

How to...

Draw Unicorn Boy

Recreate a brilliant character from an award-winning book.

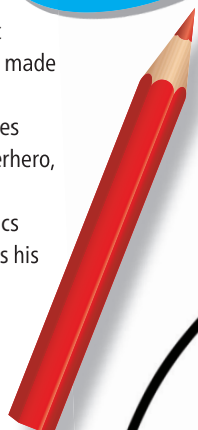
The winner of the graphic novel category at The Week Junior Book Awards last year was *Unicorn Boy* by Dave Roman, about a shy boy called Brian. The last thing Brian wants is to stand out, but when a unicorn horn sprouts out of his head he becomes the centre of attention. Roman says he was "awfully shy" when he was growing up, but drawing and writing helped. "It put me on the radar of my teachers and classmates and made me feel like a superhero," he told *The Week Junior*.

In *Unicorn Boy*, Brian finally embraces what makes him different and becomes a unicorn-powered superhero, teaming up with a talking muffin to go on an epic adventure. Roman says that his love of art and comics helped him to make friends. In this activity he shares his tips for drawing Unicorn Boy.

"The secret of drawing cartoons is breaking things down into relatable shapes," says Roman. Follow the steps below and "always start with a magic wand – also called a pencil!" This means you can erase mistakes and try again. When you're happy with your drawing, trace over the lines using ink.

A second book in the series, *Unicorn Boy and the Slumber Party of Doom!*, is out in May.

MAGIC MASCOT
The unicorn is the national animal of Scotland.



1 Start by drawing a big U shape for the head and a small letter C on each side of this to create the ears.



2 Draw curved points for the bottom of his hair, dark ovals for eyes and a straight line to start drawing the mouth.



3 Add a wedge shape to make a big grin and an upward swoosh for the top hair, connecting to the bottom half.



4 On top, put a stretched triangle for the horn, with a sprinkle of stars for extra magic. Add two "V" shapes for the collar.



5 Add a curve on each side of the Vs for the hood. Use straight lines for the jumper and curved tube shapes for the arms.



6 Draw slim sausages for fingers. Add a muffin pal by drawing a bean shape with a cup shape underneath. Finish by colouring in (see above).

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