

# IT'S ALIVE!



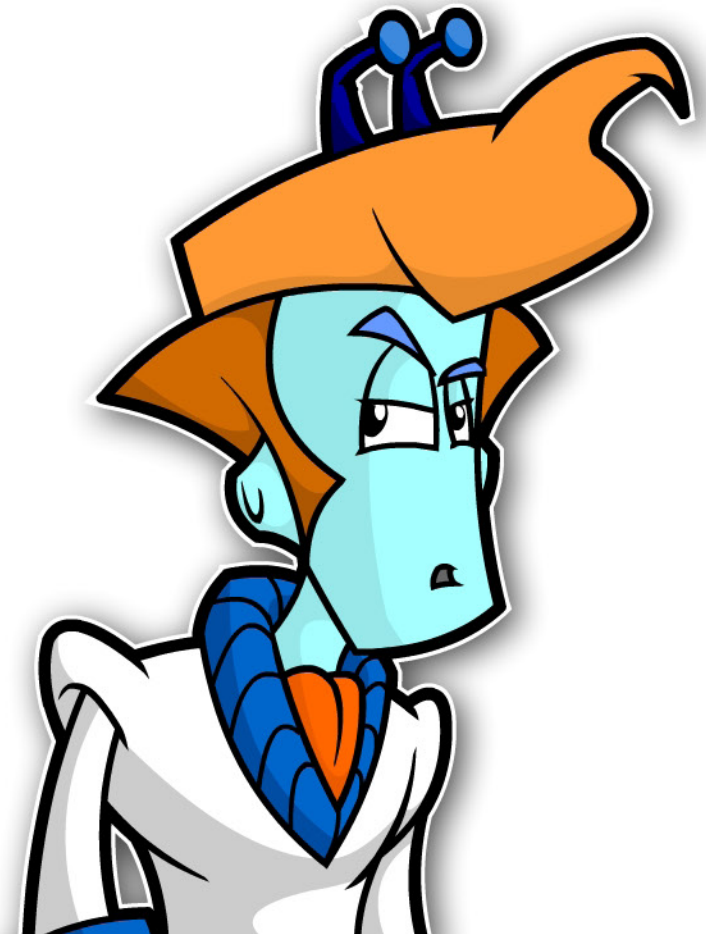
**THE UG3 TOP SECRET GUIDE TO CREATING ALIEN LIFEFORMS**

# IT'S ALIVE!

## THE UG3 TOP SECRET GUIDE TO CREATING ALIEN LIFEFORMS

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY  
AL WALLER

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*GREETINGS  
EARTHLING. WHAT YOU  
HAVE BEFORE YOU IS A TOP  
SECRET DOCUMENT PRODUCED  
BY THE GREATEST MINDS IN THE  
UNIVERSE OVER MANY, MANY  
YEARS OF GRUELING  
WORK...*





A cartoon illustration set against a purple background with a repeating pattern of rounded squares and diamonds. On the left, a pink, star-shaped character with a grumpy expression and a small tuft of purple hair on its head is shown from the chest up. It has its hands raised near its chest. On the right, a blue-skinned character with a large, orange, flame-like hairstyle and a small blue antenna on its head is shown from the chest up. This character has a stern, angry expression and is wearing a white lab coat over a blue and orange striped shirt. A large white speech bubble originates from the pink character, containing the text 'WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? WE WROTE THIS OVER THE WEEKEND.' A smaller, red speech bubble with the sound effect 'GRRRRR...' originates from the blue character.

*WHAT ARE YOU TALKING  
ABOUT? WE WROTE THIS OVER  
THE WEEKEND.*

**GRRRRR...**



**ANYWAY, IF YOU'RE READING THIS THEN YOU ARE PROBABLY INTERESTED IN CREATING YOUR OWN ORIGINAL ALIEN CHARACTER.**



**WHETHER YOU WANT TO USE YOUR ALIEN IN ANIMATION, COMICS, ILLUSTRATION OR A POSTER FOR THE BACK OF YOUR BEDROOM DOOR THIS SHORT MANUAL WILL TAKE YOU THROUGH THE BASICS OF IMAGINING, DESIGNING AND FINISHING A CHARACTER USING THE SAME STEPS THAT PROFESSIONAL HUMAN ARTISTS USE. BUT FIRST, HERE ARE A FEW THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND AS YOU GO THROUGH THIS MANUAL:**



# **BE READY TO DRAW - A LOT.**

**THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'LL MESS UP A LOT, AND  
THAT'S NOT A BAD THING. BEING CREATIVE IS LIKE  
BEING A SCIENTIST. EVEN THOUGH YOU HAVE A  
GOAL IN MIND IT IS OFTEN THROUGH TRIAL AND  
ERROR THAT YOU FIND THE BEST SOLUTIONS FOR  
YOUR EXPERIMENT OR PROJECT.**





**CREATION IS A PROCESS, AND IT  
OFTEN HAS A LOT OF STEPS.**



**IT IS VERY RARE FOR AN ARTIST OR DESIGNER TO  
GET THE EXACT RESULT SHE WANTS WITH JUST ONE  
TRY. MOST ARE ALWAYS GOING THROUGH A  
PROCESS OF INSPIRATION, WORKING, THEN  
REWORKING AN IDEA TO GET WHAT SHE REALLY  
WANTS IN AN ART PIECE.**



# YOU IMPROVE WITH A LOT OF PRACTICE.

THERE ARE ONLY TWO WAYS IN THE UNIVERSE TO BECOME A GOOD ARTIST. ONE IS TO JOURNEY APPROXIMATELY 203 MILLION LIGHT YEARS FROM EARTH TO THE AWFULLY HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT OF A PLANET CALLED PIP. ONCE THERE SEEK OUT A BEING KNOWN AS ELROY12 -- WHICH IS PRETTY HARD BECAUSE HE'S INVISIBLE EXCEPT FOR 10 SECONDS EVERY 473 EARTH YEARS. ONCE YOU FIND HIM, YOU MUST ANSWER A TRIVIA QUESTION ABOUT HIS FAVORITE MOVIE -- "BREAKIN' 2: ELECTRIC BOOGA LOO". IT IS THEN THAT HE'LL GRANT YOUR WISH TO BECOME A GOOD ARTIST. BUT BEWARE. IF YOU ANSWER INCORRECTLY HE TURNS YOU INTO AN UNDERWEAR DRAWER.

THE OTHER WAY TO BECOME A GOOD ARTIST IS TO PRACTICE -- A LOT.





# HAVE A LOT OF FUN.



YOU  
MAY HAVE NOTICED  
THAT WE USED THE PHRASE  
"A LOT" A LOT. AND YOU'RE PROBABLY  
THINKING THAT CREATIVITY TAKES A LOT  
OF WORK. YES, IT DOES. BUT IF IT IS THE  
KIND OF WORK YOU ENJOY THEN IT  
MEANS YOU'LL BE HAVING FUN...  
A LOT OF FUN.



**STEP #1**

# **DISCOVERING YOUR INNER ALIEN**





STARTING OUT  
MAY MEAN JUMPING RIGHT  
IN WITH PENCIL AND PAPER, BUT  
INSTEAD OF DRAWING TRY ASKING  
YOURSELF SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT THE  
ALIEN YOU WANT TO DESIGN. GO AHEAD  
AND BRAINSTORM IDEAS FOR EACH OF THE  
QUESTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE, THEN COME  
BACK AND NARROW IT DOWN TO THE MOST  
INTERESTING ONES. FINALLY, PICK ONE OR  
MAYBE TWO ANSWERS FOR EACH QUESTION.  
THIS WILL HELP YOU DEFINE WHO YOUR  
ALIEN IS ON THE INSIDE WHICH WILL  
HELP YOU IN MAKING DECISIONS  
ABOUT WHAT IT WILL LOOK  
LIKE ON THE  
OUTSIDE.





HOT-HEADED?

EVEN-TEMPERED?

WAR-LIKE?

## WHAT IS YOUR ALIEN'S PERSONALITY?

BELIEVES IT IS SUPERIOR TO ALL OTHER  
CREATURES IN THE GALAXY?

ALWAYS  
SUSPICIOUS?

A JOKESTER?

MY  
PURPOSE IN LIFE  
IS TO MAKE THE GALAXY  
A BETTER PLACE THROUGH  
THE POWER OF MY CHARM  
AND MIND-BLOWING  
GOOD LOOKS!

TO CONQUER THE  
KNOWN UNIVERSE?

TO FIND THE  
PERFECT MATE?

TO STAY OUT  
OF TROUBLE?

TO BE LIKE ITS  
GRANDFATHER?

TO CONQUER THE NEIGHBOR'S DOG WHO  
KEEPS PEEING ON ITS SKATEBOARD?

TO GET A GOOD  
GRADE?

TO CHANGE THE COLOR OF A  
BLACK HOLE TO LADYBUG RED?

TO LEARN ABOUT THE GIANT  
MIDGETS OF JUPITER?

TO EAT ALL  
OF THE TIME?  
TO CONQUER ITS FEAR  
OF CATERPILLARS?

TO BE A SPACE  
POD RACER?

TO GET ITS OLDER  
SISTER TO BE NICER?

## DOES YOUR ALIEN HAVE AN IMPORTANT PURPOSE IN LIFE AND WHAT IS THAT PURPOSE?





# WHERE IS YOUR ALIEN FROM AND WHAT IS ITS HOME WORLD LIKE?

VERY HOT ENVIRONMENT?

VERY COLD ONE?

HEAVY GRAVITY?

NO GRAVITY?

COVERED IN WATER?

EVERYONE LIVES UNDER GROUND?

THERE IS NO GROUND -- ONLY CLOUDS TO LIVE ON?

THE GROUND IS LIKE CHEWED BUBBLEGUM?

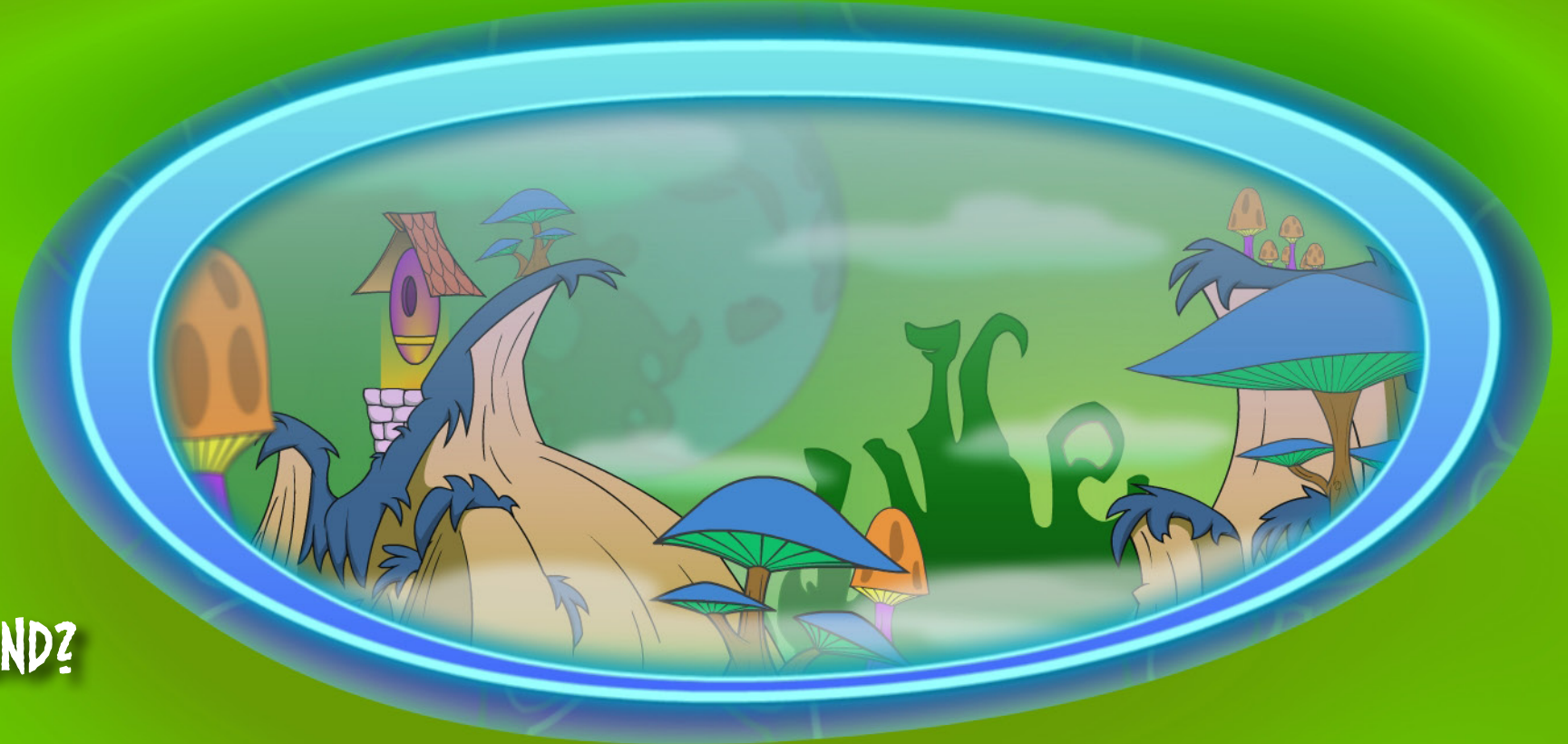
DAYS ONLY LAST 7 MINUTES AND  
13 SECONDS?

NO DAY TIME?

NO NIGHT TIME?

COVERED IN GAS THAT SMELLS LIKE  
SWEATY SOCKS LEFT IN A CAN OF TUNA?

EVERYONE LIVES IN TREETOPS THAT  
LOOK LIKE AFROS FROM THE 1970S?





## WHAT ARE YOUR ALIEN'S POWERS?



IT CAN FLY?

IT CAN CRAWL SUPER-FAST?

IT CAN READ MINDS?

IT CAN EAT HOT LAVA THEN BURP OUT GOLD?

IT CAN SING SO THAT THE STARS STOP SHINING?

IT CAN HOLD ITS BREATH IN OUTER SPACE LONG ENOUGH  
TO FLOAT FROM ONE PLANET TO ANOTHER?

IT CAN TELL JOKES TO ROCKS AND THE ROCKS LAUGH?

IT CAN PLAY ANY MUSICAL INSTRUMENT WITH  
ITS NOSE HAIRS?

IT IS A SPACESHIP MECHANIC?



# WHAT ARE YOUR ALIEN'S WEAKNESSES?

IT IS TOO SHORT?

IT CAN ONLY SAY ONE WORD A DAY?

IT HAS NEVER-ENDING HICCUPS?

IT IS AFRAID OF KNEECAPS?

IT CAN ONLY SEE IN THE DARK?

IT LIVES ON A VERY, VERY COLD  
PLANET BUT HATES LAYERING?

IT IS LACTOSE INTOLERANT?

IT APPEARS TO BE A ROBOT BUT IS  
ACTUALLY AN ORGANIC CREATURE INSIDE?

IT IS A PLANT CREATURE WHO IS ALLERGIC TO POLLEN?

IT CAN FLY BUT ONLY FOR 12 SECONDS THEN  
CRASHES BACK TO THE GROUND?

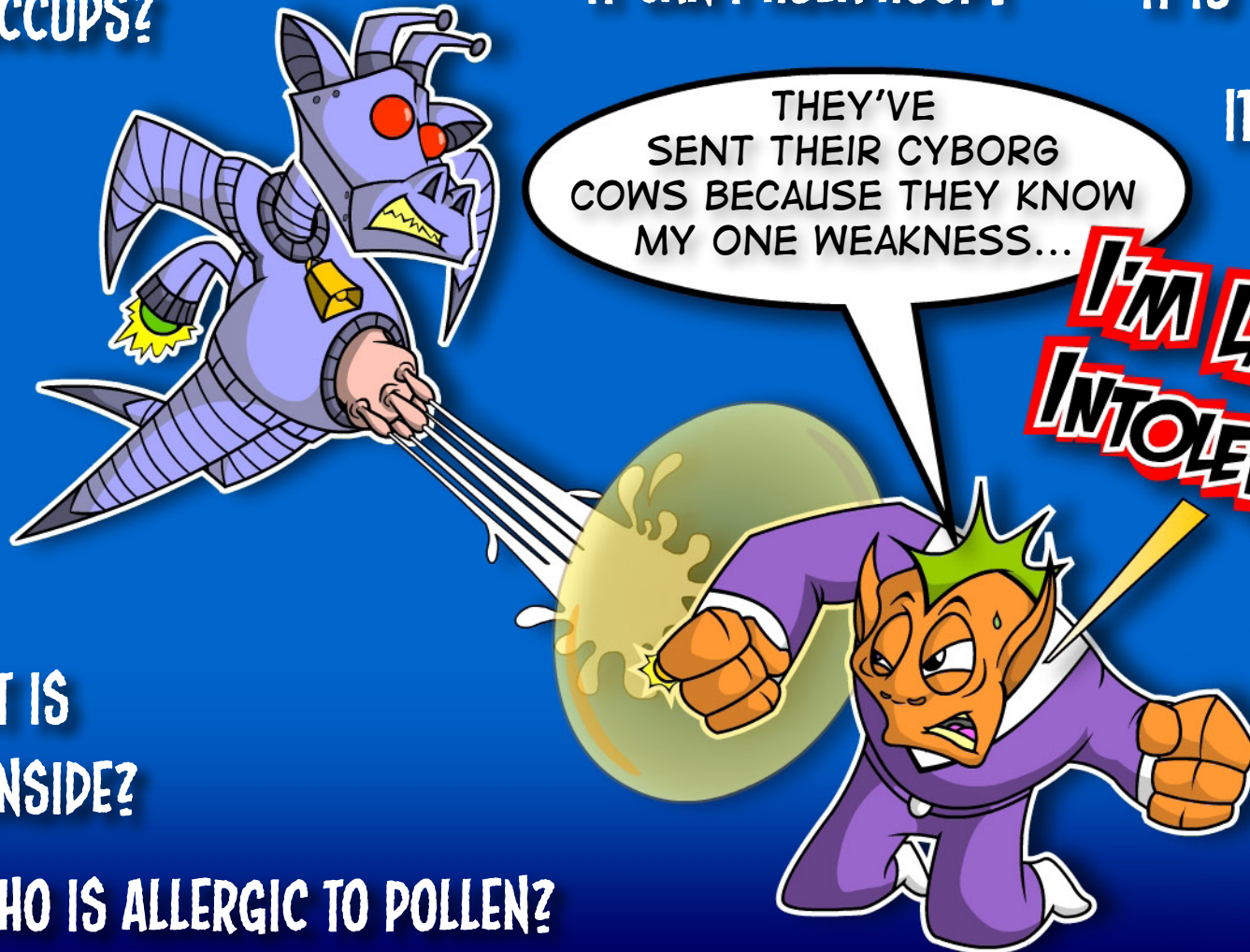
IT CAN'T HULA HOOP?

IT IS TOO SKINNY?

IT IS NOT VERY  
SMART?

THEY'VE  
SENT THEIR CYBORG  
COWS BECAUSE THEY KNOW  
MY ONE WEAKNESS...

**I'M LACTOSE  
INTOLERANT!!**





# WHAT IS THE MAIN THING THAT MAKES YOUR CHARACTER APPEALING?

THIS MEANS WHAT MAKES AUDIENCES OR READERS LIKE IT SO MUCH. YOU MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO FIGURE THIS OUT BEFORE YOU ACTUALLY DESIGN THE CHARACTER, BUT YOU CAN THINK OF SOME GENERAL IDEAS TO AIM FOR.

IT HAS A GOOD HEART?

IT IS WONDERFULLY  
CREEPY?

IT HAS A COOL DESIGN?

IT HAS AN AMAZING VEHICLE?

IT IS CUTE?

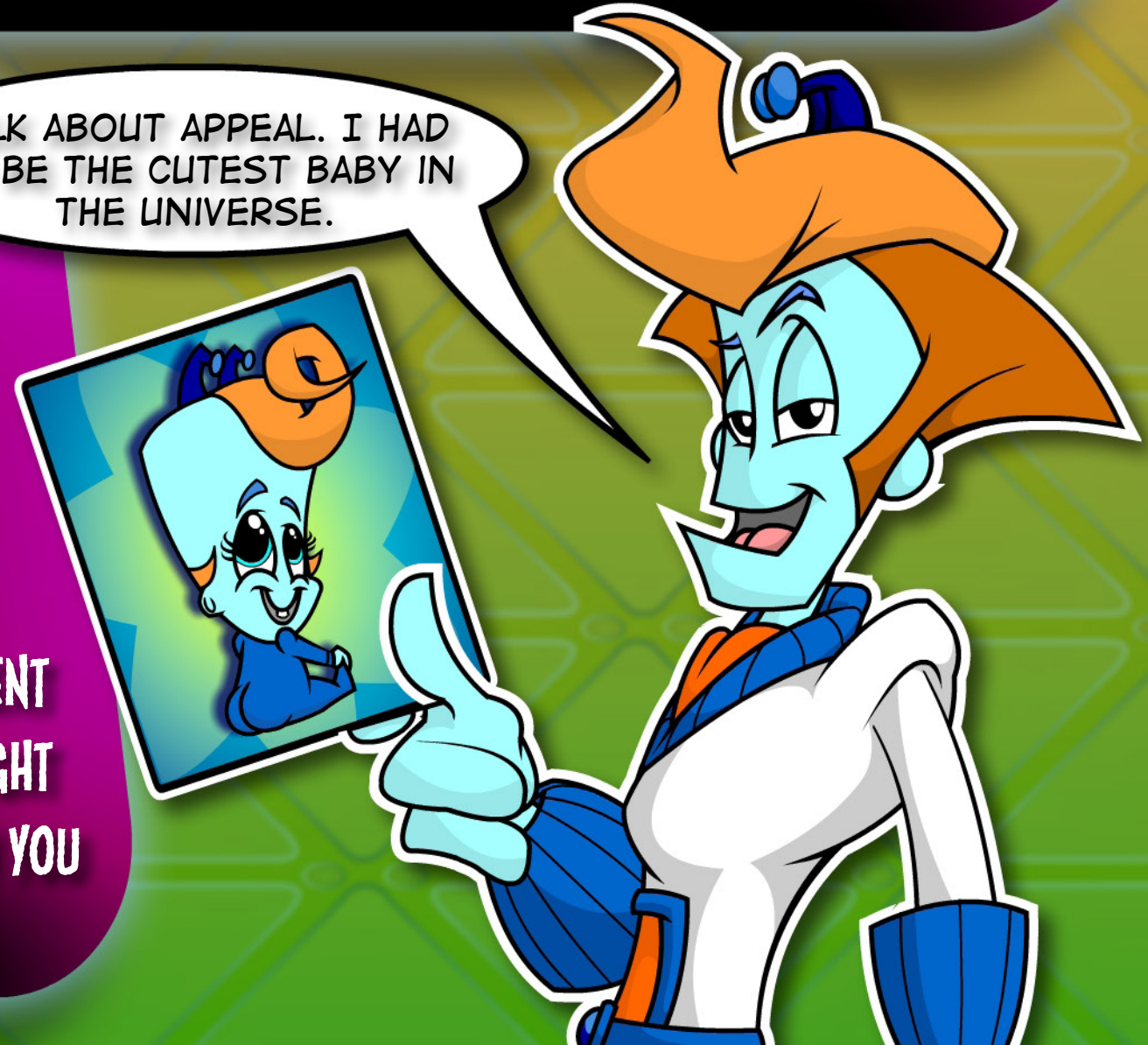
IT IS FUNNY?

IT RESCUES PEOPLE?

IT IS JUST LIKE ME?

AGAIN, THIS ONE CAN BE DIFFERENT THINGS TO DIFFERENT PEOPLE WHO EXPERIENCE YOUR CHARACTER, BUT IT MIGHT HELP YOU IN YOUR DESIGN IF YOU HAVE AN IDEA OF HOW YOU WOULD LIKE IT TO BE APPEALING.

TALK ABOUT APPEAL. I HAD  
TO BE THE CUTEST BABY IN  
THE UNIVERSE.





# DOES YOUR CHARACTER HAVE A PARTICULAR PROFESSION OR PERSONA?

SOLDIER?

BUTTERFLY-HUNTER?

QUEEN?

CAR SALESMAN?

GALACTIC LEADER?

STARSHIP CAPTAIN?

CHILDREN'S TELEVISION  
PERSONALITY?

BOUNTY-HUNTER?

ANGRY OLD MAN?

ROCK MUSICIAN?



NINJA?

SWEET  
GRANDMA?

PIRATE?



TRASH  
COLLECTOR?



MIRROR-TESTER?





**STEP #2**  
**THE SEARCH FOR**  
**INTELLIGENT LIFE**







NOW IT IS TIME TO  
THINK ABOUT USING RESEARCH  
AND REFERENCE TO DESIGN YOUR  
ALIEN. YOUR GOAL IS TO CREATE AN  
ORIGINAL ALIEN CHARACTER, SO DIRECT  
COPYING IS A BIG NO-NO. BUT, BY LOOKING  
AT THE WORK OF OTHER ARTISTS YOU CAN  
FIND WAYS TO DESIGN YOUR  
CHARACTER BETTER AND BE  
MORE APPEALING.



# STUDY YOUR FAVORITE CHARACTERS

FIRST LOOK AT THE CARTOONS, DUEL GAMES, TOYS, VIDEO GAMES, MOVIES, ETC THAT YOU REALLY LIKE. WHAT MAKES THE CHARACTERS SO APPEALING? TRY TO LOOK DEEPER AT THE REAL REASON THEY WORK SO WELL. IS THERE SOMETHING ABOUT THEIR SHAPE OR DETAILS THAT MAKE THEM FUNNY OR HEROIC? IS THERE SOMETHING UNUSUAL THAT THE ARTIST DID IN THEIR DESIGN THAT MAKES THEM SO INTERESTING? DO THEY REMIND YOU OF SOMEONE YOU KNOW?

THE BEST  
CHARACTER IN THE  
UNIVERSE!





# STUDY OTHER PEOPLE'S FAVORITE CHARACTERS

AFTER YOU'VE LOOKED CAREFULLY AT YOUR OWN FAVORITE CHARACTERS ASK OTHER PEOPLE WHAT THEIR FAVORITES ARE. ANALYZE WHY THESE HAVE APPEAL. THEY MIGHT BE THE SAME REASONS THAT YOU FOUND THAT MAKE YOUR FAVORITES SO INTERESTING, OR THEY COULD BE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.

ARE YOU KIDDING ME? THAT GUY IS COSMICALLY LAME! **THIS** IS THE BEST CHARACTER IN THE UNIVERSE!



NEXT IS YOUR CHANCE TO BECOME REALLY ORIGINAL...





# GET INSPIRED BY NATURE

LOOK AT PLANTS, ANIMALS, BIRDS, FISH, DINOSAURS, INSECTS, ARACHNIDS, BACTERIA, VIRUSES, PARTICLES -- ANYTHING CREATED IN NATURE FOR INSPIRATION. LOOK AT HOW THEY MOVE, GROW, EAT, SENSE THE WORLD AROUND THEM, COMMUNICATE. THERE ARE BILLIONS OF CREATURES AND CREATIONS IN NATURE THAT CAN INSPIRE THE DESIGN OF YOUR ALIEN CHARACTER. LOOK AT WHAT'S GROWING OUTSIDE OR CRAWLING UNDER YOUR BED. OPEN A BOOK ON THE RAINFOREST OR WATCH A SHOW ABOUT THE CORAL REEF. THIS IS PROBABLY THE SHORTEST SECTION IN THE GUIDE BUT COULD BE THE BEST SUGGESTION FOR GIVING YOU IDEAS FOR AN ORIGINAL ALIEN.

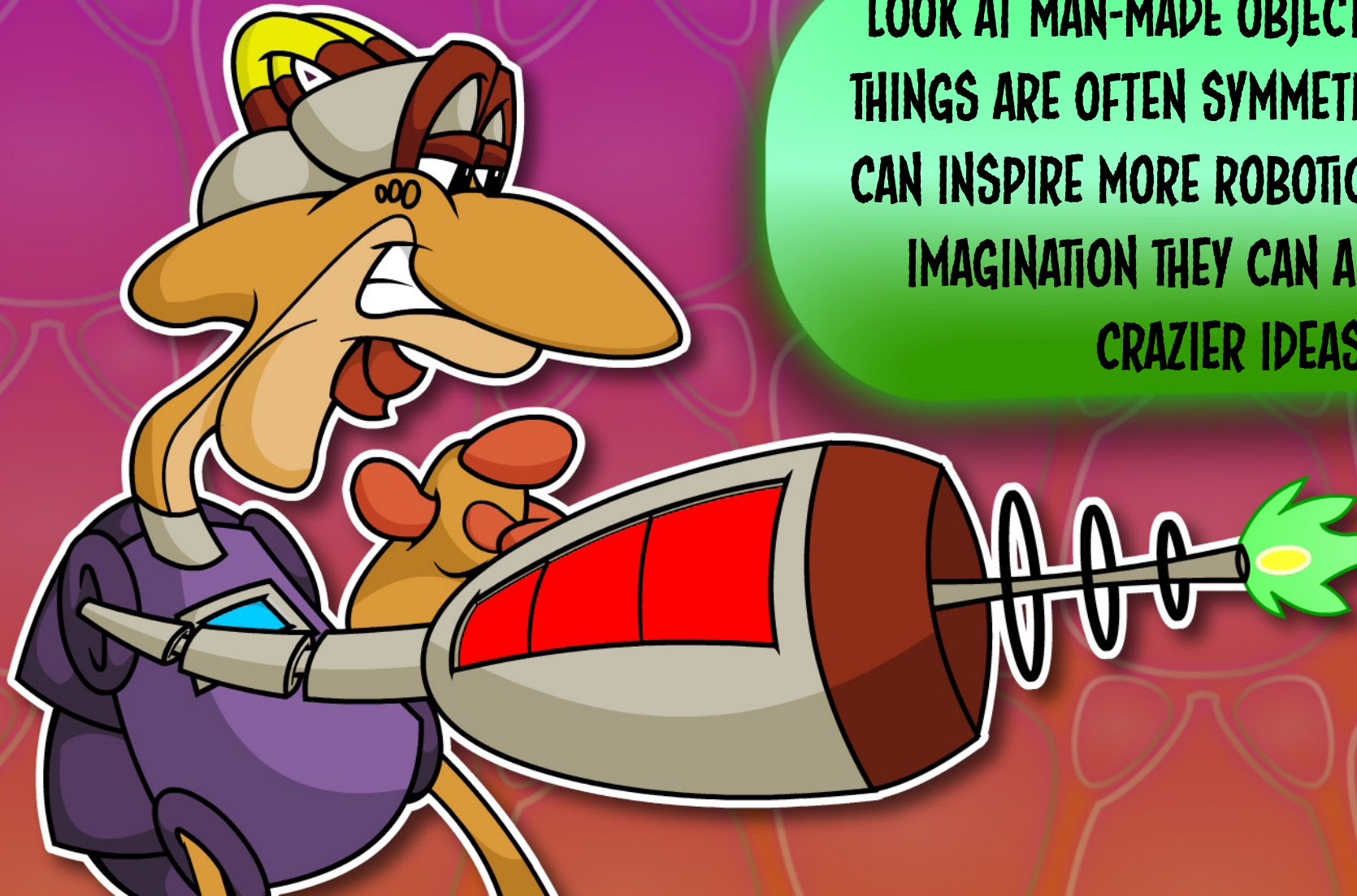
PERSONALLY,  
I THINK AMOEBAS ARE  
THE MOST INSPIRATIONAL  
CREATURES ON  
EARTH!





# GET INSPIRED BY TECHNOLOGY

LOOK AT MAN-MADE OBJECTS FOR INSPIRATION. MANUFACTURED THINGS ARE OFTEN SYMMETRICAL AND GEOMETRIC. THESE THINGS CAN INSPIRE MORE ROBOTIC TYPES OF ALIENS, BUT WITH A LITTLE IMAGINATION THEY CAN ALSO GET YOU THINKING ABOUT FAR CRAZIER IDEAS FOR YOUR CHARACTER.





# GET INSPIRED BY PEOPLE

LOOK AT PEOPLE. IT COULD BE FAMILY MEMBERS OR FRIENDS. STARE AT SOMEONE LONG ENOUGH AND YOU'LL NOTICE SOMETHING FUNNY OR INTERESTING ABOUT THEM. IF STARING GETS YOU IN TROUBLE THEN LOOK AT PICTURES. YOU CAN ALSO WATCH STRANGERS WALK DOWN THE STREET OR KIDS GO DOWN THE HALL AT SCHOOL OR PEOPLE ON THE NEWS. YOU COULD GET INSPIRED BY THEIR HAIR STYLE OR BY THE WAY THEY WALK OR BY THE SIZE OF THEIR EARS.





WHEN LOOKING AT OTHER REFERENCES FOR DESIGN IDEAS YOU CAN BE LIKE A CRAZY CHEMIST -- JUST MIXING A LITTLE PART OF THIS WITH A LITTLE PART OF THAT TO SEE WHAT COMES OUT. BY COMBINING THE TENTACLES OF A CUTLEFISH WITH THE OLD CAP OF YOUR UNCLE BUBBA, THEN THE SNOUT OF PIG AND THAT LAVA LAMP YOUR PARENTS STILL OWN, YOU JUST MIGHT COME UP WITH YOUR PERFECT ALIEN.





**STEP #3**

**LET'S SEE WHAT  
COMES OUT**





NOW IT'S TIME TO START  
REALLY PUTTING YOUR DESIGN DOWN ON THE PAGE.  
TAKE EVERYTHING YOU'VE DISCOVERED, FIGURED OUT, PUT  
TOGETHER AND IMAGINED THAT YOUR ALIEN IS LIKE AND  
START USING BASIC DESIGN IDEAS TO CREATE IT  
VISUALLY.





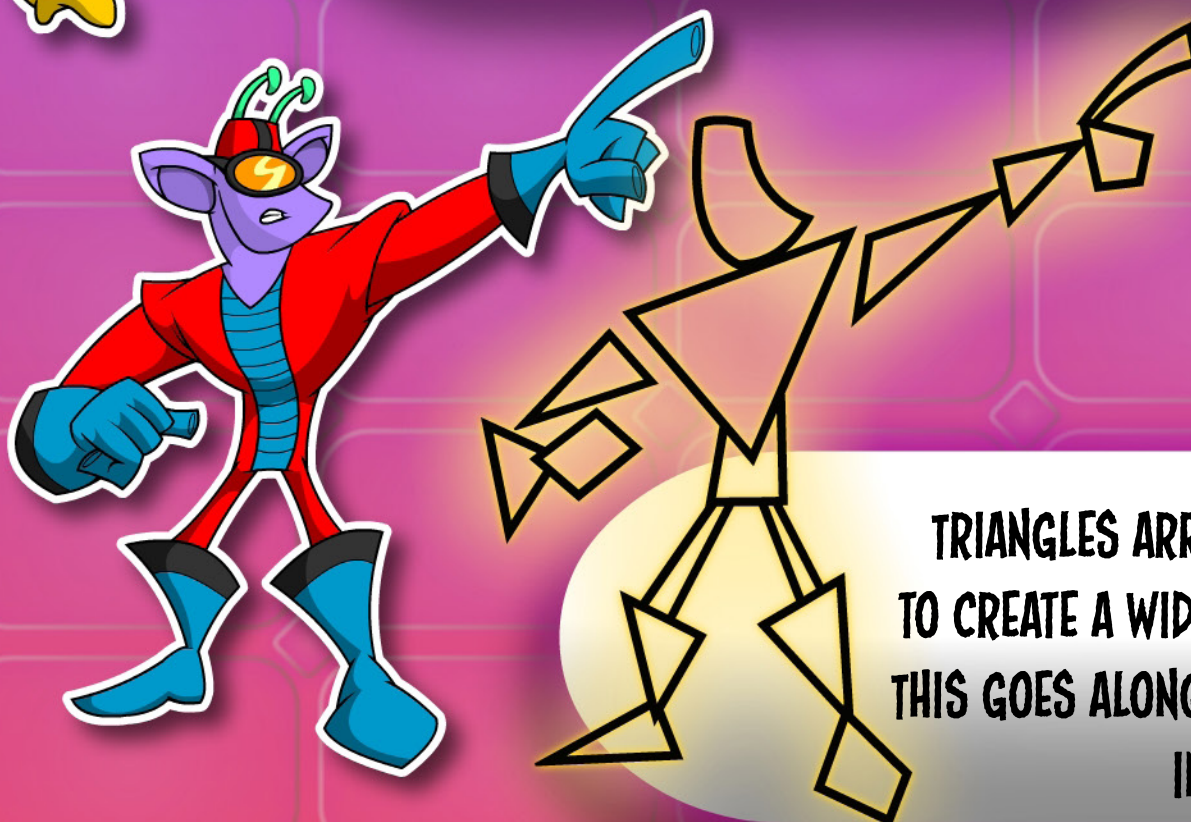
# BASIC SHAPES

TO START OFF WITH WORK WITH BASIC SHAPES. CERTAIN SHAPES COMMUNICATE SPECIFIC IDEAS ABOUT YOUR CHARACTER.



CIRCLES AND OVALS ARE OFTEN USED FOR CHARACTERS THAT ARE CUTE AND NON-THREATENING.

SQUARES AND RECTANGLES IN A CHARACTER HELP TO CREATE THE IDEA OF STRENGTH BOTH IN GOOD CHARACTERS AND EVIL ONES.



TRIANGLES ARRANGED UPSIDE DOWN CAN BE USED TO CREATE A WIDER UPPER BODY AND SLIMMER WAIST. THIS GOES ALONG WITH THE IDEA OF FITNESS OR HEALTH IN A HUMAN-LIKE BODY.





# WARP 'EM!



NOW THAT YOU HAVE THE BASICS YOU CAN REALLY BEGIN TO PLAY. STRETCH, WARP, MORPH AND COMBINE THESE SHAPES TO CREATE UNIQUE FORMS FOR YOUR ALIEN CHARACTER.

IF YOU'VE EVER LOOKED INTO THE SKY AND SAW PICTURES FORMED BY CLOUDS THEN YOU HAVE A GOOD IDEA OF HOW PLAYING WITH UNUSUAL SHAPES CAN HELP YOU DISCOVER NEW IDEAS FOR HOW AN ALIEN CAN LOOK.





# CARICATURE

**EARS**



**HEAD**



**TOOTH**



**EYEBROWS**



THIS IS TAKING THE MOST RECOGNIZABLE FEATURES OF A CHARACTER AND EXAGGERATING THEM. GOOD FEATURES FOR EXAGGERATION CAN BE THINGS LIKE A POINTY NOSE, BUSHY EYEBROWS, THIN LIPS, LARGE EARS, LONG NECK, HUNCHED BACK, ROUND BELLY, BOWED LEGS, HUGE FEET, ETC. THE SAME IDEA APPLIES TO ANIMALS, PLANTS, INSECTS, REPTILES, ETC. YOU CAN USE CARICATURE TO INVENT SOME GREAT FEATURES FOR YOUR ALIEN.



# CLOTHING

IF YOUR ALIEN WEARS CLOTHING THEN GO BACK TO YOUR FIRST STEPS AND CONSIDER THEIR ENVIRONMENT. IF THEY COME FROM A WORLD OF HARSH WEATHER, HOW WOULD THIS AFFECT THEIR TYPE OF CLOTHING? A FUN PART OF INVENTING CLOTHING FOR ALIENS IS TO TAKE THINGS THAT ARE WORN BY HUMANS AND MAKE JUST ENOUGH CHANGES THAT MAKE THEM SEEM BOTH FAMILIAR AND UNUSUAL AT THE SAME TIME.





# ALIEN DOODADS

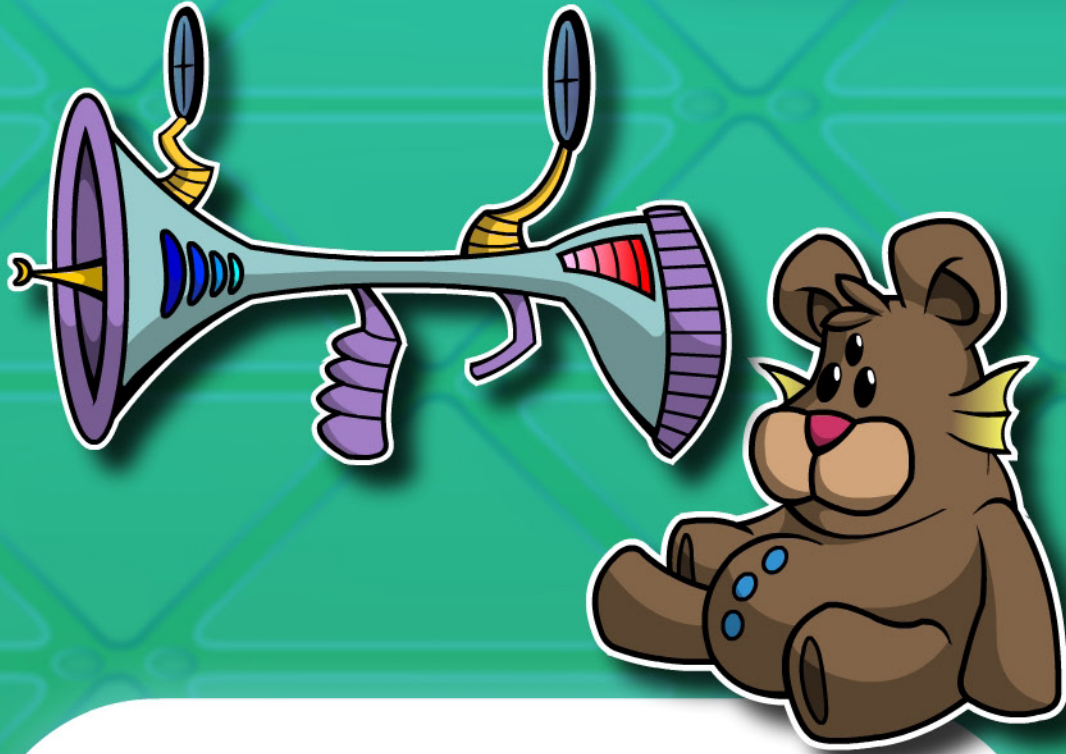


ANTENNAE, TENTACLES, FINS, FLIPPERS, TAILS, HORNS, SPOUTS, WINGS, SCALES. JUST ABOUT ANYTHING THAT YOU CAN IMAGINE CAN GROW OUT OF THE SURFACE OF YOUR ALIEN CHARACTER. THESE TYPE OF THINGS HELP VIEWERS TO KNOW THAT YOUR CHARACTER REALLY IS AN ALIEN.



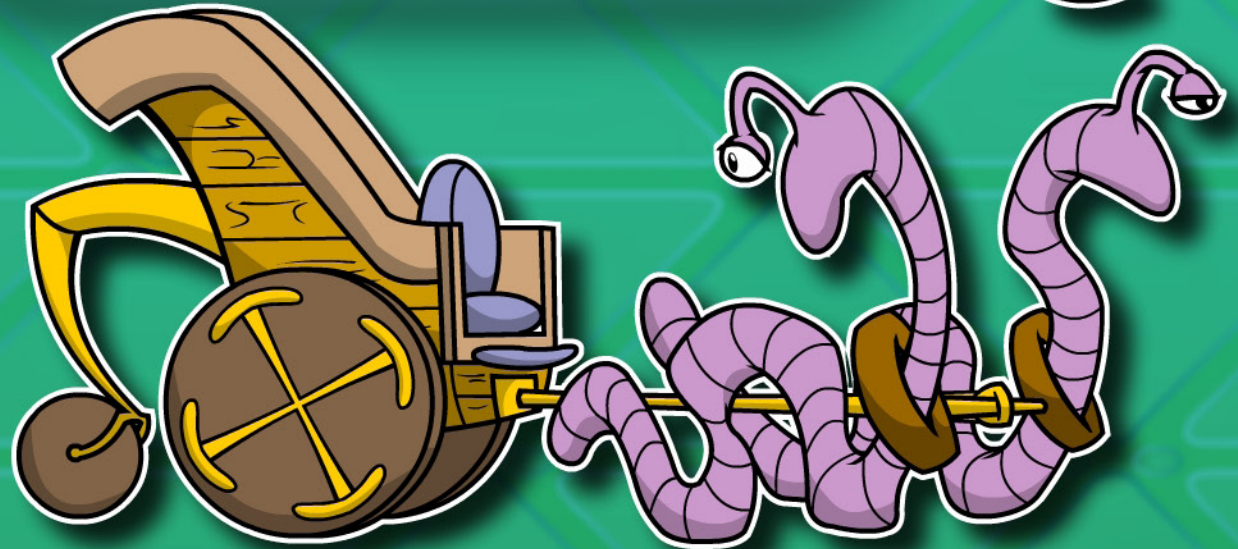
# EXTRAS

ALONG WITH YOUR CHARACTER, YOU CAN HAVE FUN CREATING THINGS THAT ARE IMPORTANT IN YOUR CHARACTER'S STORY.



PROPS -- DOES YOUR ALIEN HAVE A FAVORITE STUFFED TOY, NEAT GADGET, IMPRESSIVE WEAPON, STYLISH BACK PACK?

VEHICLES -- HOW DOES YOUR ALIEN GET AROUND? DO THEY HAVE A SPACESHIP, A CART PULLED BY GIANT WORMS, A ROVER, A ROCKET POWERED POGO STICK?







NOW THAT YOU HAVE COMPLETED  
**THE UG3 TOP SECRET GUIDE TO CREATING ALIEN LIFEFORMS**

YOU MUST VOW TO NEVER USE THIS KNOWLEDGE FOR EVIL... ONLY FOR GOOD.

AND, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHOW OFF ONE OF YOUR AMAZING NEW ALIEN DRAWINGS, COMIC STRIPS OR ANIMATIONS THEN JUST GO TO OUR WEBSITE AT

**[WWW.ULTRAG3.COM](http://WWW.ULTRAG3.COM)**

AND CONTACT US. THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE WE WILL SHARE YOUR CREATION ONLINE. HAVE FUN!