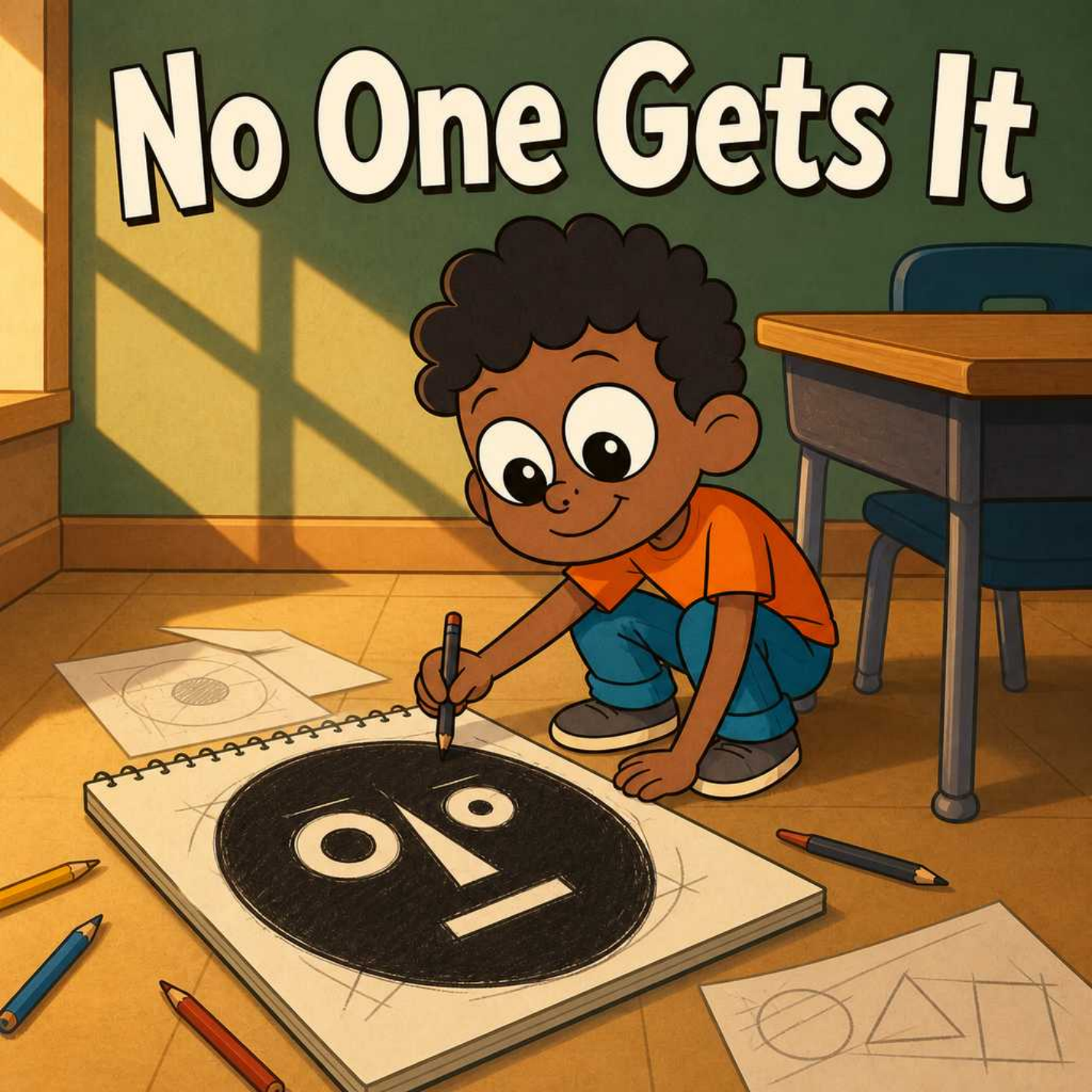
No One Gets It



Pat has a gift for art. Well, it is not much of a secret. All the kids can tell that Pat makes the best art. He fills pad after pad, and his mum just gets him more. But here is the trick with Pat. He does not just make art. He plays a game. 'Guess what I drew!' he says. And no kid **ever** gets it right. Not once.

Today Pat picks up his pencil and grins. 'I will make it just once, so look hard.'

First, he makes a big round shape. Then two **smaller** round shapes on top.

'I bet no one can guess,' Pat says. 'Not yet. Not even close.'

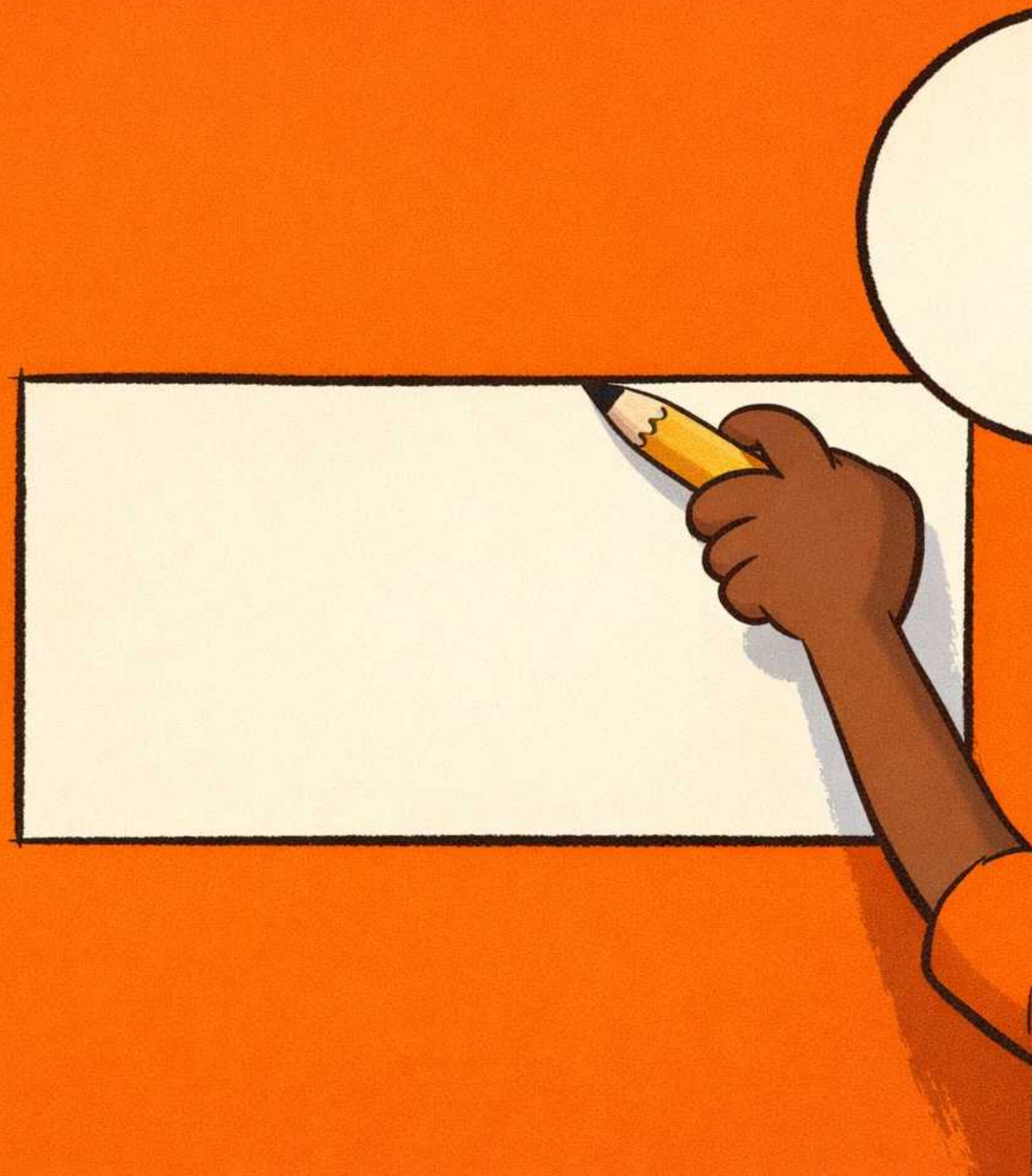
Two huge eyes blink up from the page. Round and wide, as if they just had a big shock. Is it a frog? Is it a **bird, perhaps** an owl? Pat grins and slowly says, 'Nope. Nope. Keep looking.'

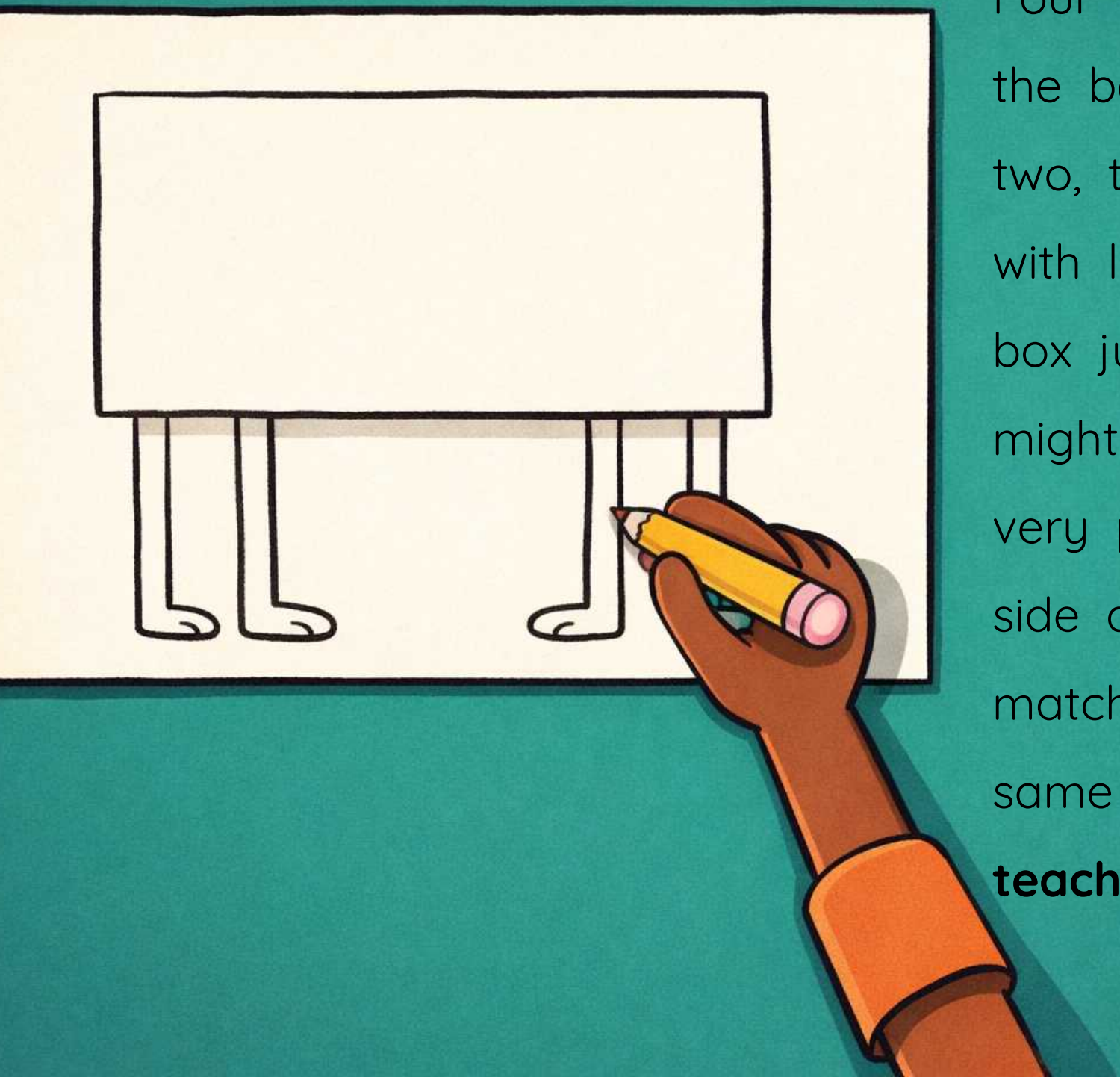
Pat gets in close. Stroke by stroke, his pencil **turns** the big round shape solid black.

He does not rush. He does not wobble. He stays right inside the lines.

'This part must be **perfect,'** he **whispers,** 'or it all looks funny.'

Next, Pat makes a shape just like a box. A flat, plain box shape. A box with eyes? What sort of beast has a box for a body? You might yell out a guess. Pat just gives a **smirk.** 'Not even a little bit.'



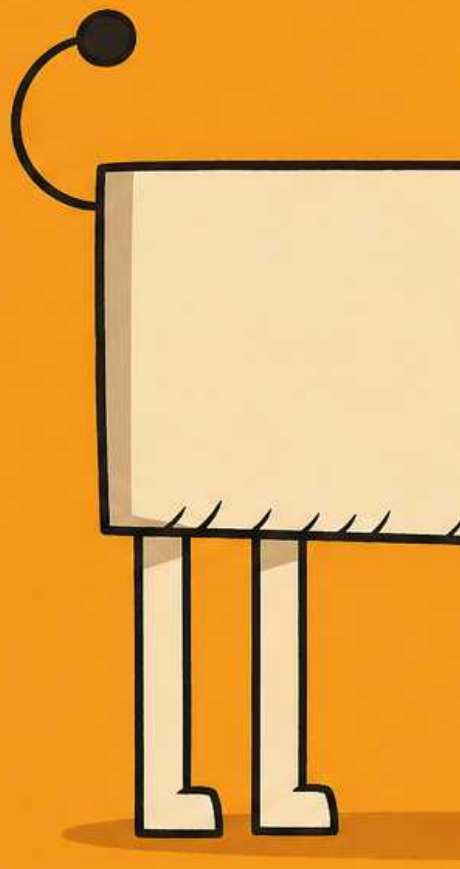


Four legs pop up **under** the box shape. One, two, three, four, each with little feet. 'Did that box just get legs?' you might gasp. Pat nods, very proud. 'See? This side and that side match. Same length, same width. My art **teacher** would clap.'

Pat peeks at a pic on his laptop, then **turns** back to his sketch. **Under** the big black shape, he adds a wide, **curved** grin. That grin. That big, cheeky grin. 'A cat!' you might yell. 'It must be a cat!' Pat **covers** his mouth so he will not **blurt** it out. 'You will feel so silly soon.'

Pat lifts his pencil up high. His eyes go wide and bright. 'One more thing,' he says. 'Just one tiny, tiny bit. Then you can tell just what it is.' **'Hurry** up, Pat!' you might yell. He is enjoying this far too much.

A tail! A **perky** tail with a little **curl** in it. Not a bushy fox tail. Not a stiff pig tail. This is the sort of tail that wags so hard, the body wags with it. Wait. It wags? Just one pet wags its tail when it is happy...



'It is a dog!' Pat yells, before you can even guess. He just can not wait.

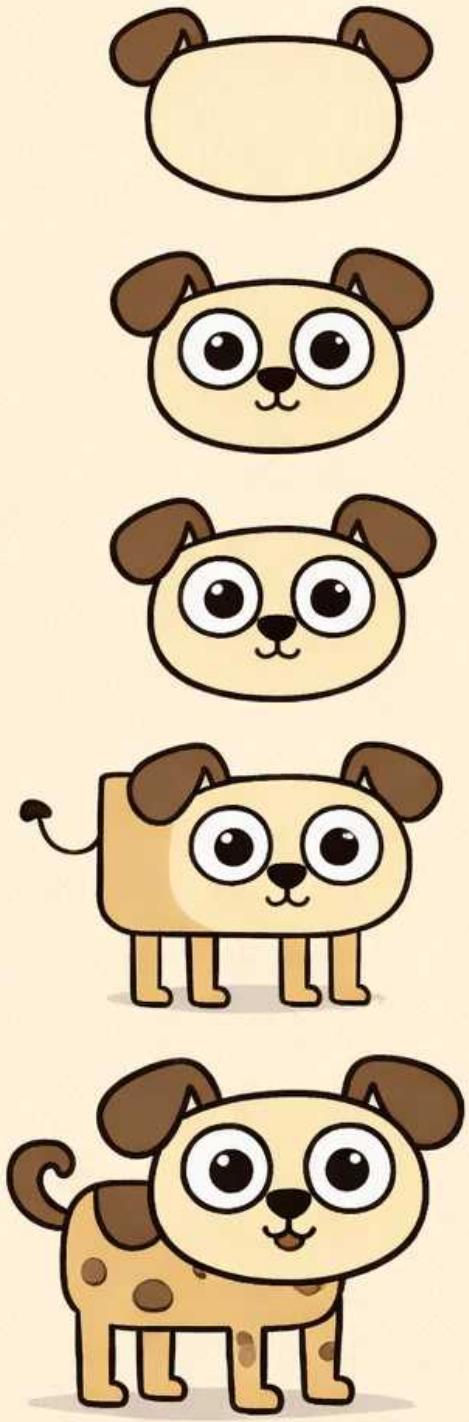
And what a dog. Wide, goofy eyes. A big black snout. A grin that says, I just ate your **dinner** and I am not sorry.

'See the little lines?' Pat points at the belly. 'That is **fur.** I added **fur.** This is the best dog I **ever** made, and I have made a lot of dogs.'

'Now it is your **turn,'** Pat says, and he slides his pencil to you.

Start with plain shapes. Round shapes, box shapes, nothing fancy. Follow the step plan and see what you get. You might make **better** art than you think.

And when you finish? Hold it up and say it loud: 'Guess what I drew!'



MIXED

No One Gets It

Pat loves a drawing game nobody can win. He starts with a big black circle and two smaller shapes, and grins as guesses fly in from frogs to robots to cats. Every time, he just shakes his head and says keep looking. What creature is he really drawing? Written for Jolly Phonics classrooms (Step 3, Unit 11: /er/ mixed), this book practises words like 'perfect', 'smirk', 'fur', 'dinner', 'first'.

Phonics Focus: <mixed>

better, bird, blurt, covers, curl, curved, dinner, ever, first, fur, hurry, perfect, perhaps, perky, smaller, smirk, teacher, turn, turns, under, whispers

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