

NI Mental Health Arts & Film Festival



# HOW TO MAKE COMICS!

CONGRATULATIONS - YOU'RE ABOUT TO BECOME A COMIC BOOK CREATOR.

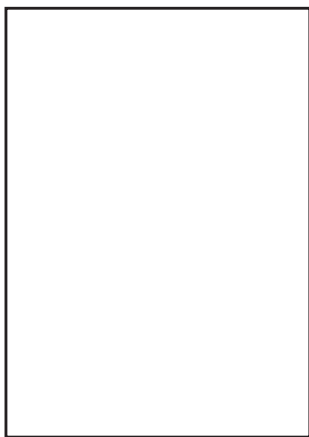
FOLLOW THESE STEPS TO LEARN HOW...

## MATERIALS

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

### A4 PAPER

PRINTER PAPER, LINED PAGES FROM AN EXERCISE BOOK, ANYTHING WILL DO.

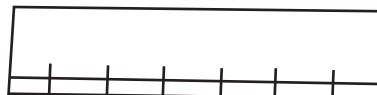


### PENCIL

LIGHTLY SKETCH OUT YOUR IDEAS. USE A RULER TO DRAW THE PANEL BOXES.



### RULER



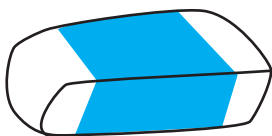
### BLACK LINE MARKER

WHEN YOU'RE HAPPY WITH YOUR ARTWORK, GO OVER THE LINES WITH BLACK PEN OR MARKER.



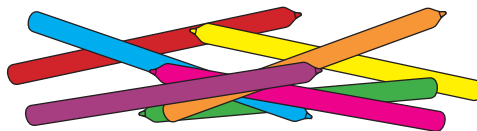
### ERASER

WHEN THE BLACK LINES ARE DRY, RUB AWAY THE PENCIL MARKS.



### COLOURED MARKERS

BRING YOUR STORY TO LIFE WITH COLOURED PENS, MARKERS, PENCILS OR WHATEVER YOU HAVE.

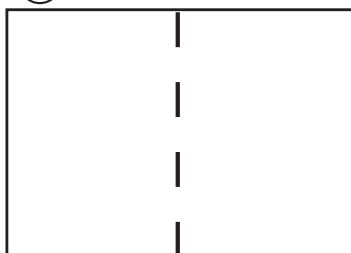


## START HERE

1



2 TURN SIDWAYS



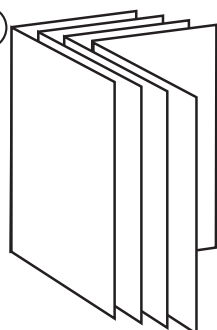
FOLD HERE

3



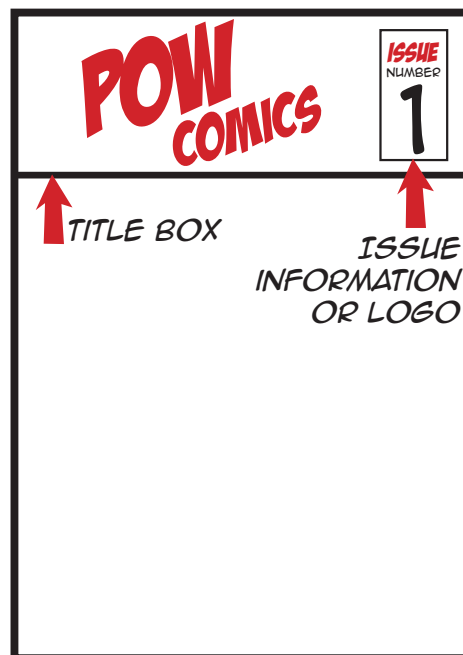
ADD MORE PAGES

4



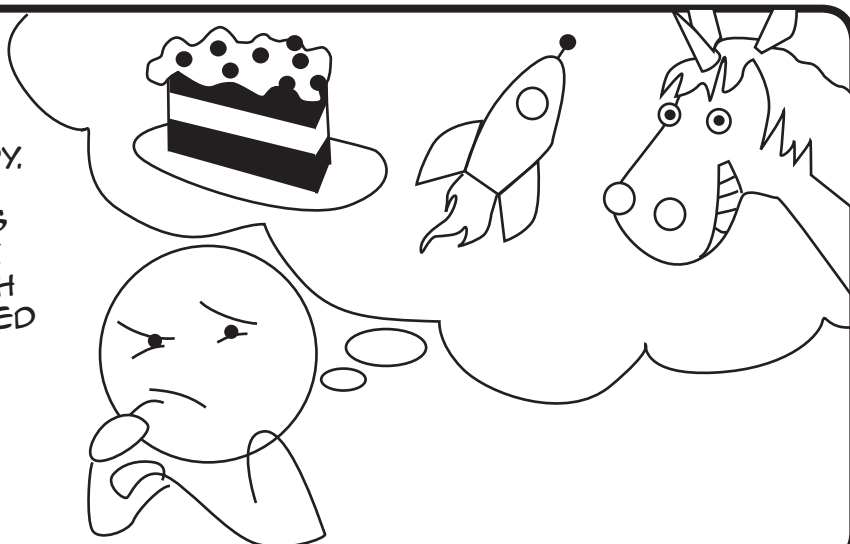
EACH A4 PAGE GIVES YOU 4 COMIC PAGES.

## FRONT COVER



## CONTENT

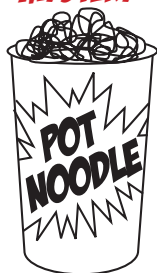
NOW YOU HAVE YOUR PAGES YOU WILL WANT TO FILL IT WITH A STORY. YOU CAN WRITE ABOUT ANYTHING; SUPERHEROES, WIZARD SCHOOLS OR UNICORNS. IF YOU ARE STUCK FOR AN IDEA, WHY NOT START WITH SOMETHING THAT REALLY HAPPENED TO YOU, THE GREAT THING ABOUT COMICS IS YOU CAN MAKE ANYTHING, GO ANYWHERE AND DO ANYTHING YOU CAN IMAGINE.



**POW**  
COMICS

ISSUE  
NUMBER  
**1**

**THE POT NOODLE  
MYSTERY**



## STORY

WRITE DOWN ALL THE IMPORTANT DETAILS OF YOUR STORY **BEFORE** YOU START DRAWING; IS IT SET IN DAY-TIME OR NIGHT? WHO IS THE STORY ABOUT? WHAT ARE THE MAJOR THINGS THAT HAPPEN?

THIS IS CALLED THE 'SCRIPT' AND YOU CAN GO BACK TO IT IF YOU GET LOST OR FORGET WHAT HAPPENS NEXT.

**PANELS** COMIC PAGES ARE MADE UP OF BOXES CALLED PANELS. IN EACH PANEL SOMETHING DIFFERENT HAPPENS THAT MOVES THE STORY FORWARD.

**PANEL** ↓

**TEXT BOX** →

IN THIS BOX YOU TELL THE STORY FOR THE READER TO FOLLOW. YOU CAN PUT ALL THE IMPORTANT INFORMATION IN HERE, LIKE WHAT TIME OF DAY IT IS.

ONE MORNING, I DISCOVERED  
MY POT NOODLE WAS GONE!

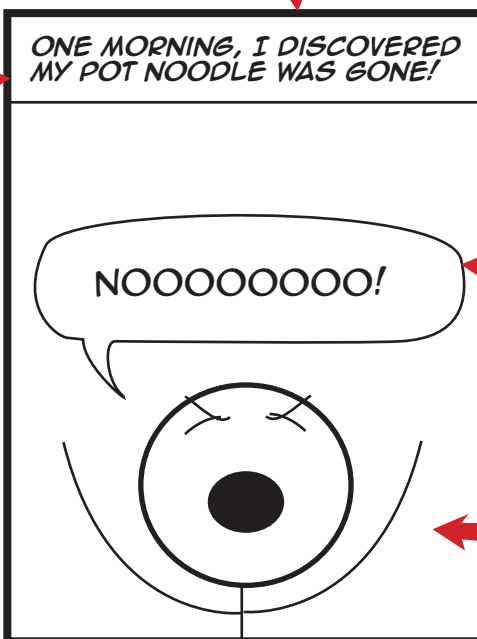
NOOOOOOOOO!

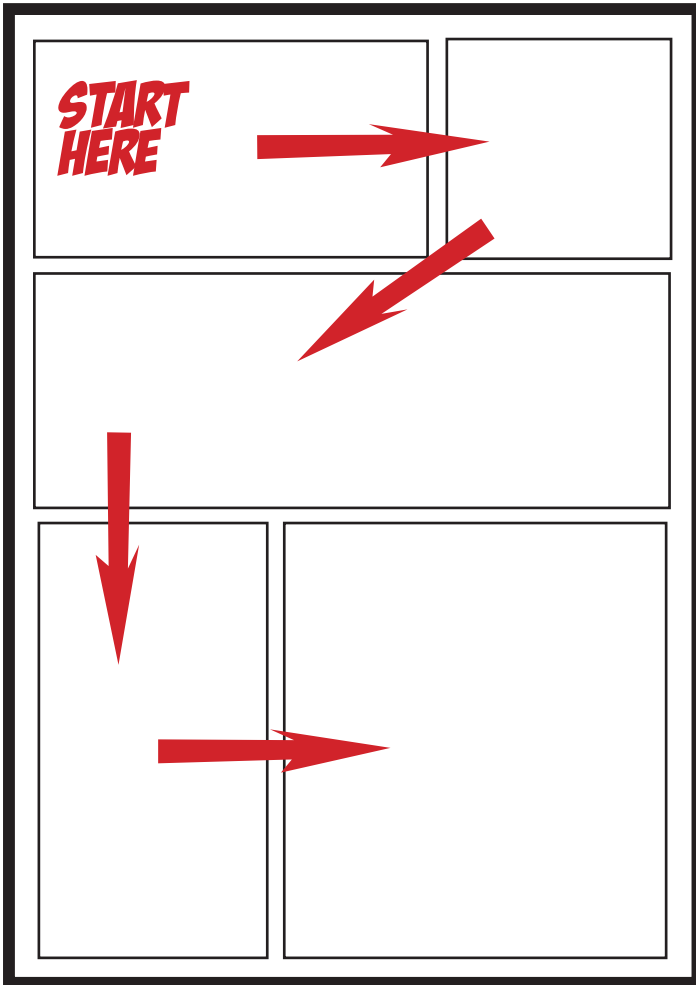
**SPEECH BUBBLE** ←

THIS IS WHERE YOU PUT THE WORDS THAT ARE SPOKEN.

**THE MAIN CHARACTER** ←

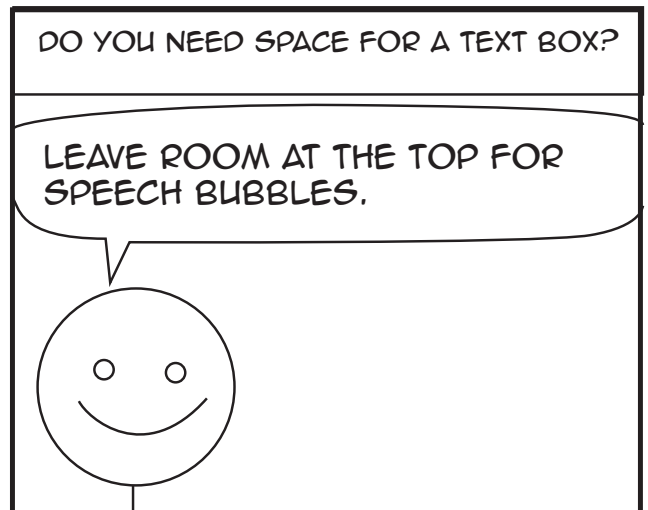
WHO IS THE STORY ABOUT?





SO YOU'VE GOT YOUR STORY AND ARE READY TO GO. BEFORE YOU START YOU MIGHT NEED TO KNOW HOW PANELS WORK.

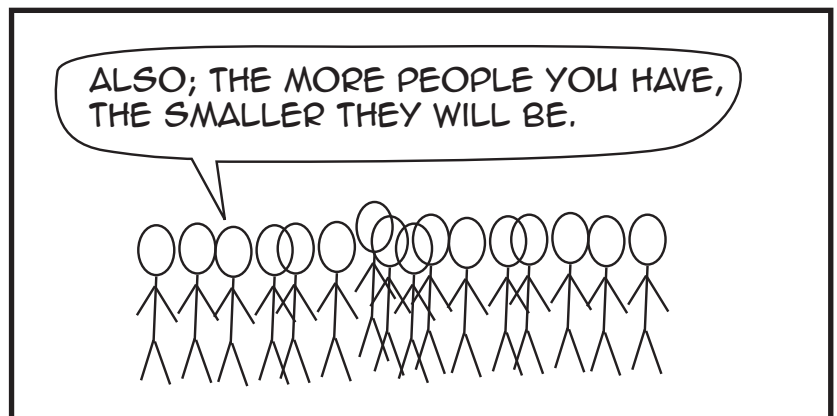
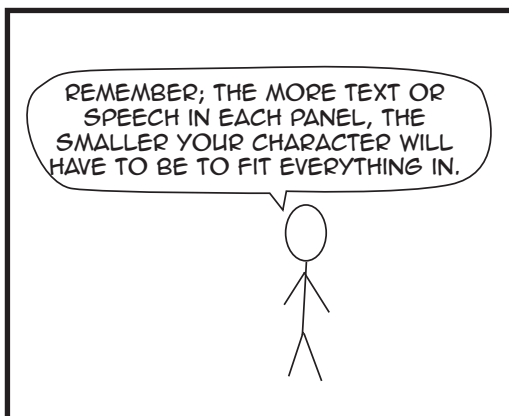
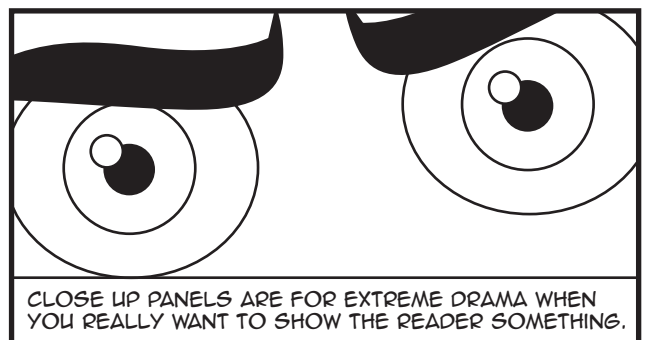
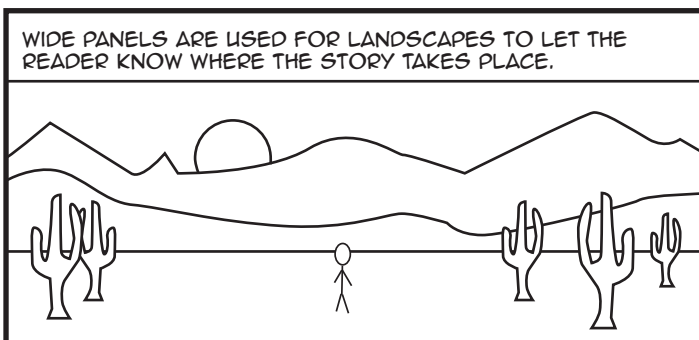
JUST LIKE READING A BOOK, THE READER BEGINS AT THE TOP LEFT CORNER, GOING RIGHT AND DOWN TO THE NEXT LEFT CORNER.



↑ THE FIRST PERSON TO SPEAK IS ALWAYS ON THE LEFT.

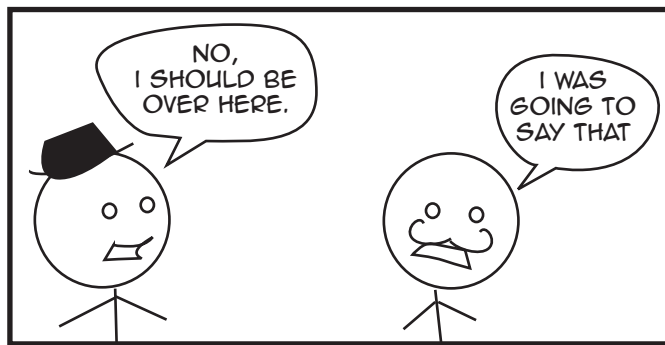
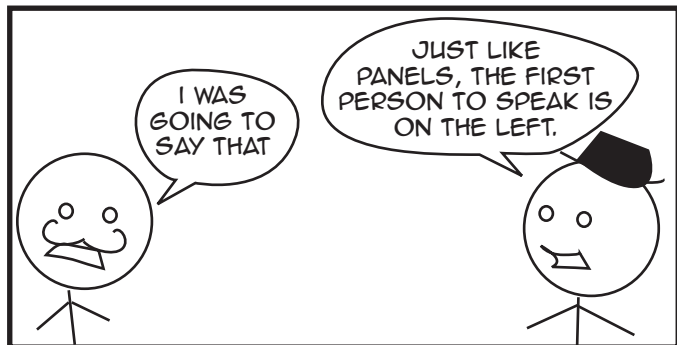
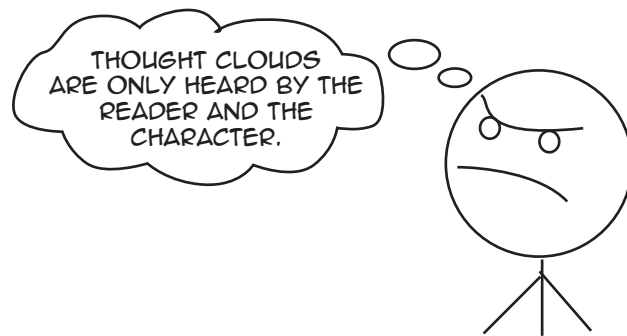
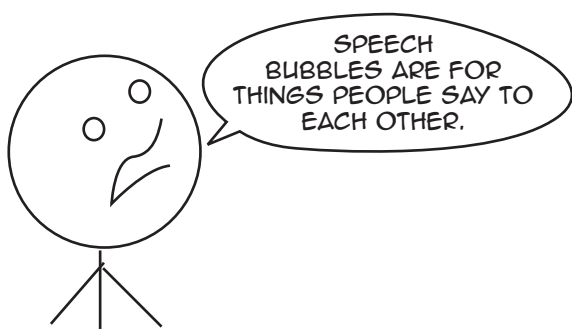
## WHY ARE THERE DIFFERENT SHAPES OF PANELS?

PANELS CAN BE ANY SHAPE YOU WANT, BUT HERE ARE SOME WAYS PANEL SIZE AND SHAPES ARE USED:



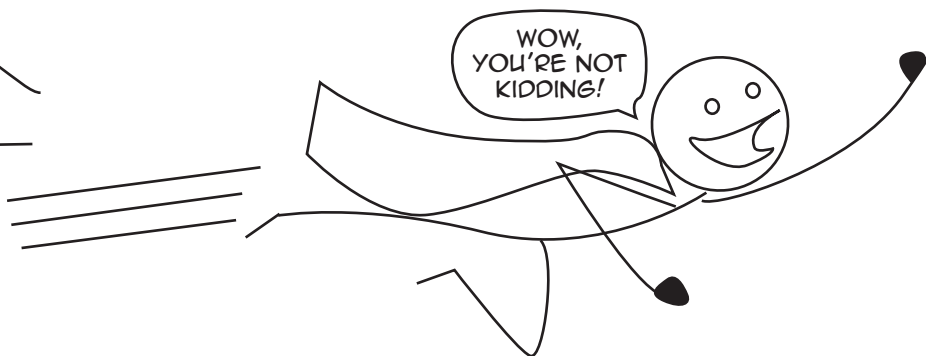
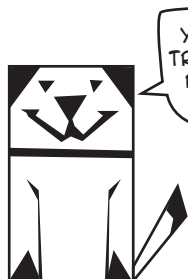
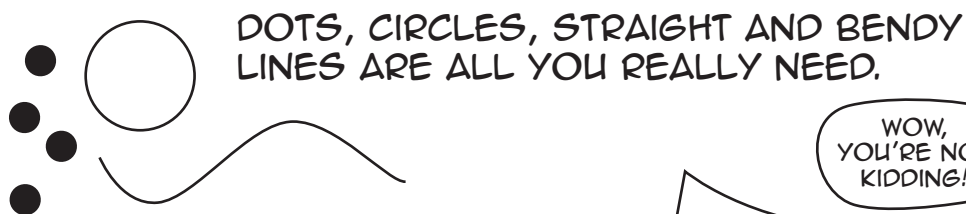
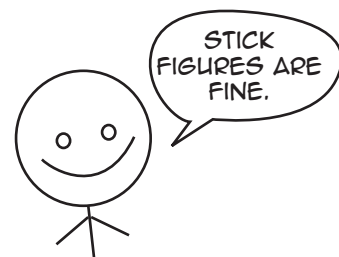
# BUBBLES AND CLOUDS

PUTTING CHARACTER SPEECH IN 'BUBBLES'  
MAKES IT EASY FOR THE READER TO FOLLOW.



# DRAWING

EVERYONE CAN DRAW, THE MORE TIME YOU SPEND  
DOING IT, THE BETTER YOU WILL BECOME. THE  
MOST IMPORTANT THING IS TO HAVE FUN.



**THERE'S A LOT MORE TO LEARN, THIS IS JUST A SIMPLE AND EASY WAY  
TO GET STARTED. NOW YOU CAN MAKE ALL YOUR AMAZING IDEAS TO LIFE  
BUT REMEMBER; THE MORE TIME YOU CAN SPEND MAKING YOUR COMIC,  
THE MORE DETAIL YOU CAN ADD, THE BIGGER THE STORY YOU CAN  
TELL AND MORE AWESOME IT WILL BE.**

