

If You Like Action, Make it Action



Give it a Listen:

Season 3, Episode 15: Jumping Bean Jack and Bouncing Bailey/
Betsey's Grand Slam

What's this activity about? How to draw characters in action, using motion lines.

What stuff do I need to do it? Pencil, markers or pen, paper, and the Motion Line Sheet, which you can download at storypirates.com/creatorpodcastbonus.

Let's Jump Into It!

In the story "Jumping Bean Jack and Bouncing Bailey", by a kid from New York named Bridget, the characters jump on a trampoline. If you're illustrating a story, one way to create exciting action poses like jumping or leaping is to use motion lines. It helps to start with simple shapes, so we're going to talk about how to draw motion lines...using an actual jumping bean character!

1. Using a pencil, draw a curved line. It can be in any direction, and it can be as curvy as you want. This will be the "motion line". (Be sure to use pencil so you can erase it later.) **SEE BOX 1 on the Motion Line Sheet**
 2. Draw the body and head of your character (no arms or legs yet) on top of the line so it divides them down the middle the long way. Try to make your character's body curve in the same direction as the motion line. **SEE BOX 2 on the Motion Line Sheet**
 3. Add arms and legs if your character has them! They can point in the same direction as the motion line or they can go in a totally different direction. Experiment with both until you find something you like! **SEE BOX 3 on the Motion Line Sheet**
 4. Add the face and other details, then trace over the lines you want to keep with a pen or marker. Then erase the motion line. Now you have a character IN ACTION! **SEE BOX 4 and BOX 5 on the Motion Line Sheet**
- Bonus: If your character is in motion, think about which way things like hair, scarves, or capes are moving! For example, let's imagine the jumping bean has long flowing hair! If they are jumping, the direction their hair goes lets us know if they are going up or coming down. **SEE BONUS BOX on the Motion Line Sheet**

Try it yourself with your own character! We can't wait to see your drawings!

Share It: To submit your child's drawing, visit storypirates.com/podcastbonus and log into your Creator Club account. Email creatorclub@storypirates.org if you have any questions.