



Create your own organism.

The Haootia

The Haootia has a particularly strange shape: four chicken-like tentacles forming a square platform, and a lower stem connecting it all - which was a little tricky to recreate. The initial structure of this sculpture was made from old garden wire, pipe cleaners and string, wrapped around to create a muscle-like texture. It was supposedly the first animal to have muscles, so I thought it was especially important to portray this well. Then to create the shell of the creature, I used cast material, which hardened creating the rough texture I needed to show the intricate features of this organism. The painting was the hardest part as the colours of this creature seem to blend effortlessly. However, I used lighter colours to create these bud-like shapes on the end of the four branches. For a 560 million year old animal I think it's quite magnificent and I hope you do too.