Draw a friendly monster from simple shapes

Ages 5–9 | 15 minutes | Drawing

Turn three basic shapes into a funny character with a personality of its own.

Finished project inspiration. This is the reference artwork, not a photograph or a guarantee that a beginner will reproduce every detail. Follow the written directions to make your own version.

What you need

Paper · Pencil · Eraser · Colour pencils

How to make it

STEP 01 Study the finished monster. Lightly draw an egg-shaped body about two-thirds as tall as your page. Add a vertical centre line to keep the face balanced.

STEP 02 Sketch the ears or horns above the body. Place two short arms beside the widest part and two wide feet underneath. Check the outside shape before adding detail.

STEP 03 Draw two large eye circles inside the head, with smaller pupils and white highlights. Add eyebrows, a curved smile, cheeks, and a few playful spots.

STEP 04 Erase extra guide lines. Outline the character, then fill the largest area with one warm colour. Colour the ears, belly and spots with two contrasting colours.

STEP 05 Make a darker edge under the feet, arms and ears. Leave a small uncoloured shape in each eye for shine; add a lighter patch to the forehead.

STEP 06 Add a small shadow under the feet, a few colourful marks nearby and one detail of your own. Compare the expression and proportions with the reference.

For parents and teachers

Prepare: Use a pencil to sketch a big shape before adding details.

Support: Invite the child to tell you what makes the monster friendly.

Classroom idea: Show the oval, pause, and invite each child to add a different detail.

Make it easier: Try one eye and a simple smile.

Try more: Draw two versions of the monster showing different feelings.

Reflect together: What might your monster say to a new friend?

Want to learn more? Families can explore Arts Film Academy courses and ask about class projects, teaching staff, age suitability and current availability at artsfilmacademy.com. AtFunky does not independently verify teacher credentials.