

astronaut academy activity pack



:01

First Second

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www.astronautacademy.com

name the classes

When you enroll at Astronaut Academy there are many classes to choose from!
Can you guess what each of these is called?



protagonists vs antagonists

The protagonist is the main character.



The antagonist is a character who opposes the main character.



Before enrolling at Astronaut Academy, **HAKATA SOY** was a space hero saving the galaxy from evil villains like **RICK RAVEN** of the Gotcha Birds.



MARIBELLE MELLONBELLY and **MIYUMI SAN**

are rivals at Astronaut Academy.

Miyumi thinks Maribelle is the “mean girl” but from Maribelle’s perspective, the opposite is true.

Can you think of other characters at Astronaut Academy who can be considered rivals or antagonists of each other?

Who are some classic protagonists and antagonists in other popular books or movies?

design your own academy

Use the fill-in sheets to help you design your own setting, characters, and comics!
The more "world building" and information you can figure out before you dive into your story, the better!

SETTING: Astronaut Academy is a fantastical school in outer space. But when making up your own school story you can set it anywhere! Underground, in the clouds, underwater, another dimension, or even here on Earth! It's up to you and your imagination! What kinds of classes would there be? What kinds of teachers? Does their sports team have an animal or creature for a mascot?

CHARACTERS: Who is the main character or protagonist of your story? Is it the new kid at school like Hakata, or someone completely different? Draw your character and then see if you can describe them in words. Any specific details worth pointing out about their clothes, hair style, facial features?

Astronaut Academy is not the *ONLY* school in the galaxy!

Create your own rival school!

WELCOME NOW: Astronaut Academy
(name of school)

Design of school building

cartoon mascot

A DIVERSE CURRICULUM MEANS MANY CLASSES TO CHOOSE:

Anti-gravity gymnastics
(most favorite class)

Locker
(least favorite class)

Tactical Randomness
(craziest class)

YOU MIGHT BE IMPRESSED BY OUR FACULTY:

The Principal
(principal)

Senior Pandy
(coolest teacher)

That Guy
(random teacher)

design a new student

Character Name: Hakata Soy

Appearance: Spiky hair, Orange jacket with high collar, Rocket boots.

Personality (check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> Absent-minded	<input type="checkbox"/> Egotistical	<input type="checkbox"/> Generous	other: <u>likes mechanical stuff</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Angry	<input type="checkbox"/> Heroic	<input type="checkbox"/> Glibly	<u>robots, mech gear</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Brave	<input type="checkbox"/> Insecure	<input type="checkbox"/> Shy	
<input type="checkbox"/> Confident	<input type="checkbox"/> Loyal	<input type="checkbox"/> Oily	
<input type="checkbox"/> Confused	<input type="checkbox"/> Mean	<input type="checkbox"/> Smart	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eccentric	<input type="checkbox"/> Scheming	<input type="checkbox"/> Stubborn	

His or her special skill/unique trait: _____

Favorite food: Smoothies, French fries, veggie burgers.

Ultimate goal in life: Protect the universe.

Secret/classified information: he was once a bully in preschool!

Best friend/teammate: Gadget Thompson + mechs Team

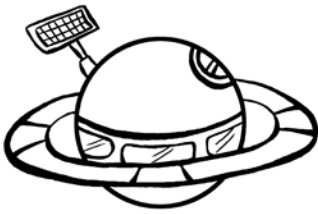
Antagonist or Rival: Rick Raven & Gatchy Birds

Use another sheet of paper to draw more images of your character (including their back and side profile) and to list additional details about their life that could be useful in a story!

YOUR NAME: DAVE ROMAN AGE: 35

Photocopy additional character sheets for as many characters as you want. Do your characters have alternate identities? Best friends? Pets? More than one rival?

Use extra paper to draw your characters from multiple angles. Or in different outfits! Maybe even try drawing them with different expressions that fit their various moods.

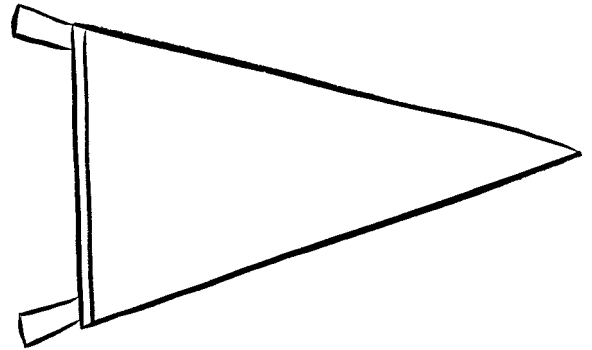


Astronaut Academy is not the *ONLY* school in the galaxy!

Create your own rival school!

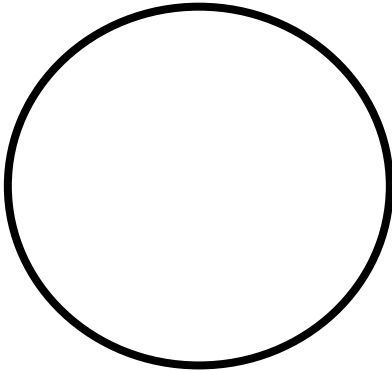
WELCOME NOW: _____
(name of school)

Design of school building

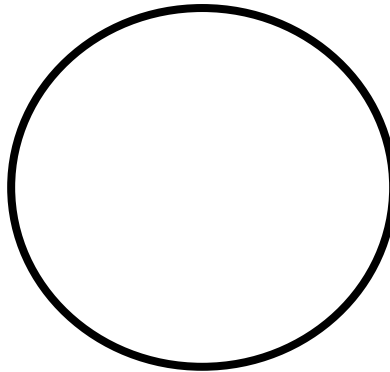


cartoon mascot

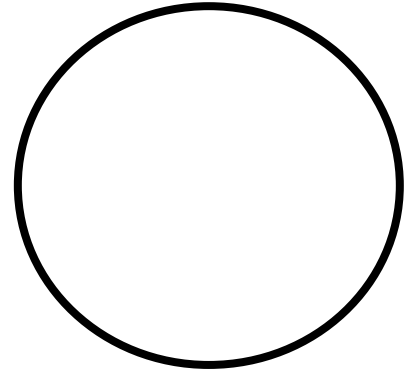
A DIVERSE CURRICULUM MEANS MANY CLASSES TO CHOOSE:



(most favorite class)

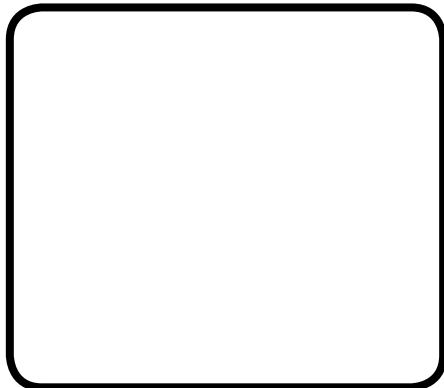


(least favorite class)

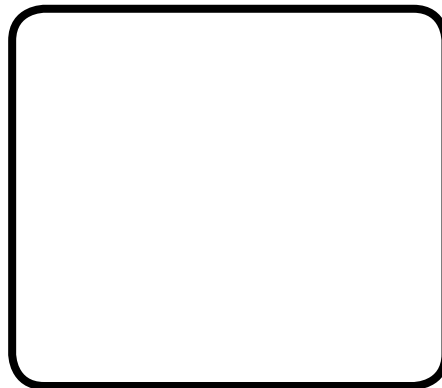


(craziest class)

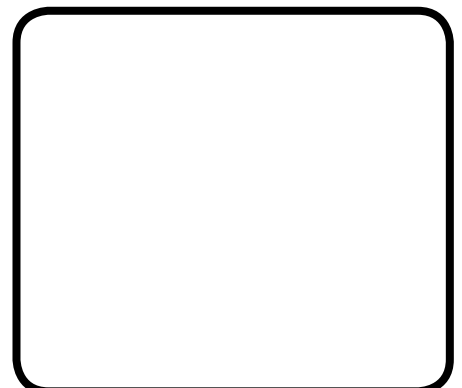
YOU MIGHT BE IMPRESSED BY OUR FACULTY:



(principal)



(coolest teacher)



(random teacher)

design a **character**

Character Name: _____

Appearance: _____

Personality (check all that apply):

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> absent-minded | <input type="checkbox"/> egotistical | <input type="checkbox"/> serious | other: _____

_____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> angry | <input type="checkbox"/> heroic | <input type="checkbox"/> silly | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> brave | <input type="checkbox"/> insecure | <input type="checkbox"/> shy | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> confident | <input type="checkbox"/> loyal | <input type="checkbox"/> sly | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> confused | <input type="checkbox"/> mean | <input type="checkbox"/> smart | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> eccentric | <input type="checkbox"/> scheming | <input type="checkbox"/> stubborn | |

His or her special skill/unique trait: _____

Favorite food: _____

Ultimate goal in life: _____

Secret/classified information: _____

Best friend/teammate: _____

Antagonist or Rival: _____

Use another sheet of paper to draw more images of your character (including their back and side profile) and to list additional details about their life that could be useful in a story!

YOUR NAME: _____ AGE: _____

design an antagonist/rival

Character Name: _____

Appearance: _____

Personality (check all that apply):

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> absent-minded | <input type="checkbox"/> egotistical | <input type="checkbox"/> serious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> angry | <input type="checkbox"/> heroic | <input type="checkbox"/> silly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> brave | <input type="checkbox"/> insecure | <input type="checkbox"/> shy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> confident | <input type="checkbox"/> loyal | <input type="checkbox"/> sly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> confused | <input type="checkbox"/> mean | <input type="checkbox"/> smart |
| <input type="checkbox"/> eccentric | <input type="checkbox"/> scheming | <input type="checkbox"/> stubborn |

other: _____

His or her special skill/unique trait: _____

Favorite food: _____

Ultimate goal in life: _____

Secret/classified information: _____

Best friend/teammate: _____

Antagonist or Rival: _____

Use another sheet of paper to draw more images of your character (including their back and side profile) and to list additional details about their life that could be useful in a story!

YOUR NAME: _____ AGE: _____

design an additional **student or teacher**

Character Name: _____

Appearance: _____

Personality (check all that apply):

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> absent-minded | <input type="checkbox"/> egotistical | <input type="checkbox"/> serious | other: _____

_____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> angry | <input type="checkbox"/> heroic | <input type="checkbox"/> silly | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> brave | <input type="checkbox"/> insecure | <input type="checkbox"/> shy | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> confident | <input type="checkbox"/> loyal | <input type="checkbox"/> sly | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> confused | <input type="checkbox"/> mean | <input type="checkbox"/> smart | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> eccentric | <input type="checkbox"/> scheming | <input type="checkbox"/> stubborn | |

His or her special skill/unique trait: _____

Favorite food: _____

Ultimate goal in life: _____

Secret/classified information: _____

Best friend/teammate: _____

Antagonist or Rival: _____

Use another sheet of paper to draw more images of your character (including their back and side profile) and to list additional details about their life that could be useful in a story!

YOUR NAME: _____ AGE: _____

comic layout

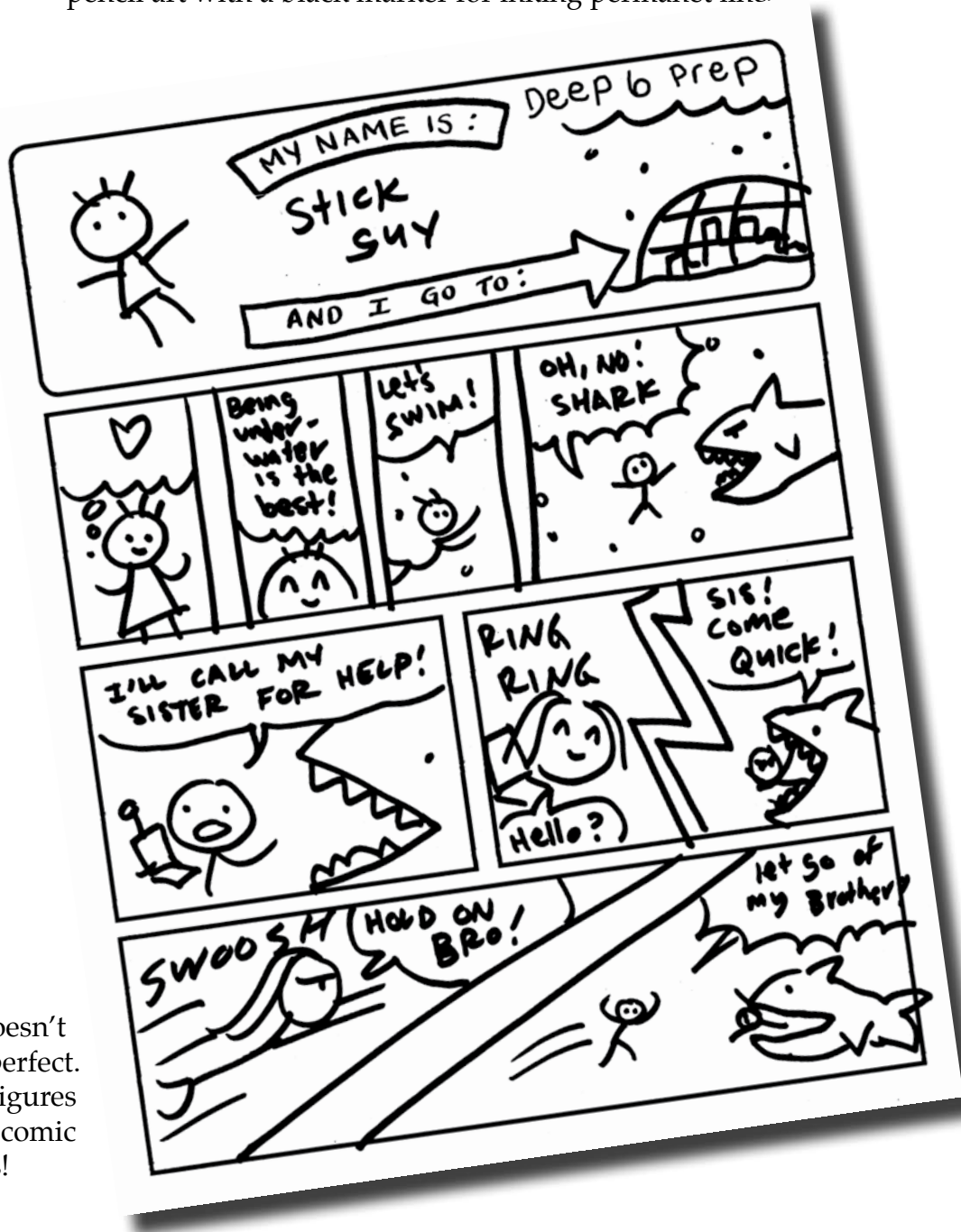
Challenge yourself by writing & drawing a self-contained 1 or 2 page comic with a beginning, middle, and end.

Divide up your pages into as many panels as you wish!

Experiment with different sizes and shapes.

Use the paneled sheets in this packet, or use blank paper if you prefer to create splash panels or innovative layouts.

Remember that drawing with pencil first makes it easier to make changes! You can go over your pencil art with a black marker for inking permanent lines



Your art doesn't have to be perfect. Even stick figures make great comic heroes!

comic elements

How many can you work into your comic?

CAPTION BOX

Used by the narrator, often to establish location of the scene or to give the reader insight into a character's perspective.

EARLIER THAT DAY, IN A SECRET
FORTRESS DEEP BELOW THE EARTH...

WORD BALLOON

Dialog spoken out loud by a character.



THOUGHT BALLOON

Words said in a character's head that other characters cannot hear.



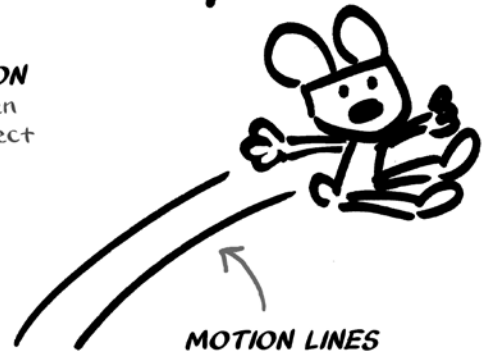
BURST BALLOON

Dialog that is shouted louder than usual, usually to get someone's attention.



WHISPER BALLOON

Dialog that spoken very low so only select people can hear.



SOUND EFFECTS

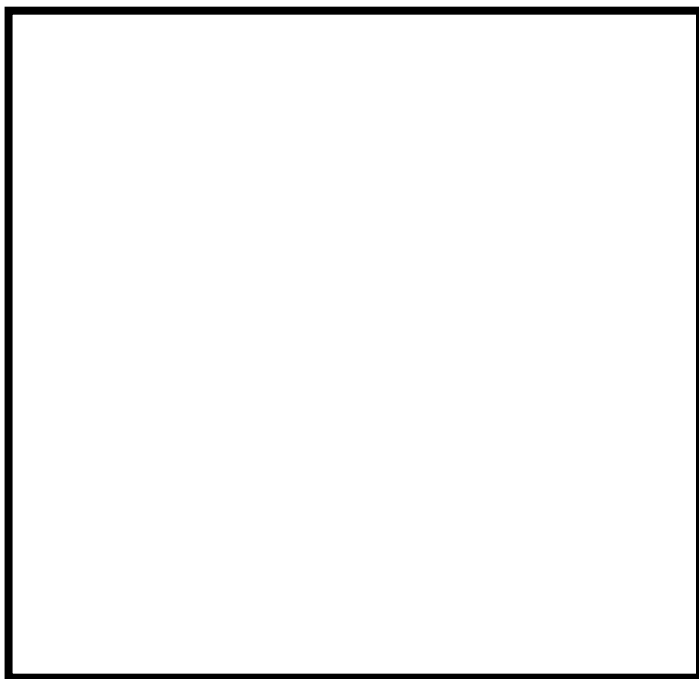
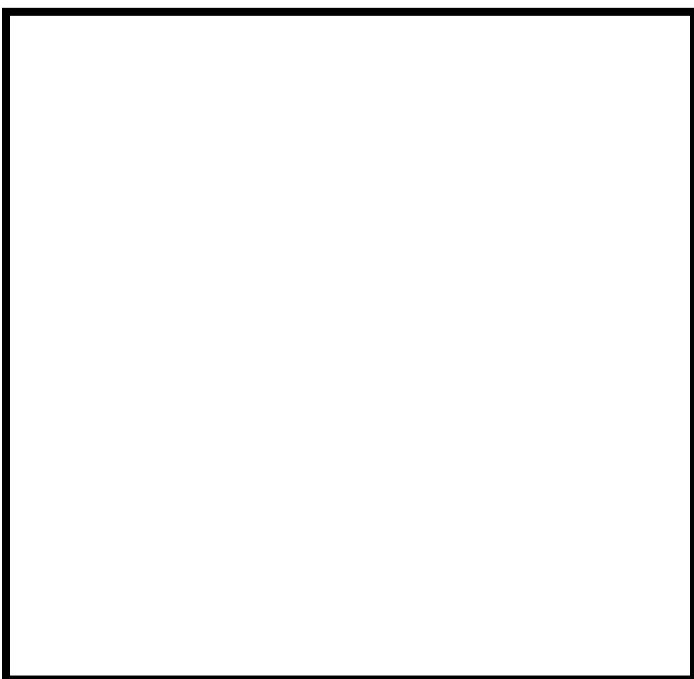
Visual representations of sounds using onomatopoeia.

ZAP WHOOSH
BLAST THUMP
THUMP

MY NAME IS :

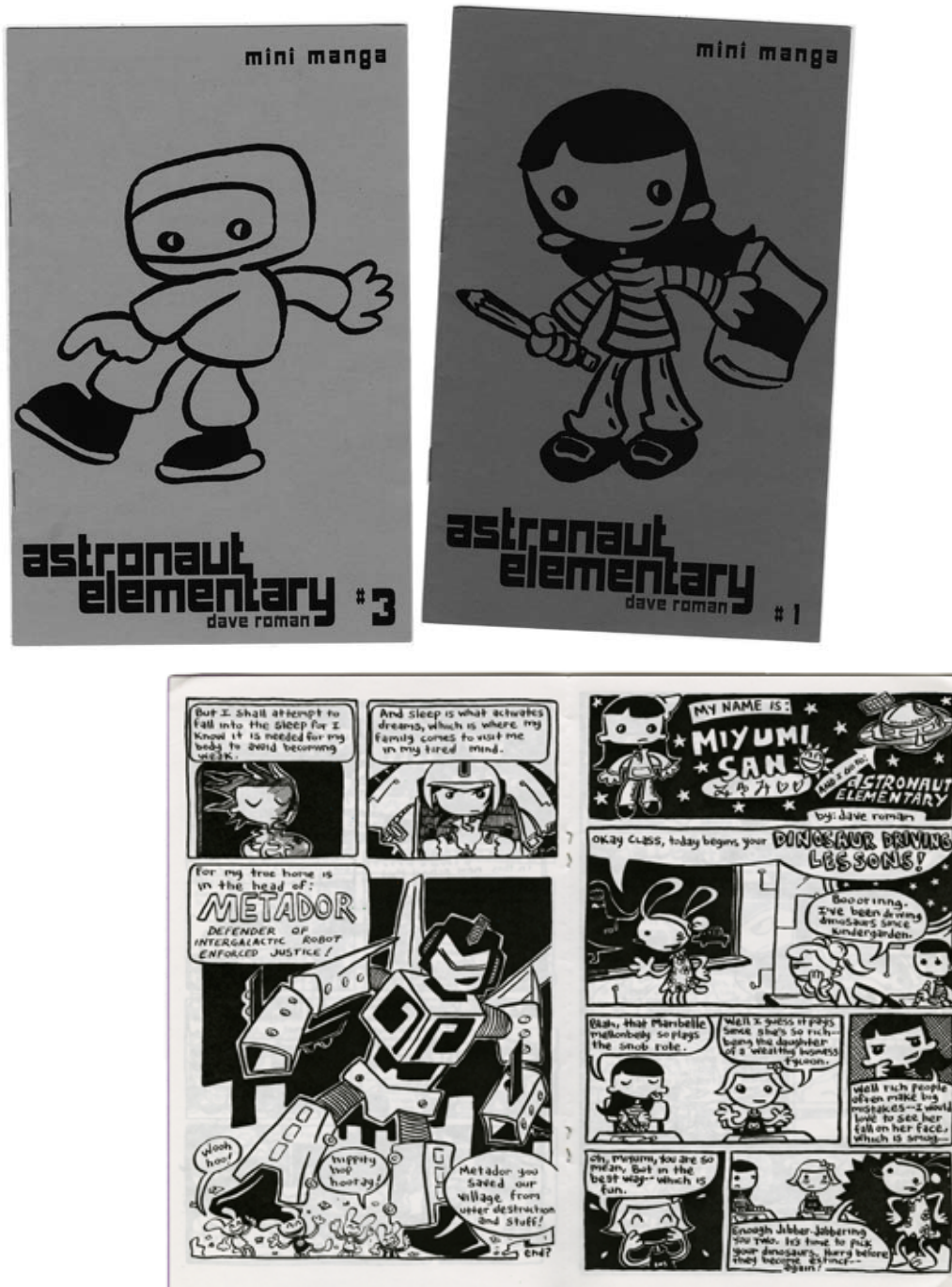
AND I GO TO :





share your stories

When you're done drawing your comics, be sure to share them with your friends, teachers, and family! You can even take pictures of your comics with a digital camera and show them off to the world!



Did you know the graphic novel *Astronaut Academy: Zero Gravity* started out as a series of self-published mini-comics and web stories? Author Dave Roman would scan each page as he finished drawing it and post them on his website. When he had a complete chapter he photocopied them into little black and white books that he sold for one dollar each!

You never know where your writing and drawings will take you!

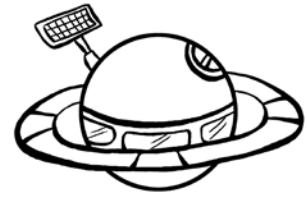
Fill-in comic



My name is:
**DOUG
HIRO**

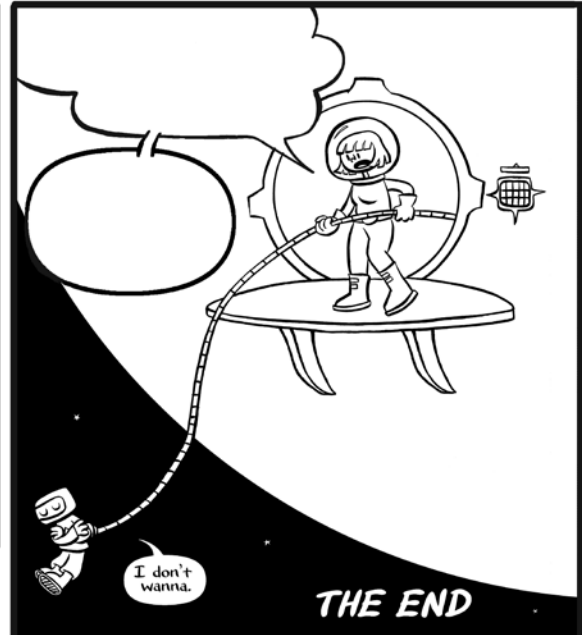
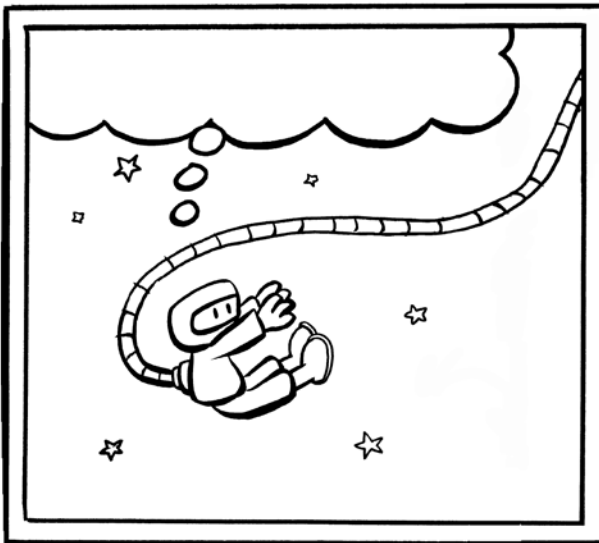
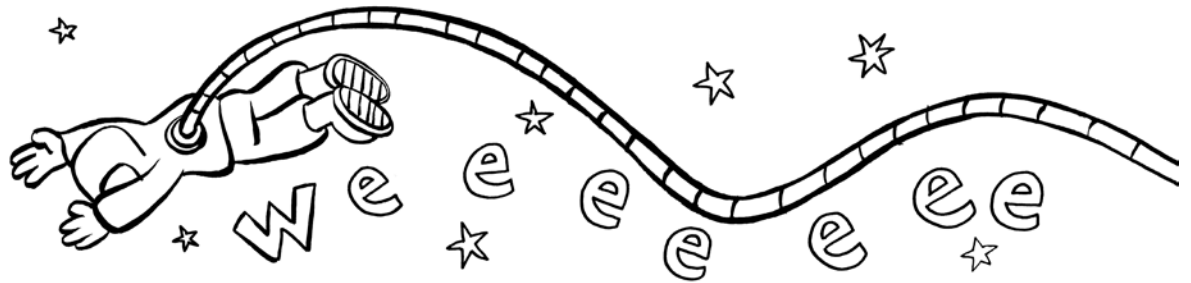
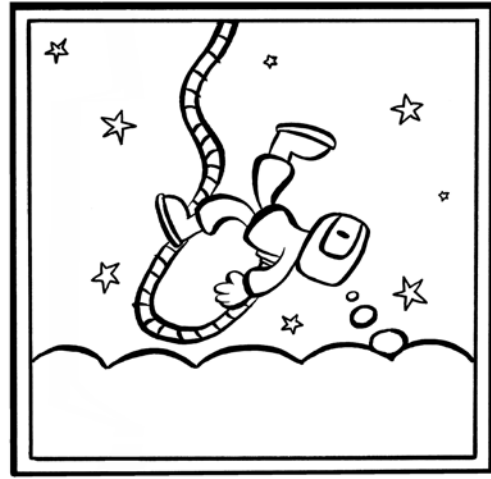


And I
go to:



**ASTRONAUT
ACADEMY**

by Dave Roman



PICK UP A COPY OF THE STUDENT HANDBOOK



astronaut academy Zero Gravity

IN CONVENIENT
GRAPHIC NOVEL
FORMAT!

Astronaut Academy: Zero Gravity
Written and Illustrated by Dave Roman
Published by First Second Books

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