

You Are the Artist: Make Your Own Cartoons and Comic Book

There are many ways to have fun with cartoons.

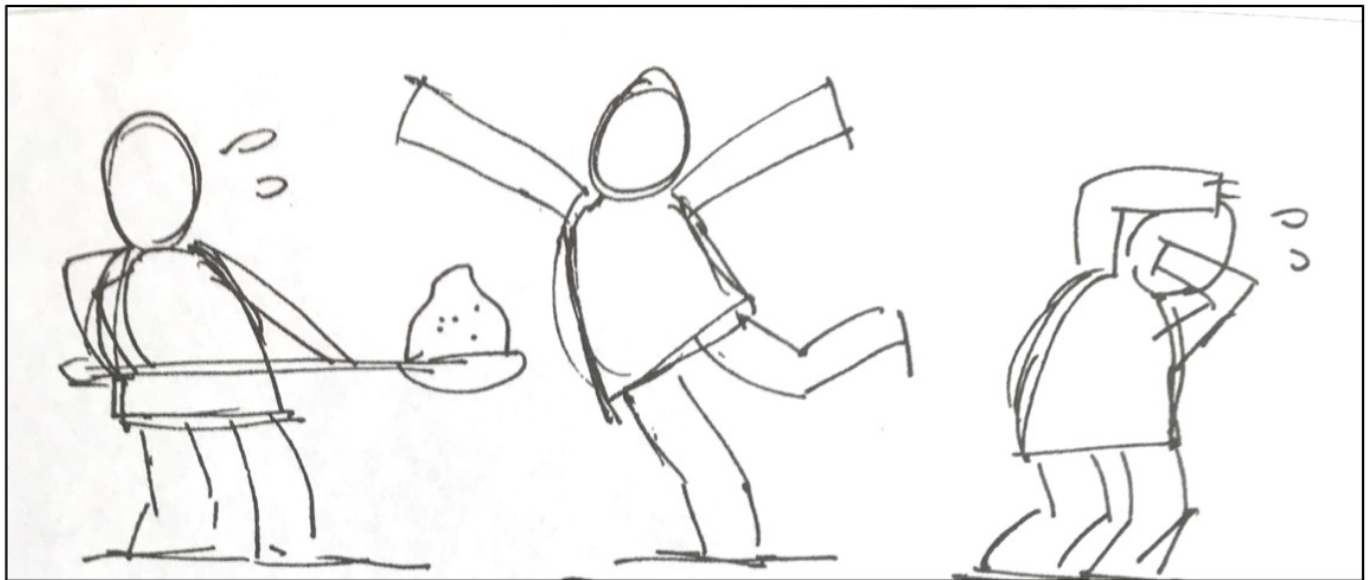
This lesson is about Figure Outlines. Please try all four of these learning activities.

1. Stick Figures

2. Figure Outlines

3. Details and Color

4. The Art of the Comic Book

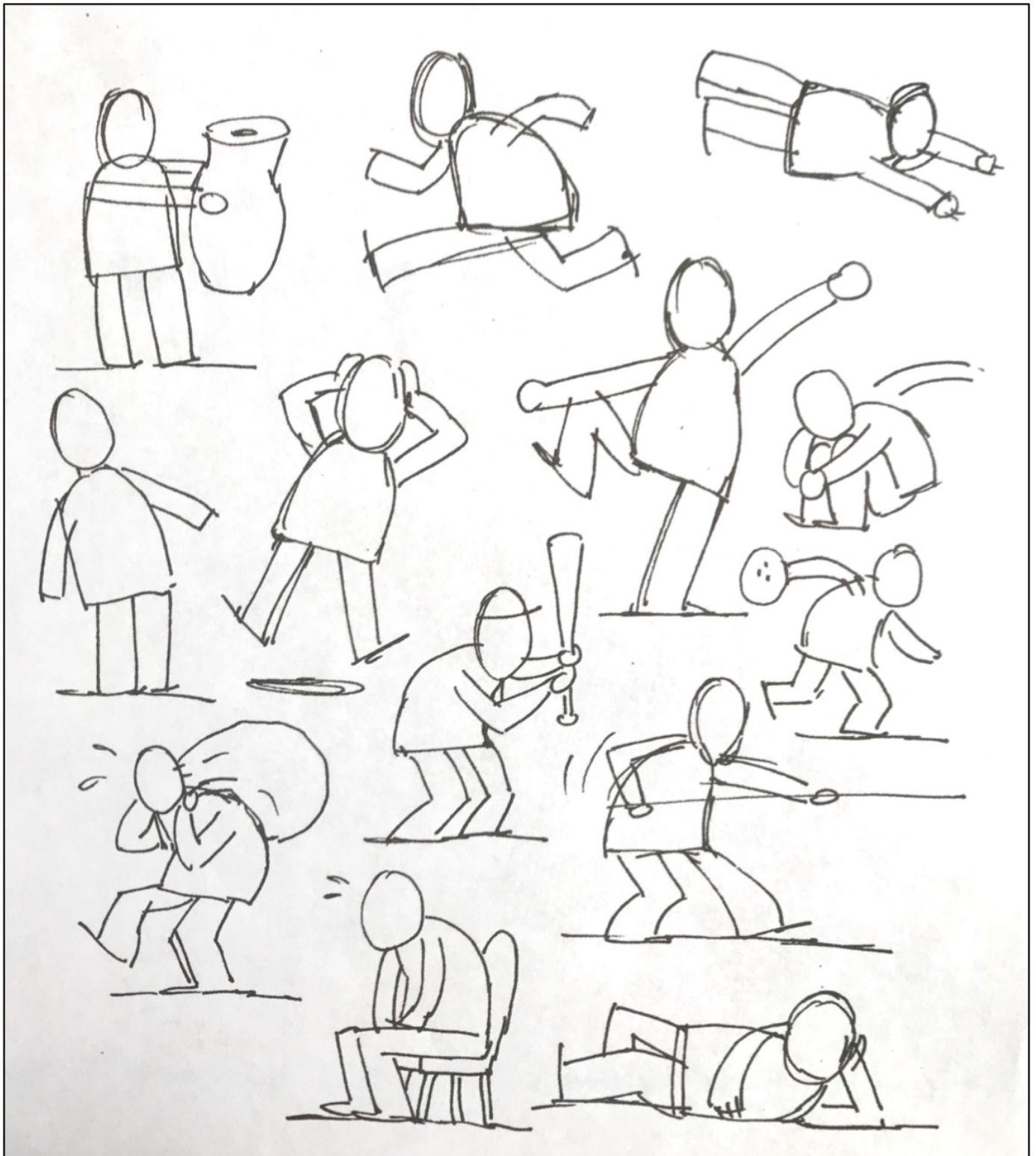


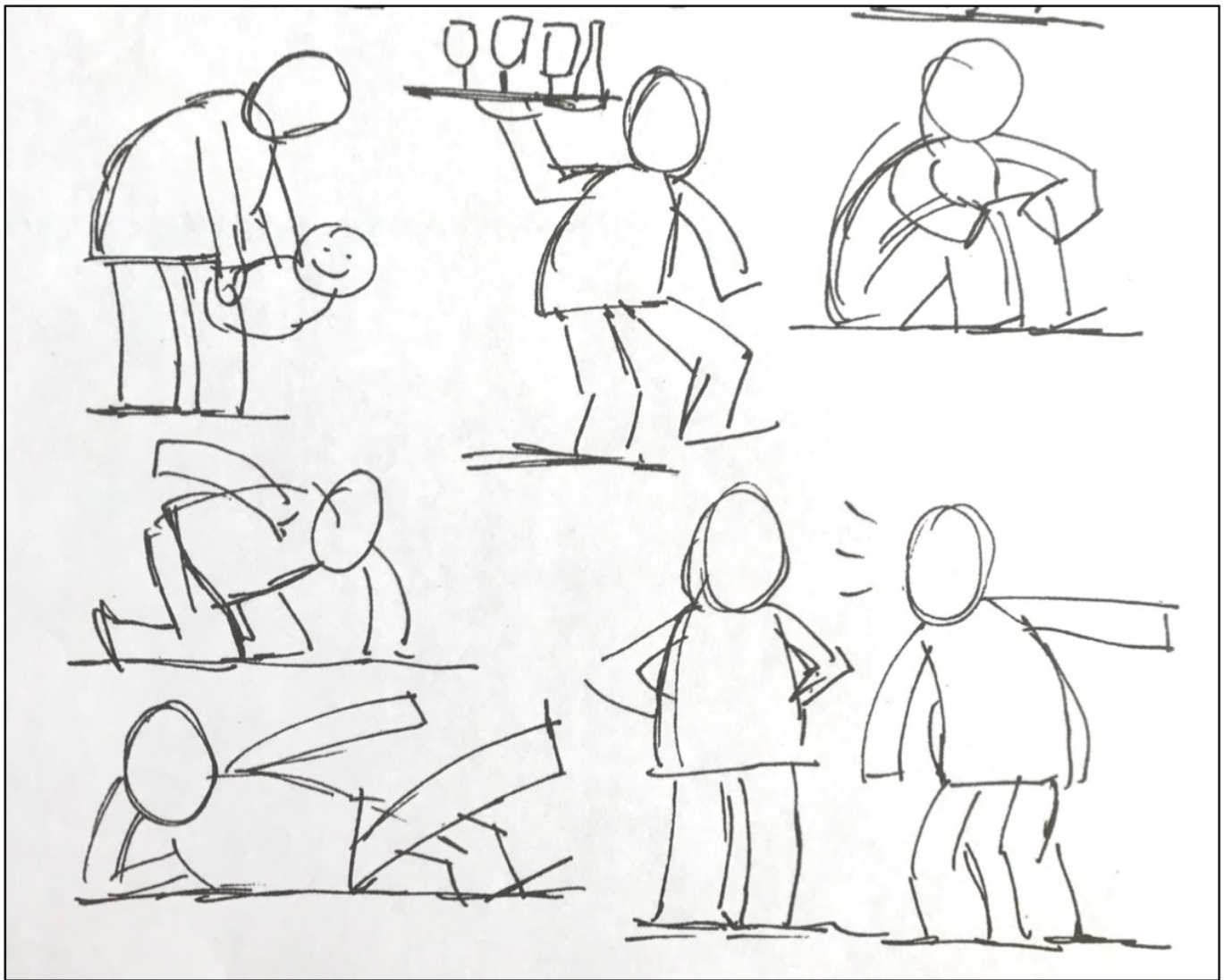
An outlined figure has more detail than a stick figure.

You can use multiple lines as you sketch out basic shapes.

Cartoon artists start out with outlines. They go back and trace them with cleaner lines before adding details and color.

Examples of figure outlines. Do you have a favorite or two?
What do like about them?





Try doing a couple of your own figure outlines of people.

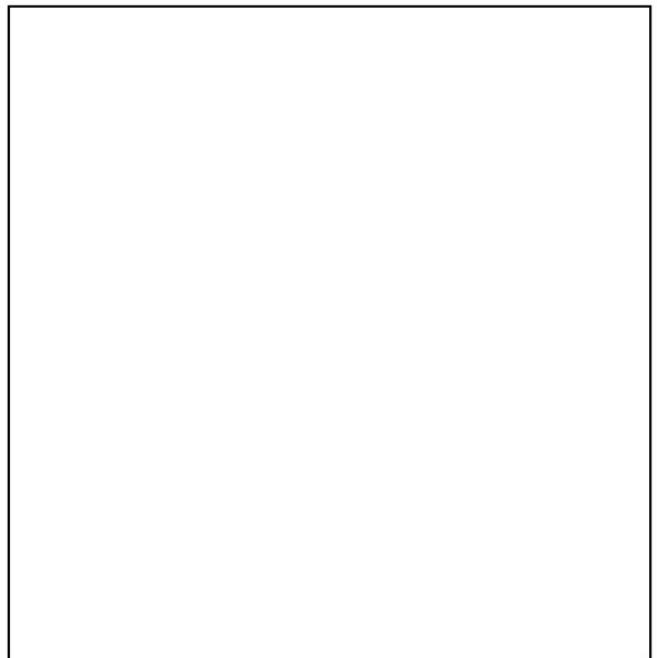
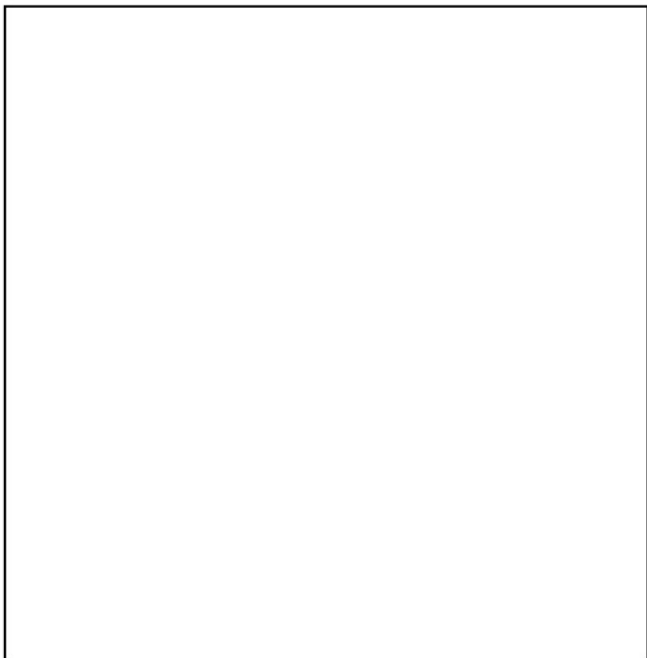
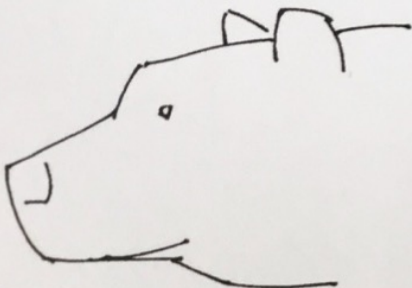


Figure outlines can also be of animals.

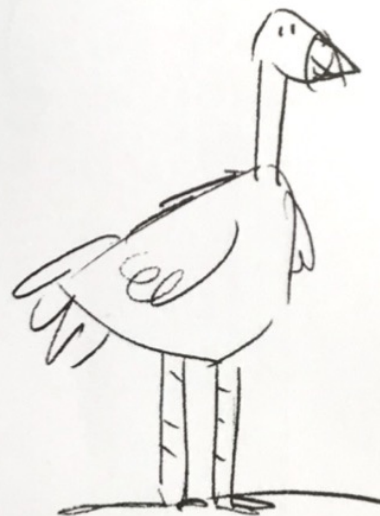
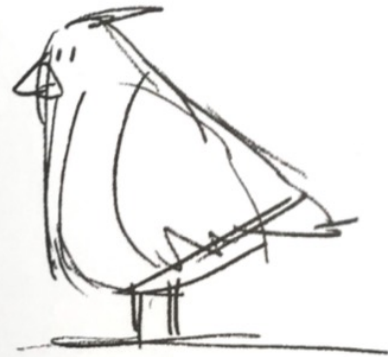
Heads Up

Although you can start all four-legged animal bodies with a simple box shape, the head shapes actually vary quite a bit from one animal to the next. Study pictures of animals to get the feel for drawing their heads. Pictured here are simple head shapes for a cat, a dog, a horse, and a bear.



For the Birds

Birds are a different matter altogether. Start your bird drawings by lightly sketching the capital letter "D." Tilt the "D" downward, so that the round part of the "D" becomes the bird's belly. Now just add a small head and some skinny legs and you're in the bird business!



You can use this sheet to draw your stick figures in the boxes.
Use a blank piece of paper if you want to draw something bigger.

