Draw a Bee Hummingbird: Tiny Proportions and Iridescent Feather Steps

Topic reference / ordinary illustration



Ordinary topic reference. Hypothetical dimensions in the four tasks are supplied in their own text; this illustration is not their measured answer.

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Worked example / complete source key

A student draws a bee hummingbird with a total length of 100 millimeters. The head plus body measures 70 millimeters, the bill measures 10 millimeters, and the tail measures 20 millimeters. The wing ends 5 millimeters before the tail tip. Is the proportion guide satisfied?

Answer: No. One part is 100 divided by five, or 20 millimeters. Head plus body is 70 millimeters, which is 3.5 parts, over the three-part target. Bill plus tail is 30 millimeters, or 1.5 parts, under the two-part target. Shorten the body oval by about 10 millimeters so head plus body is 60 millimeters (three parts), and lengthen the tail to 30 millimeters so bill plus tail is 40 millimeters (two parts). The total stays 100 millimeters, and the wing ending 5 millimeters before the tail tip is acceptable.