

= Phineas Flynn =

Phineas Flynn is one of the protagonists of the animated television series Phineas and Ferb . Voiced by Vincent Martella and created and designed by Dan Povenmire , Phineas first appeared along with the rest of the series ' main characters in the pilot episode " Rollercoaster . " Phineas , along with his stepbrother Ferb Fletcher , star in each A @-@ Plot of every episode .

The series concerns Phineas 's attempts to avoid boredom by finding something new to do for each day of his summer vacation . His sister 's name is Candace Flynn , who tries to reveal their outrageous creations , but to no avail . He does this with his less @-@ talkative stepbrother Ferb , and often with many other neighborhood children . The activities they devise usually involve outlandish contraptions , including roller coasters , haunted houses , roller rinks , and a backyard beach etc. which Phineas designs and Ferb builds .

Phineas comes from a blended family . The creators chose this arrangement because they considered it underused in children 's programming as well as from creator Jeff " Swampy " Marsh 's past experiences in one . As a character , Phineas has received positive critical response , with one reviewer describing him and his brother as a " comical pairing . " Phineas appears in Phineas and Ferb merchandise , including plush toys , t @-@ shirts , and a video game .

= = Role in Phineas and Ferb = =

Phineas is part of a blended family , a decision creator Marsh made to reflect his own experiences growing up . His stepbrother , Ferb , is his best friend . Phineas 's birth father is never present or discussed in the series , something Marsh and Povenmire have stated that they fully intend to keep that way . It is established that his mother , Linda Flynn @-@ Fletcher married Ferb 's father , Lawrence Fletcher , after dating him for a while in the 1990s . They truly fell in love at a concert of the fictitious band " Love Händel " after they were put on the kiss cam .

Phineas is portrayed as a selfless , intelligent , innocent , and creative child . As a means to defeat boredom , he and his brother devise outrageous activities throughout their summer vacation , often participating in activities ? toy design ( in " Toy to the World " ) ; piracy ( in " The Ballad of Badbeard " ) ; engineering ( in " It 's About Time ! " ) ; restaurant management ( in " Chez Platypus " ) ; usually inaccessible to children . Phineas lives in the fictional town of Danville ( part of the Tri @-@ State Area ) , in a large , suburban neighborhood ; he comes up with most of his ideas while sitting with Ferb in his backyard .

= = Character = =

= = = Creation and conception = = =

Dan Povenmire and Jeff " Swampy " Marsh had conceived the idea of the Phineas and Ferb series while working as layout artists on The Simpsons . After planning the basics of the show , the two began laying out characters . Povenmire , eating dinner with his family at a Wild Thyme restaurant in South Pasadena , California , drew a quick sketch of a " triangle kid . " Povenmire named the triangle doodle " Phineas , " saying he " look [ ed ] like [ one ] " , and with reference to the character Phileas Fogg ( often misreferenced as " Phineas Fogg " ) from Around the World in 80 Days . ( 1873 ) Povenmire tore the paper out and called Marsh that night , telling him " Hey , I think we have our show . "

After designing the show , the two had significant difficulties getting the series green lit . It was not picked up for fifteen years . In their final pitch to the Walt Disney Company , the creators designed a recorded storyboard , featuring a very rough outline of characters . The prototype Phineas was ruder to others than the version in the eventual show , where the creators decided to make him more kind . Citing comedy 's " big duos " including Wallace and Gromit and Jay and Silent Bob , the creators chose to give Phineas most of the dialogue while Ferb remains almost silent .

### == Design ==

All characters in Phineas and Ferb were drawn in a design borrowed from Tex Avery 's style , with geometric shapes being included in their structure ; Phineas in particular is that of a triangle . The triangle face has been stated in the series as being just his nose that covers the entire head . The goal while drawing characters was to make them simple enough to be drawn by child viewers and be recognized by silhouette . Phineas 's eyes lie on the top of his head and are of oval shape . For his hair , three " tufts " are put in the back and front , while three freckles lie underneath . For the ear , a small 3 is used to represent the ear lobe . Povenmire uses thin , spindly arms for every character as a simple reason to add fun .

### == Voice ==

Young actor Vincent Martella , previously known for The CW series Everybody Hates Chris , was cast for the role of Phineas . Martella originally auditioned for the role five months before his initial pickup , but was left without feedback for the time . When Dan Povenmire was given a tape of Martella in Everybody Hates Chris , he called him to do Phineas for the pilot . He designed a different voice than his own which he describes as " wacky [ and ] crazy . " The creators were afraid of him losing it when his voice changed , though he was still able to retain it for the most part even afterward , though the tone is now slightly different than the original sound .

While in recording sessions , Martella has a large amount of enthusiasm and describes it as humorous to watch him while doing a take . In interviews Martella has said that he enjoys working on the series and voicing Phineas , and appreciates the opportunity to work alongside guest stars , especially Malcolm McDowell .

Martella once wrote as an article for Popstar ! Magazine his thoughts on the role and of the show itself :

The greatest thing about being on Phineas so far is that I can get my parents to laugh ! We all sat down to see the beach episode on New Years Eve ! Once I saw all the adults laughing along with me and my 10 @-@ year @-@ old brother , that was the greatest thing in the world to me !

### == Hallmarks ==

Phineas and Ferb makes liberal use of running gags , and Phineas has several recurrent lines that are featured in most episodes . When he comes up with an idea of what adventure he and his brother are going to have that day , he says " Ferb , I know what we 're gonna do today ! " During the course of an adventure , Phineas is generally asked by a disbelieving adult if he is not " a little young to be ... " part of whatever occupation he is currently carrying out . For example , while constructing a shrine to his sister on the face of Mount Rushmore , a park ranger asks him " Aren 't you boys a little young to be restoring a national monument ? " Phineas generally answers " Yes , yes I am , " though on a few occasions has responded " No " or " Well , I don 't think so . "

In every episode , Phineas and Ferb 's pet platypus , Perry , disappears to carry out his job as a secret agent . The kids almost always notice this , asking " Hey , where 's Perry ? " Then , when Perry comes home , they say , " Oh , there you are , Perry ! " Discussing Perry , creator Povenmire cited the example of his own pet cat , Sprocket , which he claimed led a " secret life " with his neighbors in order to get extra food .

### == Personality and traits ==

His [ Phineas ] confidence makes people think , " He must be a prodigy . " People rarely ask him if he 's too young . He 'd never lie to an adult or try to get away with anything . He 's just motivated by fun . If he thought mom would actually dislike the things they 're doing , he would probably stop , but since he 's never gotten in trouble for it , he doesn 't think of it as getting into trouble .

Phineas is portrayed as being an extremely intelligent , lighthearted , naive , confident , warmhearted and redheaded boy . The Disney Channel promos for Phineas and Ferb describe him as someone who " thinks big " , refusing to let any day be ordinary . Povenmire also characterizes him as assertive , someone so secure in his abilities that others assume he is a prodigy . Povenmire and Marsh wanted the series to reflect their own childhood memories of going out during the summer and have fun , digging trenches and building tunnels , forts , and tree houses .

The creators wanted Phineas , like Ferb , to be a character who would never " [ do ] anything with any animosity , " or to agitate his sister or outsmart his mother purposely . Instead , the character was supposed to be motivated only by enjoyment and free from mean spiritedness . He is generous , kind , and optimistic , and several of his plots involve helping someone out . He tries to please his sister Candace , carving her face into Mount Rushmore for her birthday in one episode and helping her retrieve a tape detailing his summer adventures even though she intended on using the footage as evidence to " bust " him and Ferb . Another episode has him throwing an extravaganza for his mother 's birthday , and yet another has him ( along with Ferb and Candace ) recreating their parent 's most romantic moment for their wedding anniversary . He has also been shown helping his grandparents , reenacting his grandfather Reginald 's daredevil stunt from his youth and setting up a roller derby for a rematch race with his grandmother Betty Jo 's old rival . In the episodes " One Good Scare Ought to Do It ! " and " Hail Doofania ! " , Phineas goes to great lengths to help his friend Isabella . Other episodes , like " Unfair Science Fair , " " Oil on Candace , " " The Bully Code , " and " Voyage To The Bottom of Buford , " further explore Phineas 's generosity toward all of his friends . He even has plans at the beginning of " The Bully Code " for a jellybean currency system for emerging nations .

On other occasions , though , Phineas 's adventures have upset others , intentionally or otherwise . Most notably Candace is constantly frustrated in her efforts to " bust " her brothers throughout the series , and in rare cases Phineas has unwittingly caused misfortune to others . For example , in the episode " Get That Bigfoot Outta My Face , " Phineas intentionally gives all the kids at camp a fright when he tricks them into thinking Bigfoot is attacking , though this is mostly getting into the spirit of spooky story telling .

Nonetheless , Povenmire and Marsh intended for Phineas and Ferb to be motivated only by fun . In one episode , " Thaddeus and Thor " , Phineas says that fun is his only goal in his daily schemes ? though Ferb adds that they also do it " for the ladies . " Phineas also says that he wants his adventures to give him something interesting to say when he gets back to school , a setting the creators have confirmed they will never put him in .

Phineas is also very modest . He tends to put Ferb 's name on inventions . This may be because Ferb does most of the building . However , he never seems angry or resentful of giving his brother the credit .

Phineas appears to be addicted to inventing . In " Bully Bromance Break Up " he goes into withdrawal when the other kids insist on climbing a mountain without using any crazy gadgets .

On a few episodes , Phineas shows an angrier side of himself , first seen in the Phineas and Ferb the Movie : Across the 2nd Dimension movie , where Phineas gets angry at Perry after finding out his secret identity because Perry " never trusted him " by telling him the truth , but later realizes that Perry kept his identity hidden because if Phineas and his family found out , Perry would be forced to relocate to another family . Another episode , Phineas and Ferb : Mission Marvel again demonstrates Phineas ' angry side , when he got angry at Candice when she accidentally caused Baljeet to turn into a Hulk @-@ type version of himself , but they later made amends at the end of the episode . Later , on " Phineas and Ferb Save Summer " , when Candace tries to power @-@ up the machine , Phineas starts raising his voice at her in order for her to stop , to which Bulford breaks the fourth wall by saying : " Must be a special episode , he 's yelling at his sister again ! " .

= = Reception = =

Phineas has received mostly positive reviews . Emily Ashby of Common Sense Media describes Phineas as " boisterous , " and he and Ferb as " partner [ s ] in crime . " Susan Stewart , reviewing

the show in the New York Times , notes that Phineas and Ferb " work on a heroic scale and are apparently not limited by the laws of nature . " Jean Yoo , an official press member for Disney Channel , describes him as " a precocious bundle of energy whose tolerance for sitting still is just a little thinner than his patience for the social echelon in which he finds himself . " She as well notes that he is " endearing and smart . "

Variety calls Phineas 's adventures " spectacular . " Animation Insider reporter Aaron Bynum described him as a " wiz kid idea machine . " The Seattle Times wrote that both Phineas and Ferb were " young heroes . " The song " Ain 't Got Rhythm , " which Vincent Martella performed in the voice of Phineas alongside Steve Zahn and Thomas Sangster in the episode " Dude , We 're Getting the Band Back Together , " was nominated for an Emmy Award in 2008 for " Outstanding Original Music and Lyrics . "

= = In other media = =

Besides the series Phineas and Ferb , Phineas has been featured in several other pieces of merchandise from the series . To date , he has appeared in all Phineas and Ferb novelizations , published by Disney Press . Phineas appears in the Nintendo DS video game based on the series , simply titled Phineas and Ferb . Dan Povenmire has said that he saw nothing of the game until its release , on which he was given a copy for free .

Plush toys of the character , along with toys representing Ferb and Perry , have been manufactured . Phineas also appears on most of the Phineas and Ferb t @-@ shirts . Phineas is set to appear in the forthcoming comic book series based on the series , though details are unconfirmed . Phineas and his brother Ferb have as well both been referenced in the book Lost and Found : How Churches Are Connecting to Young Adults as examples of how media and television characters can be influential in people 's lives . Both Phineas and his brother Ferb appeared in the MAD segments " The Straight @-@ A Team " and " DoIphineas and Ferb Tale " where Phineas was shown wearing glasses with a nerdy type look .