

ARCHAEANTHUS

Archaeanthus linnenbergeri

Archaeanthus fossils dating back to the mid-Cretaceous period are claimed to be among the first angiosperms, or flowering plants. My quilled Archaeanthus is based on an artist's impression of what the plant and flower may have looked like. Complete fossils of another angiosperm, Archaeofructus, have been found embedded in volcanic ash in north-eastern China. They are dated at approximately 125 million years old. The dinosaurs would have loved them!

Part	Quantity	Length	Shape	Colour
Flower	6	15 cm (6 in)	teardrop	white
	1	10 cm (4 in)	fringed 10 mm (½ in) beehive	green
Leaves	3	20 cm (7¾ in)	teardrop	green
	8	30 cm (11¾ in)	bent triangle	green
	2	10 cm (4 in)	teardrop	fawn
Stems	1	12 cm (4¾ in)	rolled 6 mm (¼ in) strip	green
	2	5 cm (2 in)	strips	green
	1	3 cm (1¼ in)	strip	green
	1	2 cm (¾ in)	strip	green

To make the main stem, roll a 12 cm (4¾ in) strip of 6 mm (¼ in) wide quilling paper lengthways so it is like a tube or a straw.

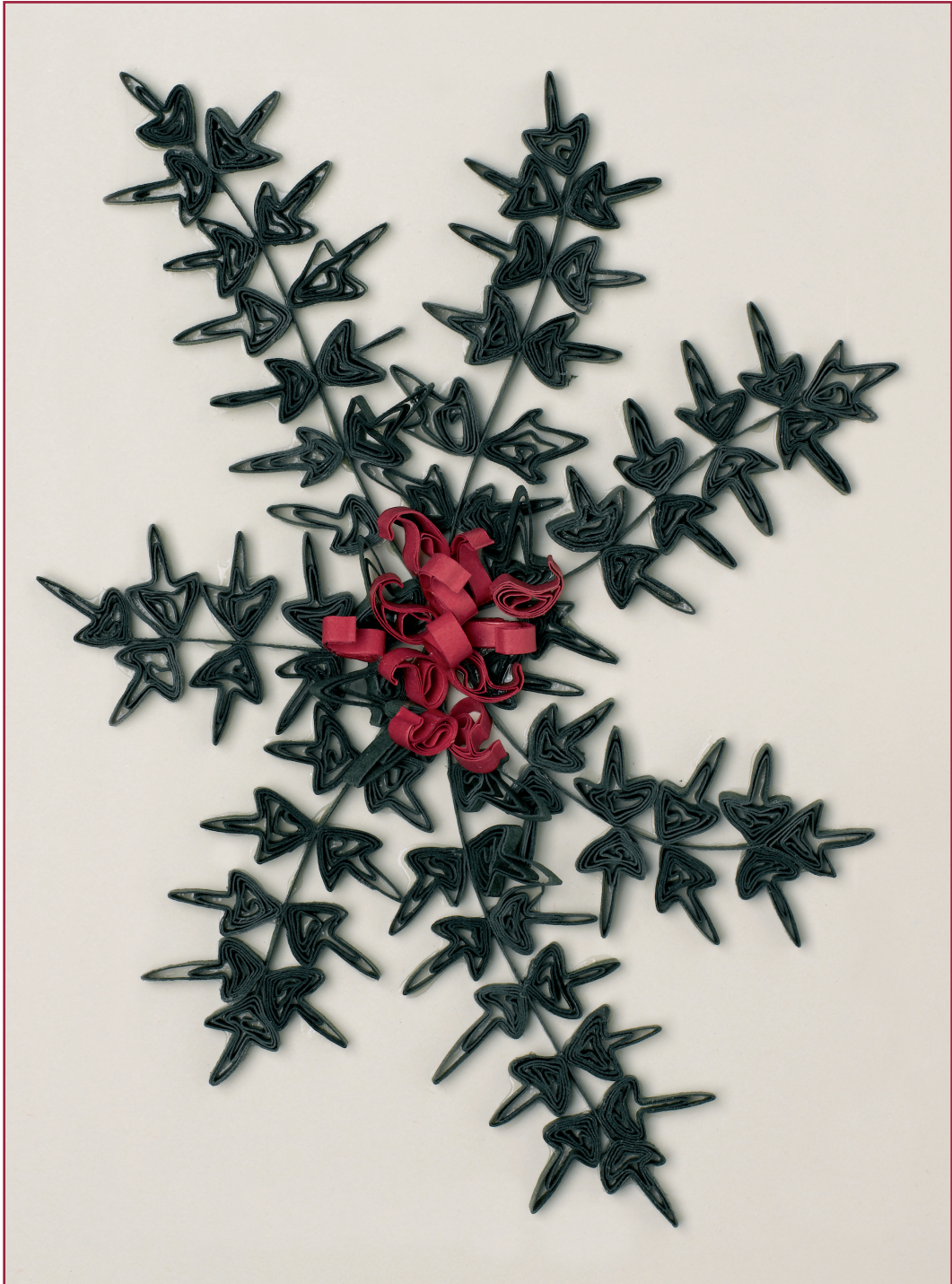
Arrangement

Place the main stem onto your card and glue into position. Glue the 10 cm (4 in) green fringed beehive at the top end of the main stem. Arrange the three 20 cm (7¾ in) green teardrop leaves around the flower centre, points facing inwards. Glue them to the card and then put the six white 15 cm (6 in) teardrops around the

Prehistoric Flora

flower centre, on top of the three leaves. Position the leaf stems so they are branching off the main stem and glue into place. Glue two 30 cm (11¾ in) bent triangle leaves to the end of each leaf stem. They should look a bit like a crab's claw. Finally add the two 10 cm (4 in) fawn leaves onto the main stem just below the flower. I am uncertain if these are meant to be leaves or seed pods but they could be either.





KING'S HOLLY

Lomatia tasmanica

King's Holly is reputed to be the oldest plant in the world. It is sterile, having neither seeds nor fruit, and being able to reproduce only by suckering. This method of reproduction is a form of cloning and means that all plants are identical in genetic structure, and therefore that the modern plant is identical to its prehistoric ancestors. A fossilised leaf has been found and dated back some 46 000 years. This remarkable plant was discovered in 1937 in Tasmania by Charles Denison (Deny) King and named in his honour. It is only found in one place in Tasmania and is listed as critically endangered.

Part	Quantity	Length	Shape	Colour
Flowers	12	8 cm (3¼ in)	teardrop	crimson
Leaves	75	10 cm (4 in)	birdfoot	dark green
Stems	2	6 cm (2½ in)	strips	dark green
	4	5 cm (2 in)	strips	dark green
	1	3.5 cm (2 in)	strip	dark green

To make the flowers, take the pinched end of the crimson teardrop shape and put it in the slot of the quilling tool, and roll it half a turn. This will make it very curved on the end.

Arrangement

Arrange the stems so they radiate out from the centre and glue to the card. Add the leaves, glueing them as you go. Lastly add the flowers in the centre of the leaves.