

# MY NEW HOME

# ACTIVITY

# BOOK



# Teaching Notes

## My New Home

Author: Nick Baker

Illustrator: Tristan Klein

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Themes: Friendship, Moving house/  
school/country, refugee journey



## About the book

My New Home is about a kid called Alex and his family, who must leave earth after some intruders make their planet unliveable. They build a spaceship using everyday objects and leave Earth. On their journey they must escape space pirates, and they are rejected from a few planets.

Once they find a planet they can join, the family struggle with all the differences on that planet. Then Alex's struggles continue at his new strange School where the aliens make fun of him.

Later, an Alien approaches Alex and asks him to play. They play and form a friendship. Alex returns to his home, feeling accepted and embracing this crazy alien plant.

## About the creators

Nick and Tristan have been friends since early primary school. They did drama together in high school and theatre outside of school.

Later they decided to try creating short films. After being shortlisted for their first short film 'seed', they thought they might be on to something. The next short film 'Punctured' came 3rd at Tropfest (Australia biggest short film festival). Over the next 5 years they created more short films and music clips, winning awards world wide.

Now they have decided to explore the world of children's picture books with their first story 'My New Home'.

Nick is also journalist and has traveled the world writing new stories and Tristan also does digital design for apps and websites.

2 of our short films suitable for primary school age are:

Through the Window:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ieoG2OGog1E>

The Unlikely Maestro

[https://youtu.be/7AFWi4N-qf4?si=KhqPU\\_u9FmYQUXg3](https://youtu.be/7AFWi4N-qf4?si=KhqPU_u9FmYQUXg3)

Alternatively you can find them at [www.seekandhide.com.au](http://www.seekandhide.com.au)



# Create a smelly food

Write down the ingredients and method for your smelly food / dish.  
Then draw and colour in the smelly food!



## Recipe

## Illustration

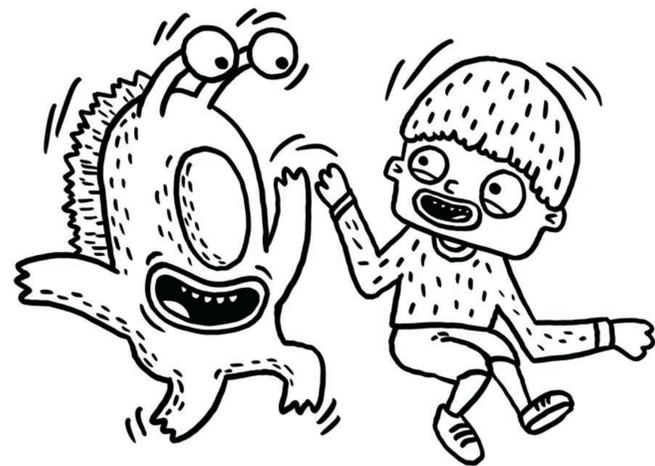
# Imagine Alex goes to Xela's

Think about what strange games they would play? Perhaps you could think about mixing 2 objects that usually wouldn't go together (EG a hula hoop hat), or different sized version of something like an animal or toy (EG riding giant rainbow lady beetles), or a toy that plays with them (a trampoline that bounces on Xela and Alex)

**Write down an example of a strange game they would play.**

**Now illustrate it!**

# Similar & different



## Similar

Write down the ways that you are similar to your friends.

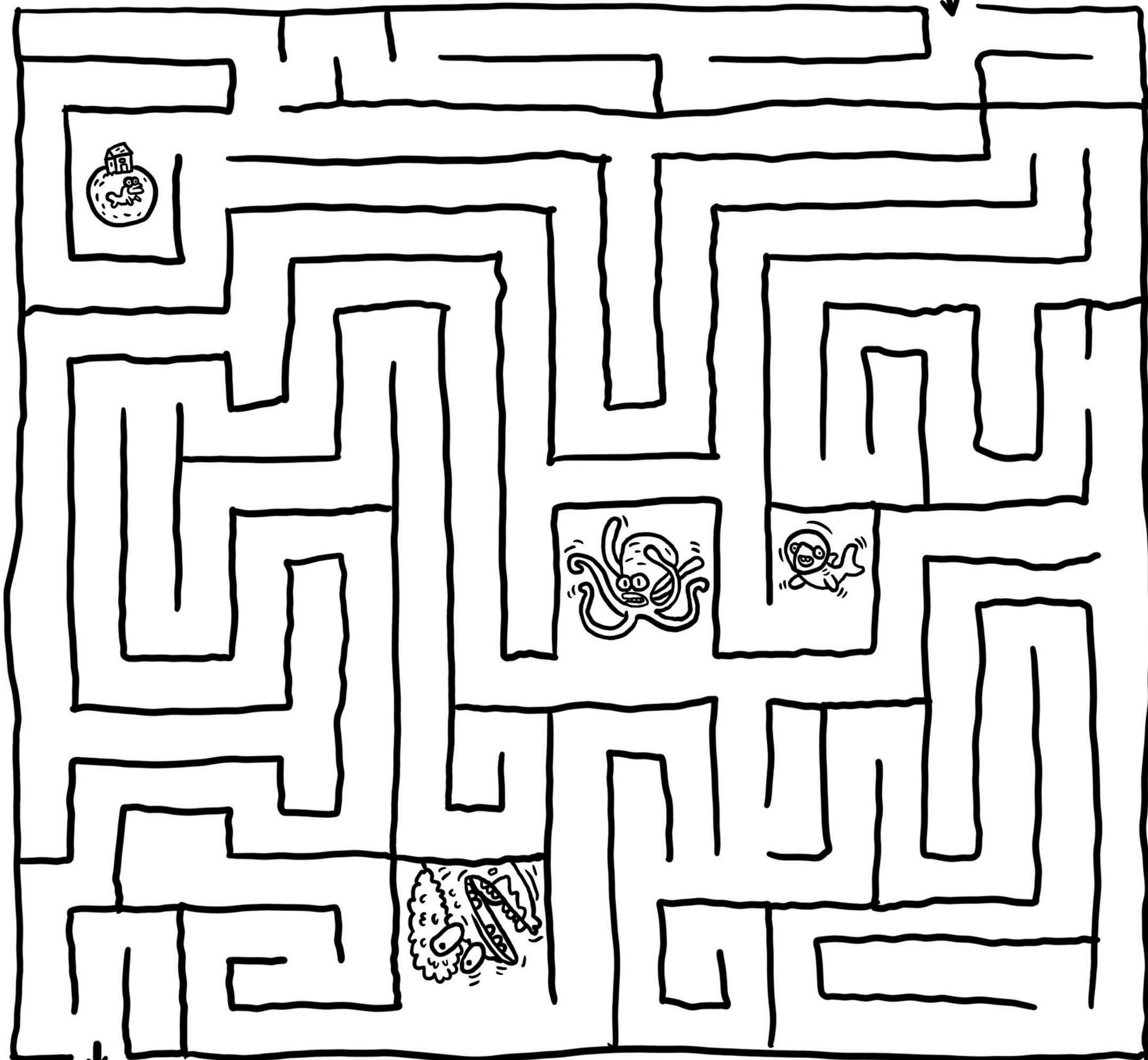
## Different

Write down the ways that you are different to your friends.

## Why is having friends that are different good?

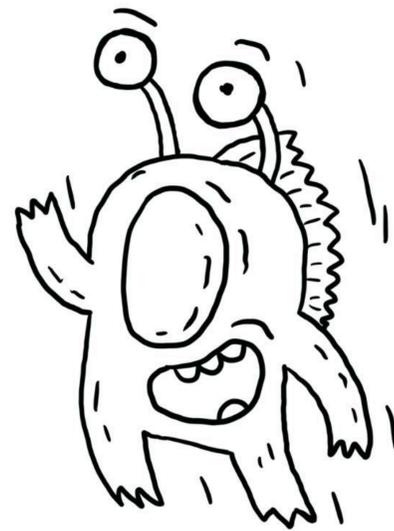
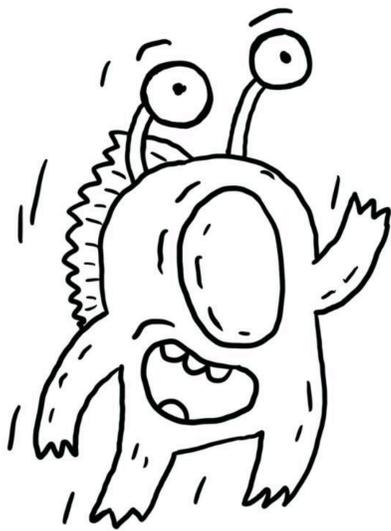
# Space Maze

Help Alex and his family find their way from Earth to their new alien planet home.



# HOW TO DRAW

# Xela



[www.seekandhide.com.au](http://www.seekandhide.com.au)

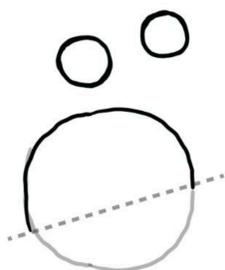
1

2 circles for eyes.



2

Half a circle for top of the head.



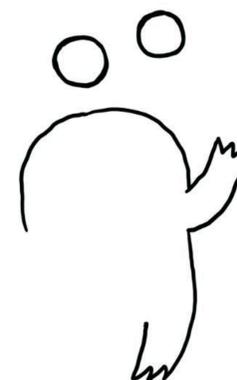
3

Draw the right hand.



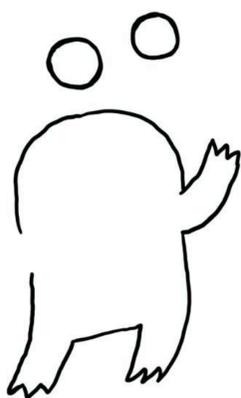
4

Draw a line down and the right leg.



5

Draw a line to the left and the left leg.



6

Next the left right hand.



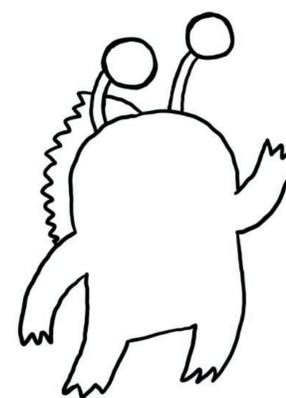
7

Connect the eyes to the head.



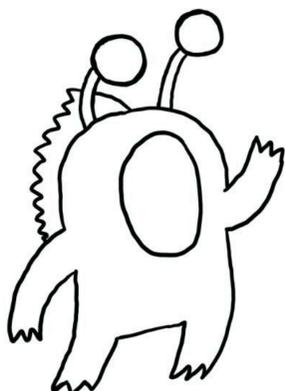
8

Draw the hair



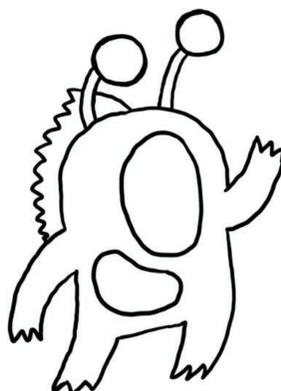
9

Next a big oval for the nose.



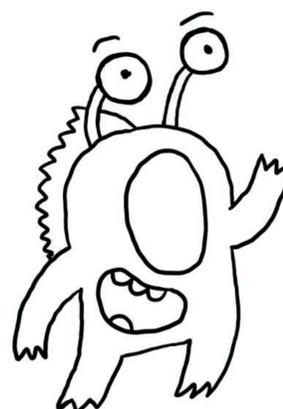
10

And a bean shape for the mouth.



11

Add in the pupils, eye brows, teeth and tongue.



12

Finally add in some lines on the outside for movement, and on the inside for texture.



# Make a space

# WORM

[www.seekandhide.com.au](http://www.seekandhide.com.au)

## Materials

- Purple Play-Doh
- Pink Play-Doh
- 2 Googly eyes
- Pencil



1

Roll out purple & make the tail thinner.



2

Curve purple body like this:



3

Roll a small pink ball.



4

Pinch and roll the end.



5

Make about 5 of these.



6

Connect / squish them at the bottom



7

Connect hair to body.



8

Add Googly eyes.



9

Use pencil to add mouth. (It can be easier to push the pencil in and out close together over and over in a straight line to make the mouth then dragging it.)



10

Add little lines/dots to add texture/details along his back.

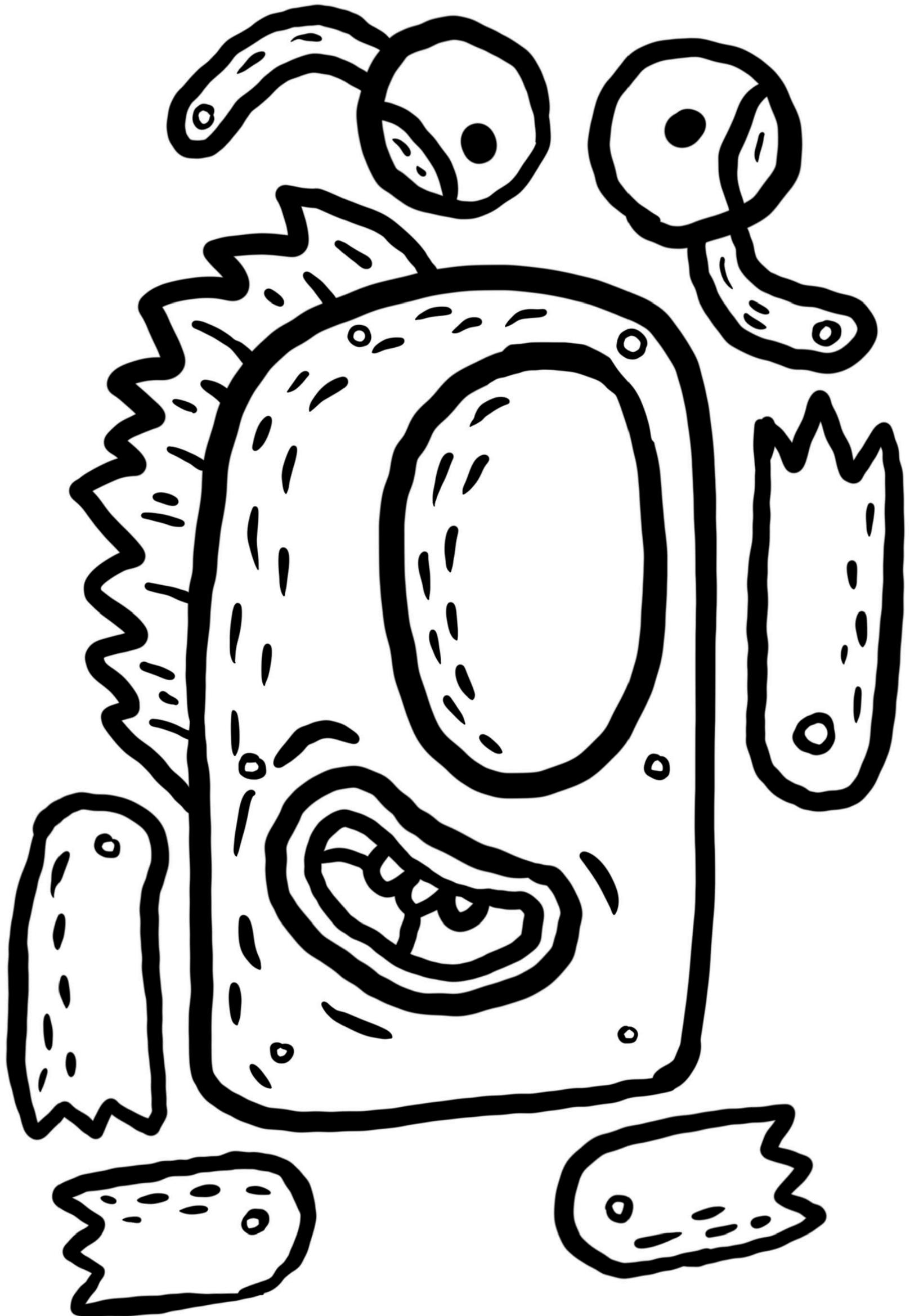


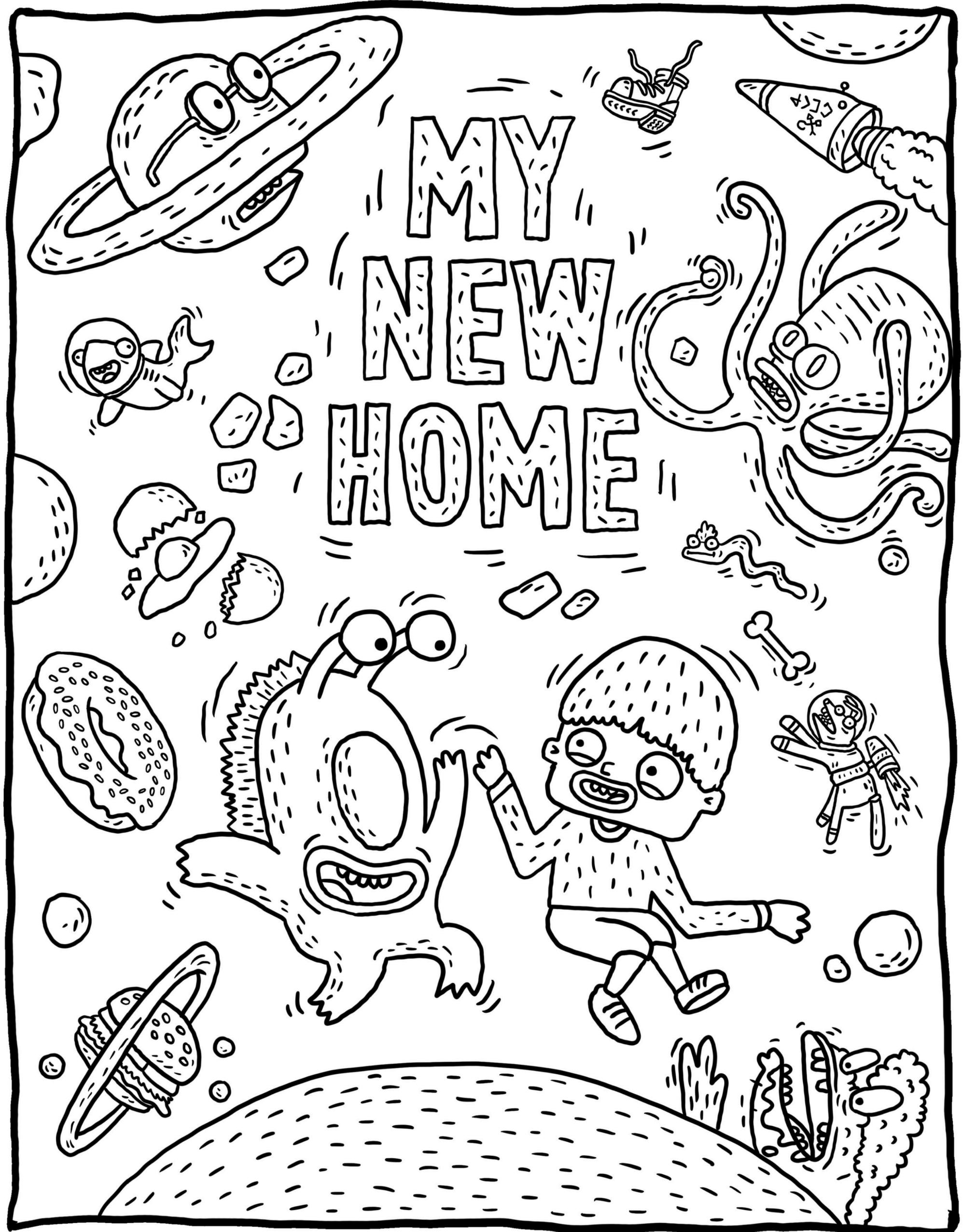
Now you can hide the worm, and have friends try to find it.

# Create an Alien Puppet

Colour and cut out the illustration below. Then use Brass Paper Fasteners to connect the alien together. You can glue to some card before cutting out to make it more sturdy.

[www.seekandhide.com.au](http://www.seekandhide.com.au)





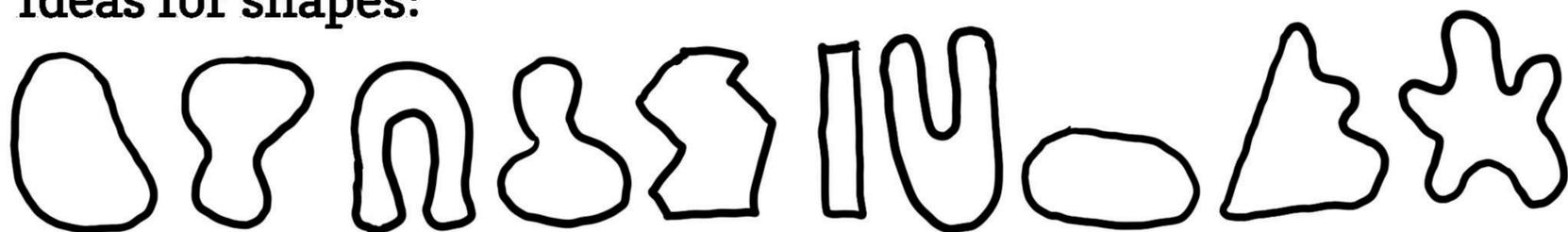
# Design an alien

Step 1: Draw a shape for the body.

Step 2: Add additional details.



Ideas for shapes:



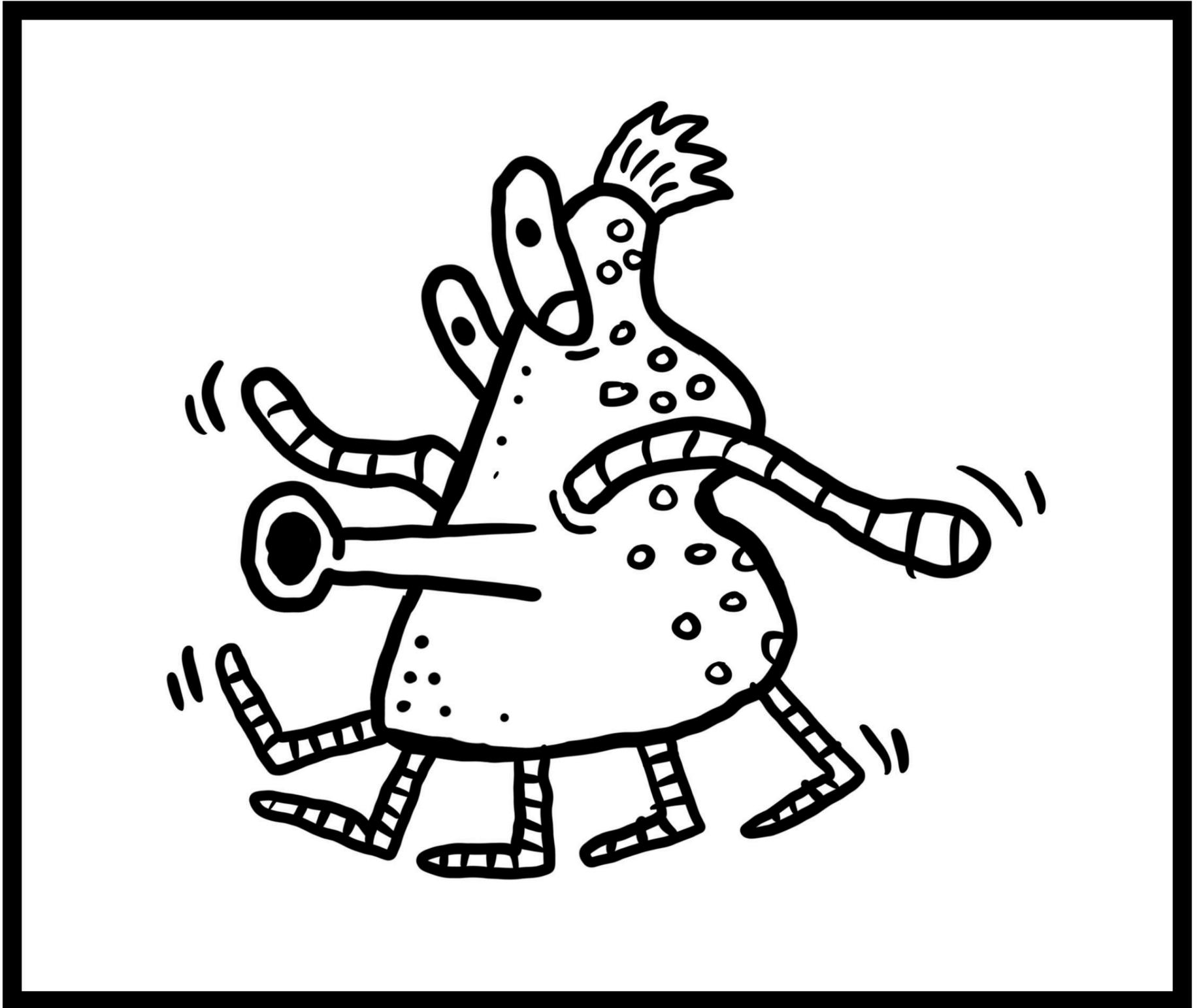
Ideas for Additional details:



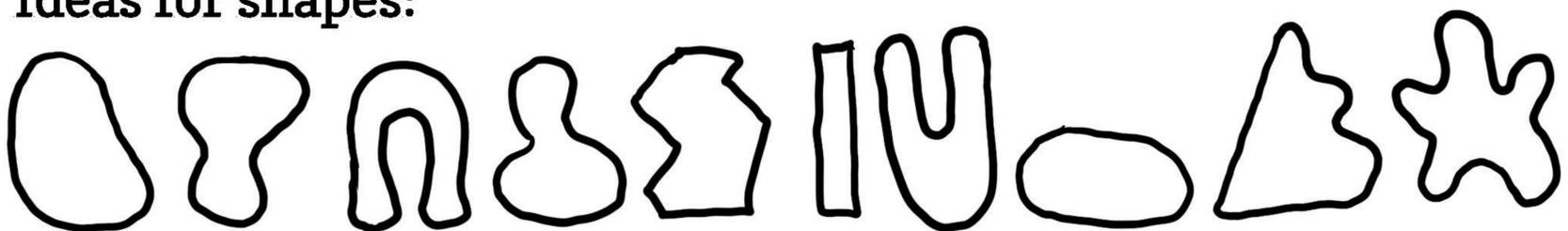
# Design an alien

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Ideas for shapes:



Ideas for Additional details:



# Kitchen Sink Planet Friend

Imagine Alex and his family started their new life on the kitchen sink planet.

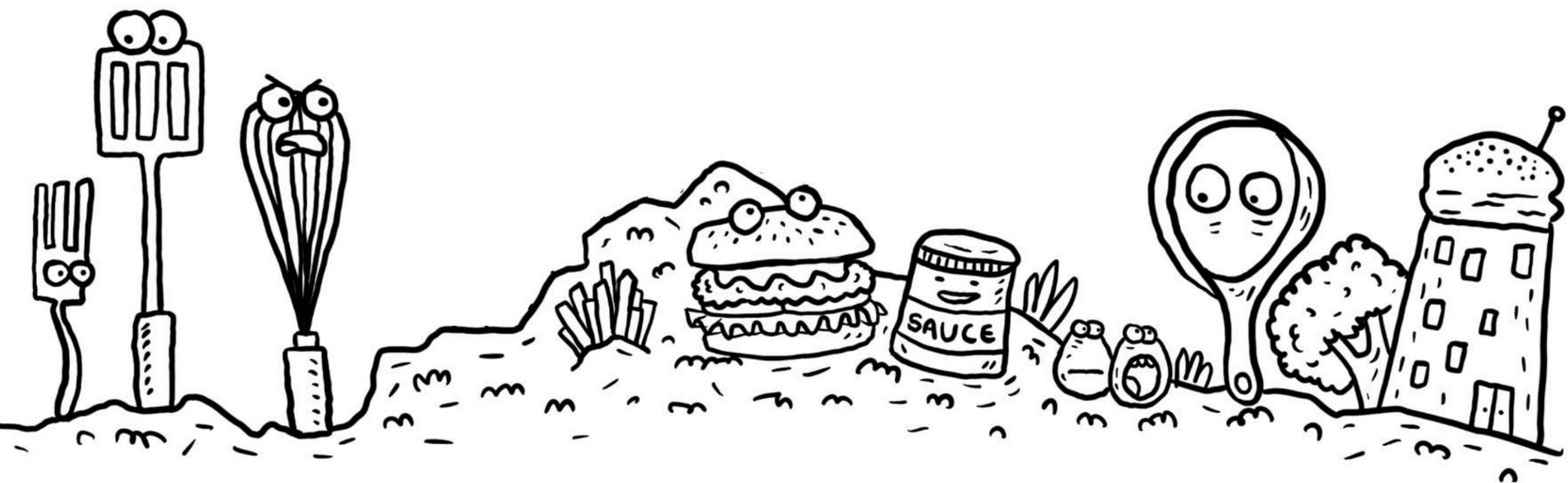
What would a friend for Alex look like on the kitchen sink planet?

Name, Describe and draw this character. (It might help to describe them first before naming them.)

## Description

## Name

## Illustration

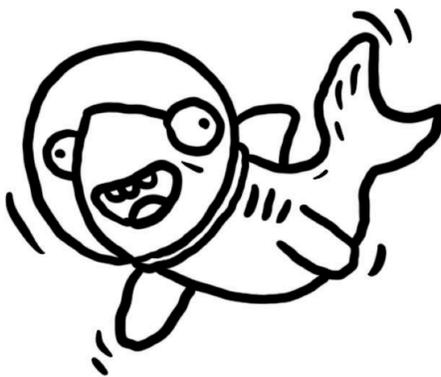
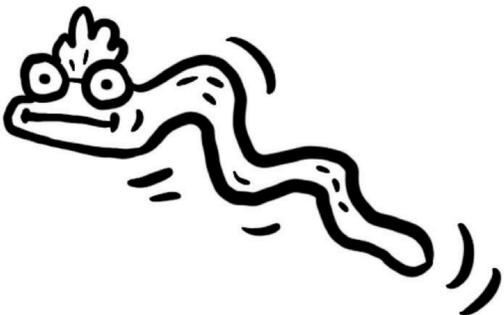
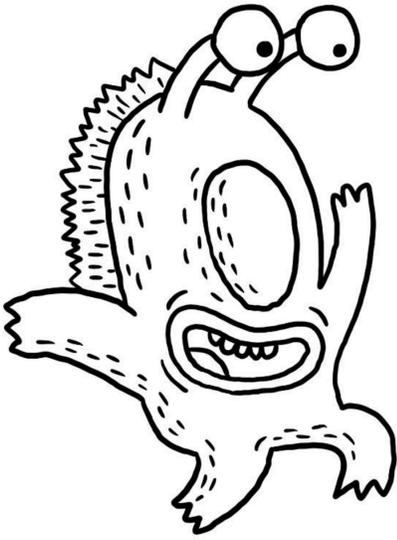




# MY NEW HOME

www.seekandhide.com.au

Cut the labels and paste under the correct image.



Dog

Xela

Alex

Shark

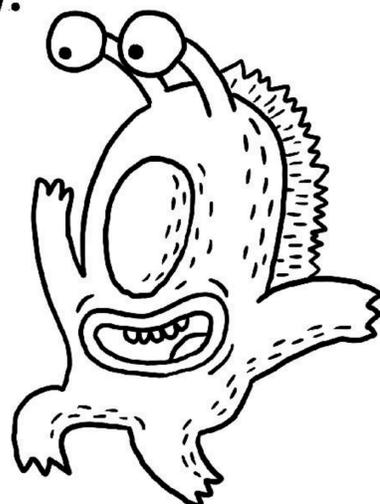
Shoe

Worm

# MY NEW HOME

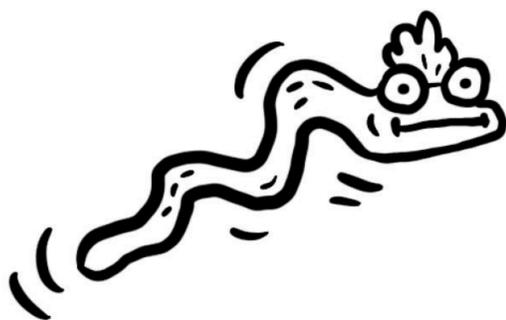
Follow the guides and learn to write the words below.

Xela



Alex

Shark



Worm

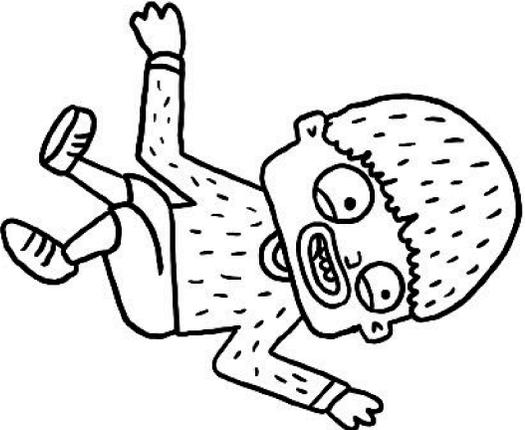
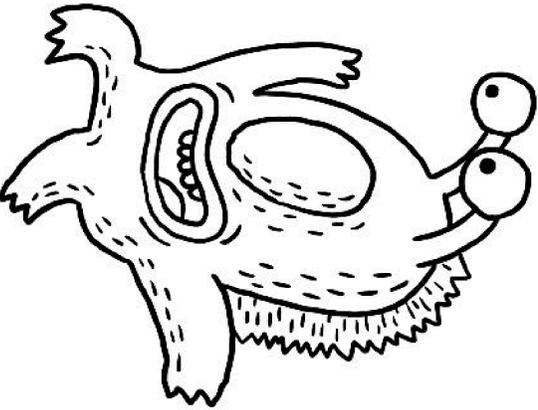
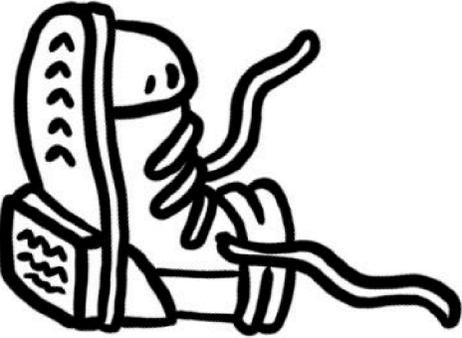
Shoe



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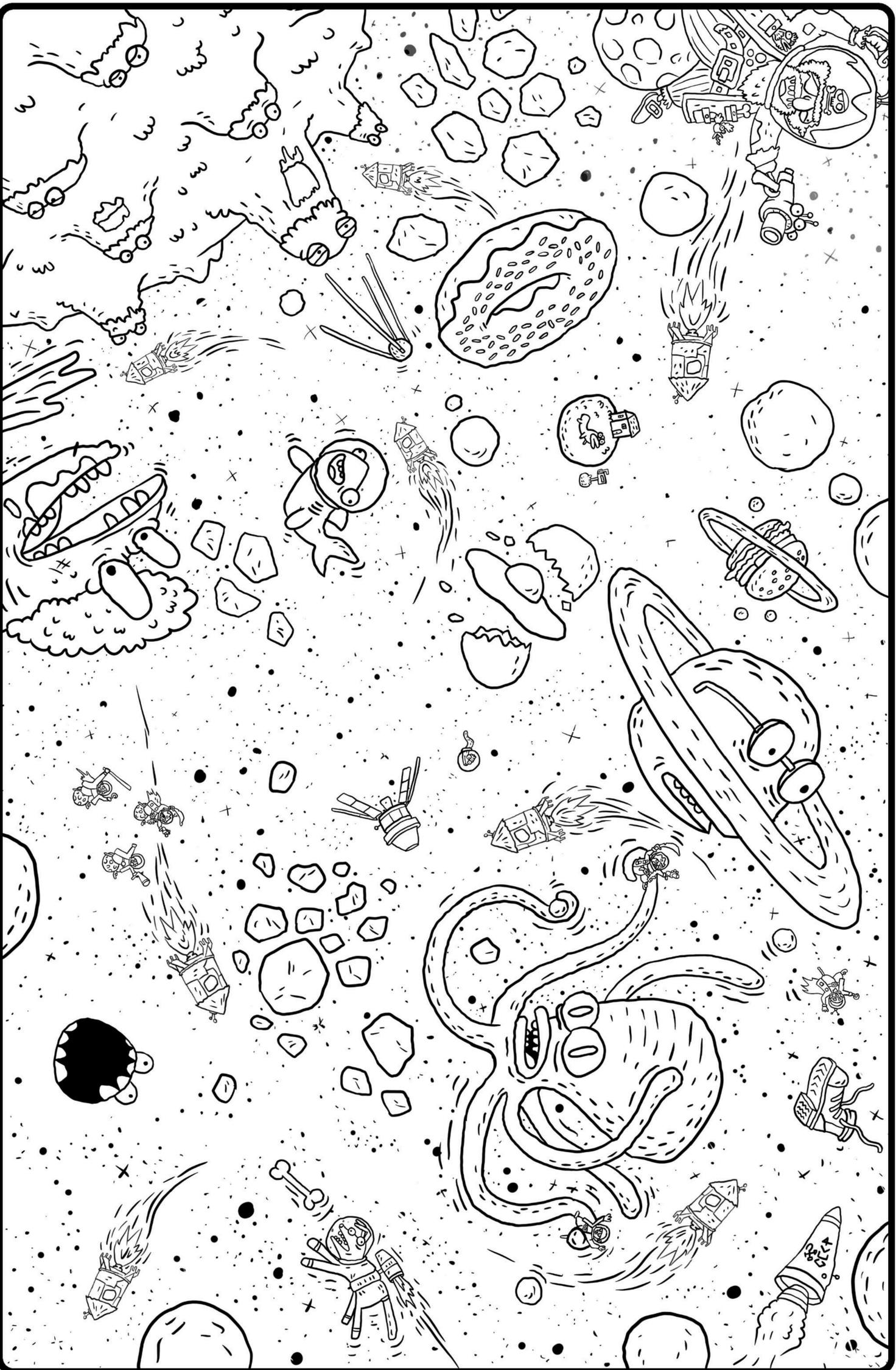
Cut out the letters and paste in the correct order.

A	e	e	W	l	l	S	o	o	x	X	r	a	m	e	h
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

# Space Search and Find

Search and find the list of objects to the right. You can tick them off as you find them. Colouring in the scene may help you find all the items!



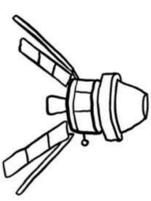
Bone



Shark



Burger



Satellite



Shoe



Egg



Worm



Planet

