Illustrating Childrens Characters

Lesson one - The digital side of things

what did you learn?

- Learning how to use artboards
- Using the shapes tool is key
- How to use the vector tool

Artboards

DO An art board is a frame you create your work on. You can have an unlimited amount of artboards and to have large illustrations so I would recommend an art board up to 6k size.

DON'T Go too boxed in. Artboard Paper Sizes A5

Shapes

DO The shape tool is a quick tool you will use. Your characters will be made up of shapes, so it is helpful to get to grips with some of them.

DON'T Hold your shift key as your shapes may change form. If you want to make a perfect circle or square you need to let go of your shift key.

DO You can change the name of your artboard by double clicking on it in the pages tab.

DON'T

Vector

DO Vectors are made of points and lines. Adjust the vector points to create a vector points.

DON'T You can create more vector points around to create different shapes.

Colour

DO Colour can be applied to your shapes and the border tool to change the line colour.

DON'T Soft, pastel colours are used for children's illustrations. Colour palettes should consist of mainly 1 colour & secondary colours.

Your Turn!

Go to: Insert > Vector

I want you to copy this image I have created on the right. Use the shape tool to create the shapes and the Pen Tool and vector control to what I am using for this task. Look at the section below on colour for guidance.

You've completed lesson one

Are you ready for lesson two?

Now you have learnt how to use all the key tools, lets create your first step by step character.

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Lesson two - Your first character

what did you learn?

- How to create your first character
- How to use the pen tool
- Use of using the key tools after this lesson

To begin

DO Hopefully Hoot dessert one you. Hoot is made up with using the different digital tools.

DON'T Next, we are going to create Hoot's friend. Of course, a bear!

You've completed lesson one

Are you ready for lesson three?

You have created your first character, and we are going to create your second character and focus on emotions through facial expressions.

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Lesson three - Adding emotion

what did you learn?

- How to create your first human character
- Different emotions
- How to change your characters emotion

Creating your first human character

DO We are going to be using Harry the Hedgehog as another tool to create our character.

DON'T The emotion on her face is going to be happiness.

You've completed lesson three

Are you ready for lesson four?

You created your first human character. In a story characters should all look similar but different types. For teaches us how to create more characters with aspects of similarity.

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Lesson four - Variation and likeness in characters

what did you learn?

- How to identify likeness in other characters
- How to create variation in your own characters

Identifying likeness in other characters

DO Have you ever been in a situation where people show and noticed that your character looks similar?

DON'T Something observed you may have not noticed is how even there were are all similar. Small things, that bind the your character together.

How to create likeness in your own characters.

DO Hopefully by looking at some other characters you will be able to create a unit of characters that have some similar aspects of similarity.

DON'T Next, we are going to change the hair colour of Harry, made in our previous lesson. So it looks like a family. Hopefully you can explore different ways to make a character your own.

You've completed lesson four

Are you ready for lesson five?

You now a short but very useful lesson, you now know how to create multiple characters from lesson one. Lesson 4 will teach you how to create temper and have added contrast your characters may be holding. You will add to their individuality and personality, making them even more different.

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