

menu of drawings



We can usually fit four drawings into a one hour session.

When the workshop is finished, I'm happy to email a jpeg of my drawings to the teacher. I can sign them and add a message to the class, if that's of interest.

# water creatures

## 1 SNAIL + AMMONITE

Ideal for starting a workshop. We draw a sad snail and appear to be drawing another when we discover that we're sketching an ammonite. We learn about ammonites/fossils and I show my best fossil (I'm a collector). Finally, we discover why the snail looks so sad!

## 2 THE STORY OF THE SICK FISH

We start by drawing a fish and as the illustration develops, I tell a story involving the Deep Dark Sea (my Orion Early Reader). The story has a dramatic and unusual ending — as does the drawing!

## 3 ANGLER FISH

We learn about life at the bottom of The Deep Dark Sea — the cold, the pressure, the poisonous gasses and why some creatures from the deep need to create their own light.

## 4 FISH EATING FISH EATING FISH EATING FISH

This is a drawing that could go on forever if we had a large enough piece of paper. It starts with the children drawing what they think is a flock of flying lemons!

## 5 IS IT A FISH OR A SHARK?

Children love drawing sharks — but how do you stop your sharks from looking like fish? It's all about the mouth . . .

## 6 NESSIE THE LOCH NESS MONSTER.

The children have to work out what we're drawing but will soon guess that it's Nessie, The Loch Ness Monster. If we have time, I can read from my Early Reader THE LOCH NESS MONSTER SPOTTERS. We discuss if Nessie really exists and, if so, what sort of creature might she be?

# animals, bugs and bacteria

## 7 SNAIL + SLUG + LEARNING HOW TO DRAW SPEECH BUBBLES

We draw a snail and a slug chatting. Their jokey conversation appears in cartoon speech bubbles.

## 8 DINOSAUR EATING ANOTHER DINOSAUR OR ONE OF THE SCHOOL CHILDREN (PICKED BY THEIR TEACHER)

We draw a meat-eating dinosaur munching a plant-eating dinosaur and learn how fossils of dino teeth indicate whether the prehistoric creature preferred meat or veg. OR, we can swap the plant-eater for one the children taking part in the workshop.

Hopefully, I can make it look like the child and add their name to the drawing (makes a good prize!).

## 9 A TOILET BEING FLUSHED

Children learn that you can bring any object to life by adding eyes — even a toilet. They also discover that ‘Flushing the loo is good for you!’ when I read a paragraph from our HORRIBLE SCIENCE HOUSE OF HORRORS describing what happens when you flush a toilet with the lid up.

## 10 DUST MITES

We draw one of these ugly creatures from our HORRIBLE SCIENCE MICROSCOPIC MONSTERS book and learn some truly horrible facts. Where do dust mites live? Why are some people allergic to them?

## 11 LIFE-CYCLE OF AN INSECT

We follow the life-cycle of a fly as it leaves its friends buzzing around a cow pat to fly through an open kitchen window where it lands on a joint of meat to lay some eggs.

## 12 PRE-HISTORIC CREATURES AND PLANTS THAT ARE STILL ALIVE TODAY

We draw a scene featuring crocodiles, ferns, dragonflies and cockroaches. These are animals and plants that were around in the days of the dinosaurs and are still around today.

### 13 MONSTER DICE

I have one dice for bugs, one for mammals and a third for reptiles. The dice are rolled and a strange creature is created using a part of each of the three animals that have landed face up. As well as drawing this newly-invented creature, the children have to devise a name for it. So a SNAIL + FROG + HEDGEHOG could be a SNOGHOG!

## bees

### 14 BEES AND THE BEEHIVE

We draw a beehive and discover who lives inside. As well as learning how to draw worker bees and queen bees, children are fascinated to hear about all the different jobs that bees do.

### 15 BEE BOY

I introduce my Bee Boy books and can give a short reading if we have time. The children learn how to draw Bee Boy being attacked by a Zombee!

### 16 BEE BOY WORKSHOP (1 HOUR)

As author of the Bee Boy books and also an enthusiastic beekeeper, I have created an hour long workshop all about bees. Children learn to draw bees and also discover why these fascinating insects are so important to the health of our planet. The workshop is illustrated by a PowerPoint slideshow.

# drawing people

## 17 FIGURES

I show the children an easy way to draw figures, starting with pinmen before adding clothes. We learn how to make the figure run, kick, dive, fall, etc.

## 18 FACES (showing different ages)

We start with two circles, but the eyes, noses and mouths are drawn in different positions on each face. One is a baby face and the other a man but can the children guess which is which? Starting with just dots for eyes, they can usually guess before drawing the other facial features and quickly discover the power of cartoons!

## 19 FACES (shapes)

To demonstrate that cartoon faces don't always have to be round or egg-shaped, we draw two mad scientists with very differently shaped faces and also learn about drawing expressions.

## 20 HANDS

Children often struggle when drawing hands so I show an easy way to make a hand look like a hand and not a bunch of bananas! But once we've drawn it, we have to decide — is it waving or drowning?

## 21 BOILED EGG MAN

The children think they're drawing a boiled egg in an egg cup being smashed by a teaspoon. But as the drawing develops, they discover that it's an angry bald man being whacked on the head with a spade!

## 22 PIRATE

As we draw this bearded baddy, the children have to remember all the things that make a pirate look like a pirate: a metal hook for a hand, a pirate hat with skull and crossbones, an eyepatch, a parrot, a wooden leg, a cutlass, etc.

# disgusting digestion

## 23 DISGUSTING DIGESTION DIAGRAM

(warning — this is Horrible Science at its most HORRIBLE - and takes a little longer than the other drawings).

We draw a cartoon cross-section of the human body and follow the progress of a pizza from mouth to bottom and everything inbetween. When we reach the stomach we do a separate little drawing to show the experimental work of Lazzaro Spallanzani — an Italian scientist who studied sick in the 18th century.



# smells, explosions and other horrible effects

## 24 HOW TO MAKE THINGS LOOK SMELLY

We take a look at 'The Poo That Animals Do' book and discover why scientists find poo so interesting. Then we draw an elephant's bottom and a huge pile of elephant poo. The children use cross-hatching to add shape and texture to the poo. Finally we add wiggly lines and flies which is, of course, the cartoon language for making something look smelly.

## 25 HOW TO MAKE THINGS LOOKED CHOPPED IN HALF

The children learn to draw a lemon that has been chopped in half then apply the same method to a boiled egg and finally . . . a dog!

## 26 HOW TO DRAW AN EXPLODING CHICKEN

I actually give the children the choice of drawing an exploding bowl of fruit, an exploding clock or an exploding chicken. They choose the chicken every time! The technique for drawing a cartoon explosion can be applied to make anything explode.

## 27 DEAD DOG

As usual, the children don't know what we're drawing. After a while they guess it's a dog but

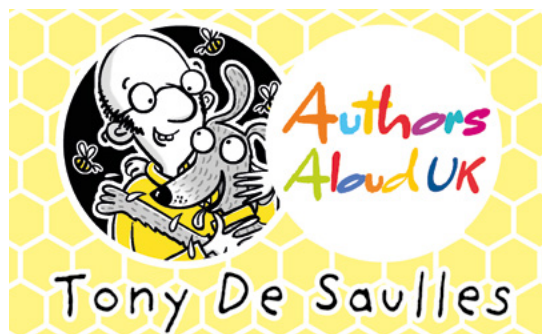
the drawing still looks odd. What's going on? They won't find out until they turn their drawing upside down!

## 28 THE SYMBOL FOR POISON - A SKULL & CROSSBONES

We learn how to draw the symbol for poison — a skull and crossbones — then take a look at *PAINFUL POISON*, one of my favourite Horrible Science books.

## 29 the story of a book

By creating a funny, illustrated flowchart (that we all draw together) I tell the story of a book from the author's initial brilliant idea through to the writing, editing, roughing out, illustrating, designing, printing and display in a bookshop. I started life as a graphic/book designer then moved into illustration and writing so I have a good idea of the process.



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