for everyone! Don't forget to share with us on the **Nature's Art Club Private Facebook Group!** We'd love to see what you're working on!

WATERCOLOR OUTLINE



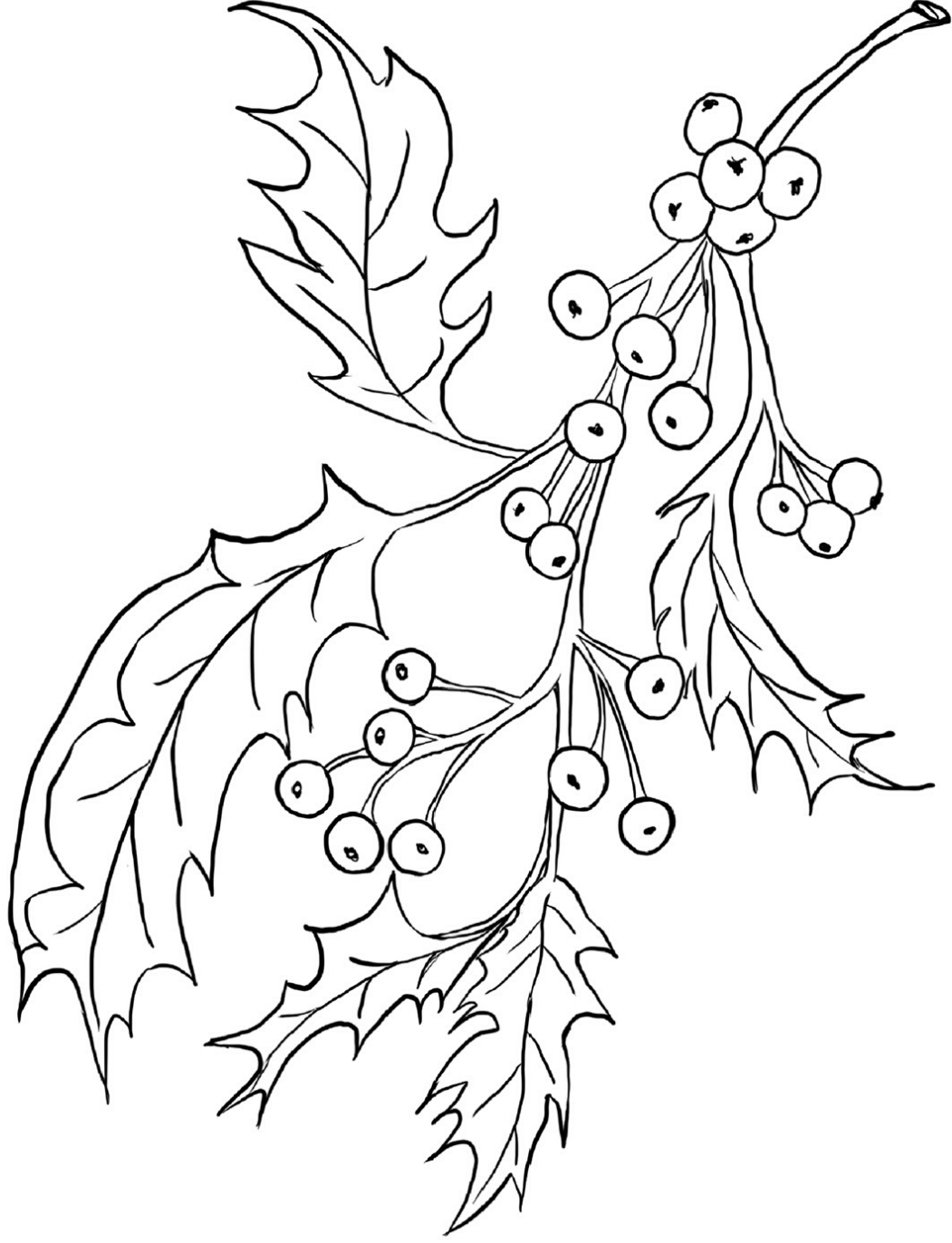
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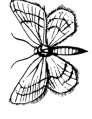
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WATERCOLOR OUTLINE



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WATERCOLOR OUTLINE



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PARTRIDGE

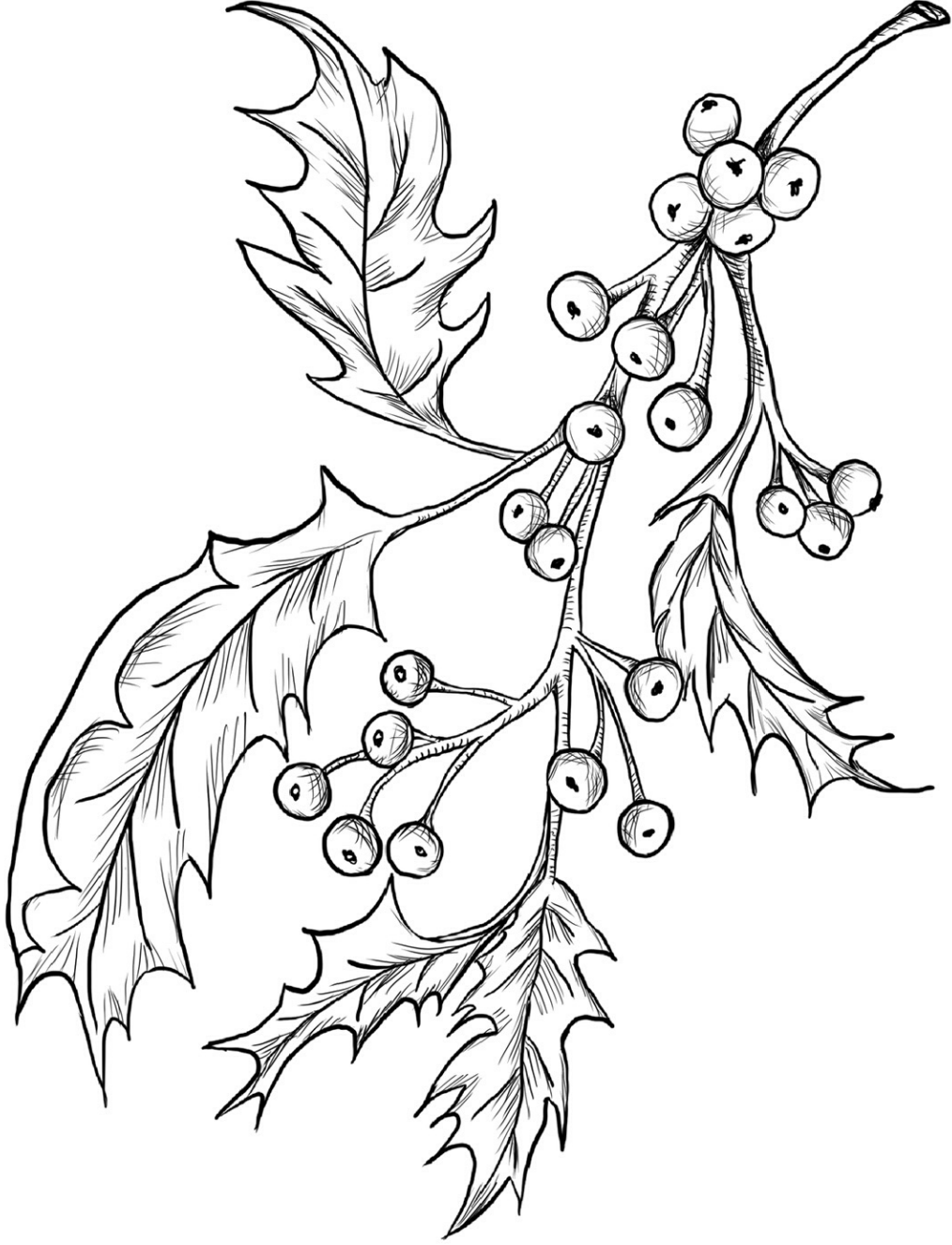


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NATURE'S ART CLUB

HOLLY



Did You Know?

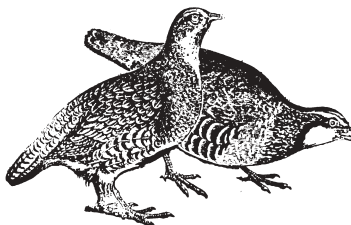
FUN FACTS ABOUT PARTRIDGE BIRDS

- Partridges live all over the world but the most common in North America and Europe are known as Gray Partridges, Red legged Partridges or “Chukars”, and Hungarian Partridges or “Huns”.
- Partridges are in the pheasant family but look a lot like large quails. Although they look like quail, their habits and behaviors are quite different.
- Female partridges are called “Hens” and males are called “Cocks”
- Partridge hens produce some of the largest clutches (group of eggs) of any bird species. Their clutch can reach 22 eggs but most commonly is 16 to 18 eggs.
- When baby partridges hatch, their eyes are open and they already have feathers! They can even leave the nest and feed themselves.
- Young partridges like to eat insects like beetles and aphids while their parents love seeds and grass.
- Partridges live in pairs and are monogamous (stay with one partner their whole life).
- A group of partridges is called a “covey” and is made up of two adults and their offspring.
- Partridges are sedentary birds which means they don’t migrate during the winter.
- The main predators of partridges are foxes, dogs, crows, and magpies.
- Even though partridges are strong flyers, they prefer to stay on the ground. They even build their nests on the ground by scratching the earth (usually close to a hedge for protection) and adding grass and leaves.

FUN FACTS ABOUT HOLLY

- There are over 400 different kinds of Holly plants. The one most commonly used and referred to at Christmastime is English Holly.
- Holly is diecious (greek for “two households”) which means that each holly plant is either male or female. The female plant produces berries but a male plant is needed nearby to cross pollinate.
- Holly berries are great for birds but not for humans. All kinds of winter birds feast on the berries from the Holly plant throughout the cold winter months. But the berries, leaves and bark are all mildly toxic because they contain theobromine, a substance a lot like caffeine. In small amounts it won’t really affect humans and small pets but in large amounts it can cause stomach issues and more.
- The song “The Holly and The Ivy” tells the story of Christ. We usually only hear the first verse of this song at Christmas time but the later verses show how the holly plant is a symbol of Christ’s sacrifice (the whole song is linked in the video resources).
- Holly has been a popular Christmas plant for thousands of years. As we referenced above, Christians see it as a symbol of the thorns and blood of Christ’s crown. But even before Christians used it as a symbol of Christmas, Druids used it as part of their Winter Solstice celebrations. They even believed that a Holly King ruled the world in the winter months.
- Holly leaves are evergreen and new lower growing leaves are the most spiny. As the bush grows higher, the leaves get more smooth and less spiny.

Sources:
www.softschools.com
www.archery360.com



Sources:
www.discoverwildlife.com
www.birdsandblooms.com

Lessons from Our Natural Friends

NATURE CAN TEACH US SO MUCH! CHECK OUT THESE VIDEOS
AND SEE WHAT YOU LEARN AS YOU OBSERVE.

*Red Legged Partridge
in the wild (1 min)*
<https://youtu.be/BMdI1rCgT68>

*Red Legged Partridge
mama with babies (8 min)*
<https://youtu.be/RA92FFHK15M>

The Holly Tree (5 min)
<https://youtu.be/0FBUhQIYGs>

*The Holly and The Ivy
Song and Lyrics (4 min)*
<https://youtu.be/YC1-EIUNjV0>

*The Holly and Ivy Girl
Irish Christmas Song (2 min)*
<https://youtu.be/SAtGS89nffE>



What Did You Observe?

As you watch the videos listed above, or even better go outside and find your own holly or partridge to observe, take some time to really study it. Pretend that you have to describe it to someone who's never seen one before. How would you explain it to them?

Ask some questions. What makes you go, "hmmmm" or say "I wonder"? No question is off limits. Think of as many questions as you can. Now you are curious! See if you can find some answers!

Use the worksheet on the next page to write down your observations. Also, please share! [Go to the Nature's Art Club Private Facebook group](#) and share your art and observations with our community!

Your Observations

If you had to describe a partridge to someone, what would you say?

What curious new things did you discover as you watched and read about partridges?

Write down any questions you have about partridges. See if you can find at least one answer:

Describe what a holly leaf looks like to someone who has never seen one before:

What curious new things did you discover about holly?

Write down questions you have about holly and see if you can find the answers:



HOLLY SHELTER

By: B. Bugs Anderson

A partridge looked for shelter where she could
lay her eggs

She saw tall grass and bushes, but she chose a
holly hedge.

Did she choose a hedge because there was no
pear tree to be found?

No, she chose that place for partridges build
nests upon the ground.

Her predators hate holly with its thorns on
every leaf.

The berries are quite bitter and will give their
tummies grief.

Her nest has all the safety that a holly bush
can give.

A shelter where her little chicks can hatch and
grow and live.

And when you see a holly hedge with lovely
leaves of green

And blood-red berries clustered on top and in
between,

Think of the nest our parents made to keep us
safe and warm;

Not just our house, but all they do to shield us
from all harm.

We may not always like it; we rebel and make a
fuss,

But soon we find that they can see what lies in
store for us.

They protect and guide us until each child has
grown

Enough to flee their special nest and fly out on
their own.



JESUS AND THE HOLLY

By: B. Bugs Anderson

A partridge looked for shelter where she could lay
her eggs

She saw tall grass and bushes, but she chose a
holly hedge.

Did she choose a hedge because there was no pear
tree to be found?

No, she chose that place for partridges build nests
upon the ground.

Her predators don't like holly with its thorns on
every leaf.

The berries are quite bitter and will give their
tummies grief.

Her nest has all the safety that a holly bush can
give.

A shelter where her little chicks can hatch and
grow and live.

And when I see a holly hedge with lovely leaves of
green

And blood-red berries clustered on top and in
between,

I think of one who lived a life so beautiful and
pure.

A crown of thorns and awful pain he willingly
endured.

The berries, like the drops of blood spilled in
Gethsemane

Contain a seed of hope for plants and mankind, for
you see

The berry seed will propagate, new holly it will
give

The blood He spilled means I, with Him, eternally
can live.

I thank you, Jesus, for this world so beautiful and
good,

For holly hedge and partridges, because you
understood

That sometimes we make choices that cause us
grief and pain,

But we can make good choices and live with you
again.