Make manga!

Manga are Japanese comic books or graphic novels with a twist. Manga translates as 'pictures run riot' or 'pictures unbounded'. Stories are told through expressive drawings where words are less important than the characters themselves.

There are some examples of manga from as far back as 1200, but the kind we see today originated in comic strips in the 1920s. Manga is now popular across the world and appears in anime, art, fashion, graffiti and gaming.

Now it’s your turn to draw and design your own manga character! Don’t worry if your drawing isn’t ‘perfect’ the first time! The more you practice, the more familiar you’ll get with the style.

Did you know?
Traditionally, manga books were read from back to front and from the upper right corner to the lower left corner of a page.

You will need:
- Paper
- Pencil
- A black pen
- A rubber
1 Face
Using a pencil, draw a large face on your page. Leave a gap at the top for the hair.

2 Eyes
Draw extra big ovals or semi circles and colour them in. Add smaller circles to show the eyes shining.

3 Nose
Draw a few small lines to add some shape.

4 Mouth
Draw a simple line – and add teeth if you like.
5 Hair
Use your imagination for this part! Add extra lines for detail.

6 Body
Draw the neck and design the top half of the character's outfit.

Once you're happy with your sketch, go over your lines with a black pen. Your character is then complete!

Bonus!
Draw a body for your character and add a background. You could even show them on an adventure or create a whole story!