

Highland Cow Christmas Card

By Lesley Linely



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Materials

- * Size 10 round brush
- * Saunders Waterford High White 300gsm
- * Pencil
- * Water and paper kitchen roll

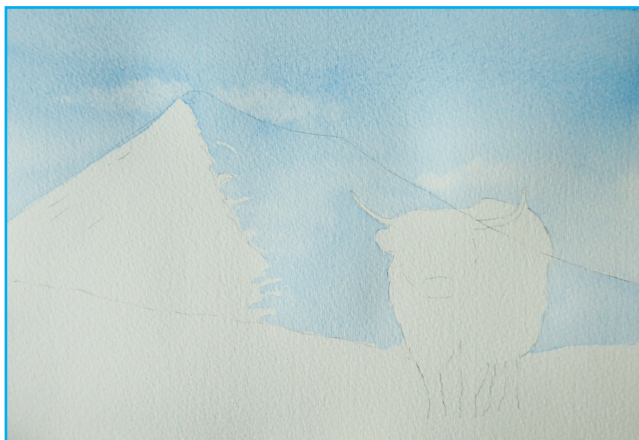
Colours

- * Cobalt Blue
- * French Ultramarine
- * Raw Sienna
- * Burnt Sienna
- * Burnt Umber

Instructions

Step 1:

Using Cobalt Blue, paint the sky and the shadow side of the hill; while the wash is still slightly damp, lift out some clouds by pressing a small scrunched up piece of paper kitchen roll into the wash, turn it each time you press so that you use a clean area of towel, that way you won't print the paint back on to the paper. Allow to dry.



Step 2:

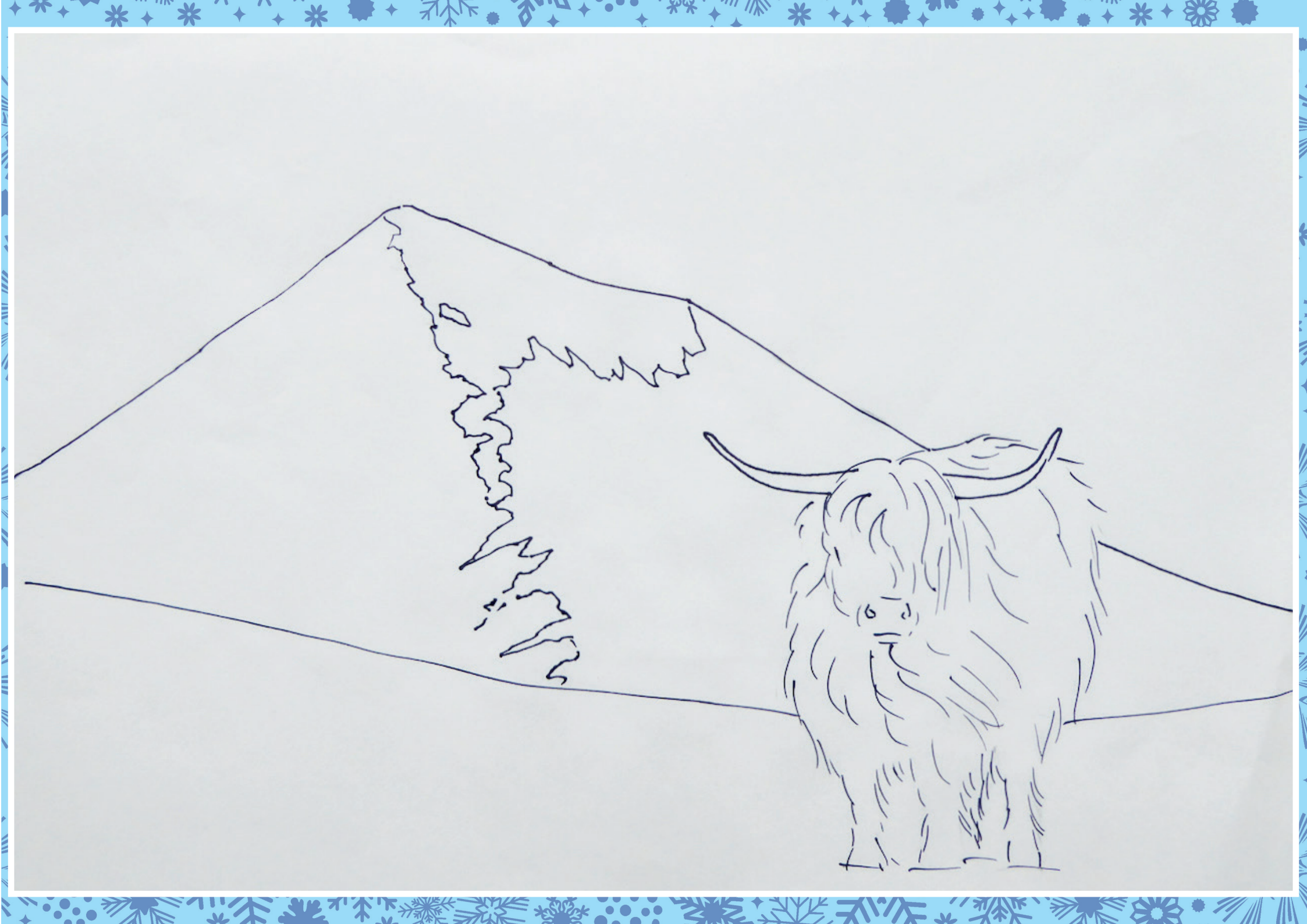
Using a little very pale Raw Sienna (almost no colour at all), paint the left side of the hill in broken diagonal strokes, (leaving some areas unpainted). While the Raw Sienna is still damp use Burnt Sienna to the lower area of the slopes.



Step 3:

For the cow, paint loosely with Raw Sienna (avoiding the horns if possible) dropping in (just touch the brush to the wet paper) stronger Raw Sienna and Burnt Sienna, allow the colours to softly mingle, add a little Ultramarine and Burnt Umber mix to indicate the shadow side of the legs.





Step 4:

For the shadows on the foreground snow, paint irregular shapes in dilute Cobalt blue; soften the sunny (left) side of some of these by running a clean damp brush along the edge. Drop in Ultramarine and Umber here and there to the right-hand side of these shadows.



Step 5:

Prepare some Ultramarine and Burnt Umber. Paint the darks on the shady side of the hill. Add stronger mixes of blue and brown into the damp paint. Allow to dry.



Step 6:

Strengthen the wash on the lower left of the hill, once more painting in diagonal lines of varying colour mix.

There's only one photo for steps 5 and 6; I was enjoying painting so much I forgot to stop for a photo!

Step 7:

Add further washes and detail to the cow, including the horns, use colours already used throughout the painting. Combine wet-on-dry, softening edges here and there, and wet-in-wet. Indicate the direction of the hair but don't try to paint every hair.



Step 8:

Add foreground detail; shadows, a few grasses etc.



Step 9:

Review your painting; I decided that the legs on the cow were a little too dark so I lifted a little colour from them.

