

COLOUR & CAMOUFLAGE



Colour & Camouflage

A rainbow of rocks, minerals, mammals, birds and butterflies, vibrant displays and the subtlety of camouflage. From humble British specimens to South American mimic-patterned moths.

Colour & camouflage

Colours in the natural world can be a warning sign or an attraction, a way of standing out or of hiding from predators and prey.

Our large showcase is arranged in rainbow-colour order, from red-brown through orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo to black. The smaller case has birds, moths and butterflies with mimic and camouflage patterns, as well as white – mostly camouflaged – items from the natural world.

Hammond bird collection

Most of the birds you can see come from a collection bequeathed to the museum in 1903 by William Oxenden Hammond (1817-1903). The Hammonds were local landowners and bankers. William Oxenden, like his father William Osmund (1790-1863), collected British birds and gave over 500 of their specimens to the museum. Some of William senior's birds are very early and rare specimens.



William Oxenden Hammond, 1883, by Frank Holl, RA / Canterbury Museums and Galleries collection



Brown Trout

.....
Caught by Mr Charles Bing in the River Stour on the 27th May 1926.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 1999.187.2



Butterfly with wood mimicry

.....
Butterflies often use mimicry-a kind of camouflage to hide from predators.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2000.19.33



Oakstone

.....
Large polished, brown mass showing pseudo-stalactitic concentric growth patterns
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2006.216



Chestnut jacana

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference E21



Muskrat

.....
This smaller cousin of the beaver comes from wetlands in North America
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 1999.227



Chipmunk

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 1999.229



Bat

.....
Sturnira lilium from Ecuador

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 1999.252



Ferruginous Duck

.....
Purchased by Mr W.O. Hammond in 1835

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 283H



Stoat

.....
Caught by a game keeper in Dornoch, Scotland.

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 1990.69



Red fox

.....
The red fox was found dead by a roadside and brought to the museum some years ago. Foxes are one of relatively few truly native British mammals. They are now a common sight in urban areas throughout Britain.

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 1999.245



Red squirrels

.....
Unlike immigrant grey squirrels, red squirrels are now only seen in a few isolated places in Britain. They have been out-competed by grey squirrels, which are more successful in deciduous forests. They are now mainly limited to coniferous forests in the Scottish highlands.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 1999.221.2



Red Crested Cardinal

.....
Native to much of South America and introduced to Hawaii. Its scientific name is *Paroaria coronate*.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 505 H



Stilbite

.....
A hydrated sodium calcium aluminium silicate
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference D4.B.504



Rose Quartz

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference D4.A.246



Ruff

.....
The male of this species of brown-flecked wading bird takes on this elaborate plumage in the breeding season.. See the male's winter plumage in the display case opposite.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 396H



Red Ochre

.....
A rock formed by erosion of iron-rich deposits. It has been used since ancient times to the present day, ground up, to make red paint and is sometimes burnt to enhance the red colour.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference K 819



Potstone

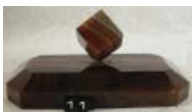
.....
This stone got its name because its red inclusions look like fragments of broken terracotta pots.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference K 347

Red Agate

.....
Agates are mainly the same composition as quartz. Like the different coloured varieties of quartz, such as amethyst and citrine, agates inherit their colours from the variations in composition of trace elements in the fluids that deposited the mineral layers. They are commonly cut and polished for souvenirs or ornaments.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2009.277



Red Agate ornament

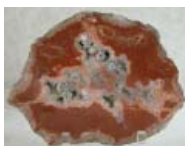
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Like the different coloured varieties of quartz, such as amethyst and citrine, agates inherit their colours from the variations in composition of trace elements in the fluids that deposited the mineral layers. They are often cut and polished for souvenirs or ornaments..
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2009.373



Red Agate seals

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2010.2.148



Potato Stone with red agate

.....
Red crystals on a geode-type nodule.

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2004.549



Jasper

.....
This smooth red pebble is a variety of quartz.

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2009.399



Serpentine

.....
Serpentine is a silicate. This cut and polished square has an old museum label describing it as 'Rare Williamsite, Russia'. Williamsite is a variety of serpentine that is usually green.

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2009.529



Red organ pipe coral

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2011.10



Carnelian

.....
A form of agate, carnelian has the same bulk composition as quartz, with the orange-reddish-brown colour coming from trace amounts of iron oxide.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2009.400



Amber

.....
Amber is fossilized tree sap. Its ability to trap and perfectly preserve insects was made famous by the film Jurassic Park, where dinosaurs were cloned using DNA from the blood of mosquitoes trapped in amber.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2008.32, 35, 37, 39, 41



Tiger's eye

.....
A vibrantly coloured variety of quartz named after its resemblance to the slit eye of a cat. It is formed when blue asbestos (crocidolite) is replaced by silicon dioxide and it gets its colour from oxidation of iron minerals. This sample comes from South Africa.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2011.8



Golden Oriole

.....
The golden oriole is a rare visitor to Kent during the spring and summer months. During the 19th century it was a regular summer visitor. The females are slightly different from the males, with spotted breast feathers. They eat insects and like to inhabit poplar plantations.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 530H



Weaver bird

.....
This is a Lesser masked weaver bird, probably female.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference B84



Yellow butterflies and moths

.....
They include the Swallowtail butterfly, Brimstone moth, Swallow-tailed moth, Speckled yellow, Cream-spot tiger, Common yellow underwing, Death's-head hawk moth, Oak eggar, Apricot sulphur, Cloudless sulphur and Orange-barred sulphur. These sulphur butterflies are from Central America and southern North America.
.....



Sulphur

.....
Sulphur is a poisonous but essential mineral. It smells like rotten eggs. It occurs in abundance around volcanoes and has many uses in fertilisers, fumigants, fungicides and pesticides, and in the manufacture of matches, fireworks and other explosives. Yellow colour in nature often signifies poison.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference D1.B.36



Gold from the Klondyke

.....
Gold is one of the most sought-after metals, not only for its beauty but also for its usefulness in the production of many things, including computers. In fact there is a very small amount of gold in your mobile phone! Gold is chemically very inert, so does not corrode like other metals and remains in the same state for countless millennia. There are examples of gold jewellery nearby in the Explorers and Collectors room.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 1979.34.2



Fools' gold

.....
The iron sulphide Pyrite has often been mistaken for gold. It is a brassy yellow-coloured metal and occurs in similar contexts to gold. Because of its cubic molecular structure it forms near perfect cubes as a crystal.
.....



Yellow antique

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2009.551



Chalcopyrite

.....
Chalcopyrite is the principal ore of copper. Like Pyrite it has often been mistaken for gold. It is a brassy yellow-coloured metal and occurs in similar contexts to gold.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference QR 41



Fluorite

.....
Fluorite occurs in a range of different colours. This example is pale yellow.
.....



Yellow land snail

.....
Like other molluscs, the majority of land snails are hermaphrodites, having both male and female sex organs. In many parts of the world such snails are farmed as food.
.....



Wulfenite

.....
Wulfenite is a source of molybdenum, a strong material with a high temperature resistance making it useful in space exploration and for making weapons.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference D4.B.531



Aragonite

.....
Aragonite is one of the two common forms of calcium carbonate, forming naturally in almost all mollusc shells.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2003.370



Malachite

.....
A secondary mineral of copper, malachite was used as a green pigment by artists.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2003.373



Greensand ammonite

.....
This ammonite comes from the Lower Greensand, a Cretaceous age rock. The green in greensand comes from the mineral glauconite.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2001.204



Greenfinch

.....
Often seen around wooded areas and hedgerows.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 115H



Woodpecker

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference (exKCC)



Toucan

.....



Cock of the rock

.....



Female Quetzal

.....
Vivid green and an orangey-yellow. The Male quetzal can be seen displaying to the female above.

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 1999.181



Australian pygmy goose

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 261BH



Spotted green gastropod of the genus Nerita

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2010.48.86



Green butterflies



Jadeite

.....
An attractive mineral often used for carving decorative objects.
Look out for the jade adze in the Explorers and Collectors room.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2011.9



Moss agate

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2009.502



Green Fluorite

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2002.150



Olivine

.....
Green like an olive, olivine comes from deep within the earth's crust
and is normally brought to the surface by volcanoes.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference D4.B403-4

Olive green obsidian



.....
Obsidian is formed from rapidly cooled volcanic lavas with high
silica, thrust to the earth's surface in the latter stages of a volcanic
eruption.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2004.285



Freshwater mussels

.....
These have been exploited for pearls in the past.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 1982.6



Crysophase

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference N.33



Pyromorphite

.....
Bright green crystals of a lead ore mineral that sometimes occurs
in sufficient quantity to be mined
.....



Blue Fossil Sharks Teeth from Beltinge Herne Bay

.....
Fossil shark's teeth come in a variety of colours due to the different
mineral compositions of the rocks they are found in. Look for the
black and white and teeth in the rest of the display.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2002.168



Kingfisher

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 203H



Bluethroat

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries 26 H



Blue John

.....
Takes its name from the French for this rock, Bleu jaune (blue yellow).
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference D3.A.45



Breccia

.....
Cut and polished breccia with translucent blue clasts.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2009.325



Abalone shell

.....
Abalone has a beautiful iridescence when polished, so has been used by people for many decorative purposes, including fish hooks you can see in the Heroes and Villains showcase in the Explorers and Collectors room.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference L639



Blue and yellow

.....
One of a variety of different species of macaw, each of which has a different variety of colourful feathers. This one was a much-loved pet for 40 years and was given to the museum by its Herne Bay owner after it died.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 1999.83



Blue rollers

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 1984.9



Blue Tit

.....
A common garden visitor that will often choose to dwell in an artificial nesting box.

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 70H



Blue butterflies collection of 6 butterflies



Carborundum

.....
An artificially produced mineral with a brilliant shiny blue sheen.

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference D23



Azurite (Blue, cancm 2003.518)

.....
Used as a pigment by artists.

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2003.518



Lapis Lazuli

.....
This rare dark blue mineral is ground up to form the artist's pigment ultramarine.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference Q.A.8



Blue opal

.....



Amethyst

.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference D4.A.243



Fluorite

.....

Glows purple under ultraviolet light.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2006.62



Black Quartz crystals

.....

Quartz comes in virtually all the colours of the rainbow, depending on where it was formed and therefore the different trace elements it may contain. Black varieties are formed in volcanoes.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference N6



Large Blue Pinna

.....
The Pinna family includes some of the largest shells known. They live attached to rocks with their silky strong byssus threads.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference L884



Stalactitic Limonite

.....
An iron hydroxide - it contains oxygen and water.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference Q.0.10

350 Million year old Coal fossils from the Kent Coal Field



.....

Alethopterys

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2000.435



Calamites suckowi-a horsetail much like those found alive today but much bigger.

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2000.452



Lobatopteris

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2003.401



Fossil fern leaves from the old Chislet colliery near Canterbury.

.....



Hornblende

.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference D4.B.423 hornblende



Tourmaline

.....

Black rod-like crystals in off-white feldspar.

.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference D4.B521



Black Fossil Sharks Teeth

.....

From the Beltinge fish bed near Herne Bay, Palaeocene in age.
Around 55 million years old.

.....



Black Chough

.....

This member of the crow family has a mastery of flight, often performing wonderful aerial displays of diving and swooping.

.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 174H



Obsidian

.....
Obsidian is formed from rapidly cooled volcanic lavas with high silica, thrust to the earth's surface in the latter stages of a volcanic eruption. Because it has no crystal structure it can be break into very sharp pieces so is used to make surgical blades.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 5676



Great northern diver

.....
This large bird is normally a winter visitor to our shores and breeds in Iceland.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 482H



Black hammer shell

.....
From the East Indies
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference L864



Common Scoter

.....
From Rye in East Sussex
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 295H



Pygmy Cormorant

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference G77
.....



Blackbird

Ex KCC



Shell The black and white Muricanthus



Augite

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2006.3



Cut and polished stone squares

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2009.532



Fossil Fish

Palaeoniscus frieslebeni from the Permian age copper shales of Eisleben, Germany.

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference A180



Rook with red coat

Boys playing in the early 1900s captured and put a red coat on this rook. When it flew back to its flock in the rookery they rejected him and made such a noise that the keeper came out and shot the bird.

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 179H



Badger

.....
Badgers are unfussy animals that will eat almost anything. They are also quite voracious predators and will often take live prey.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 1992.47



Agate

.....
Cut and polished into an oval shape.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2009.385, 392

Smew

.....
The smew shows an example of sexual dimorphism: males and females are different colours.
.....



Male

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 1995.105



Female

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 305H



Chalk Sea Urchin Fossil

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 1986.4.101
.....



Analcite

.....
A silicate mineral from Bohemia

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference D4.B.500



Baryte

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2004.242



Opal

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2009.298



White Fossil Shark Tooth from an old sand quarry in Canterbury

.....
From the Thanet sand formation. Over 50 million years old.

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 9930.1

Gastropod shells from the Barton Beds



Eocene shells

Hippochrenes sp

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2002.248



Clavilithes macrospira

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2003.247



Athleta sp.

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference A547



Agate

.....
White and brown banded agate with clear crystalline quartz in the centre.

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2009.279

Agate

.....
Cut and polished into an oval shape.

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2009.385, 392



White Marble cube

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2010.2.108



Coral

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 10152



Mushroom Coral

.....

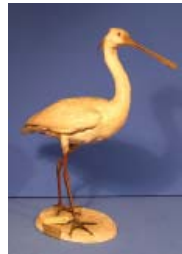


Gypsum

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference K1286

Talc

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference O.H.4



Spoonbill

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 258H



Ivory Gull

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 442H



Owl butterfly

.....
Commonly known as the Brazilian Little Owl, this South American butterfly is found from Guatemala to northern Argentina. Its eye-like markings mimic larger animals and deceive predators, or draw attention away from vulnerable body parts
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2000.19.13



Kittiwake and chick

.....
Animals, particularly birds often change colour during their development into adults. The Kittiwake chick finds its mottled early plumage particularly useful as camouflage.
.....



Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 443H and 445H



Thysania agrippina

.....
A large species of Moth from Central and South America. At 12 inches it has the largest wingspan of all butterflies and moths.
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2000.19.12



Tengmalm's owl

.....
Eats mainly voles and other small mammals
.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 219H



Honey Buzzard from Deal.

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 236H
.....



Eider Duck

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 294H



Turnstone

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference E22



Ruff

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference E70, 399H



Quail

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 318H

Grey leaves

2004

Gary Hume (born 1962)

Screen print in four colours with one glaze

.....
Screen-printing lends itself to bold, simple shapes and colours. Hume uses similar simplified areas of colour and line in his painting. Grey leaves is one of several screen prints he has created in recent years.

.....
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 2005.22

Teasels

1950s-60s

Godfrey Burdett Money-Coutts (1905-79)

Oil on canvas

.....

Text.

.....

Transferred from Tower House, Canterbury, 1995
Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 1995.101.2

'All things wise and wonderful'

1990

Cherryl Fountain (1905-79)

Watercolour

.....

Text.

.....

Canterbury Museums and Galleries reference 1990.72



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