



Create Your Own Comic Strip

Comic strips are short stories told through a sequence of chronological drawings that tell a narrative. Often humorous, comic strips use little or no text and depend on graphic elements to convey meaning.

This activity uses 3x3 inch sticky notes to create a multi-panel story in the style of traditional comic strips. Using the provided template, each sticky note will become an individual frame in your character's story. Feel free to use the template in either portrait (2 across, 3 down) or landscape (3 across, 2 down) orientation.

Materials:

- Pencil and eraser
- Multiple sheets of plain paper
- 3 x 3 inch sticky notes
- AMoA Comic Strip Template

Instructions:

1. Begin by writing out a description of your character, creating specific details that will bring the character to life.
 - What is the character's name?
 - Describe the personality of your character. What kind of things will happen to your character? What kinds of actions will your character be involved in?
 - Will your character have a side-kick or a nemesis? Is there a supporting cast that your character will interact with?
 - Where will your character live? Is it a special environment?
2. Using basic shapes, sketch what your character might look like. Include a front and side view, a full body view and any props or special clothing your character might need.
3. Using sticking notes, create a rough draft of your comic. Think about scale, size, and cropping within each frame.
4. Add in speech and lettering, paying special attention to the size of your letters. For instance, capitals can show that a character is SHOUTING!
5. Finally, add in extra details, such as facial expressions, shadows, movement lines, and the background for each frame.
6. Once you are satisfied with your draft, go over your drawings with a pen or fine-tip marker, erasing any pencil lines.
7. Feel free to change up your story! Create alternative plots on new sticky notes and switching them out on the template to send your character on new adventures!

