Draw a Bird Nest: Twig Weave, Egg Placement, and Depth Shading

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

Draw a nest about 12 cm wide on paper, with a rim oval wider than tall, three eggs inside the inner oval, and an interior wall darker than the outer bowl. Use the three-layer twig method and the taper convention.

Answer: First draw a light rim oval about 12 cm wide and 8 cm tall. Draw an inner oval about 10 cm wide and 6 cm tall, offset 1 cm downward. Add three curved side guides. Draw ten long twigs following the guides, then eight medium crossing twigs, then six short filler twigs, leaving gaps at crossings. Draw an ellipse guide inside the inner oval and place three egg ovals within it, narrow ends toward center, with a 0.5 cm gap from the inner rim. Shade the lower half of the inner oval with curved strokes, darken a narrow band under the inner rim, and keep the outer rim light. Check that the inner wall is the darkest area and that at least three crossings are visible on each side.