

Make Your Own Comic World: A Kid-Friendly Comic Creation Guide

Inspired by the spirit of Peanuts, Frizzy, and the comics that speak to kids like you.



Start with What Matters to You!

Great comics come from real feelings and honest questions.

- What do you think about a lot?
- What makes you laugh, or feel frustrated, or feel brave?
- What's something you wish more stories talked about?

Example: Marlene in Frizzy struggles with loving her curly hair. Charlie Brown often feels left out but never gives up. What's your story?

Build Your Characters

Characters are the heart of every comic. Make someone memorable.

- Name: What's their name?
- Age: Are they a kid, an animal, a robot, or something new?
- Goal: What do they want?
- Obstacle: What stands in their way?
- Personality: Are they funny, quiet, bold, nervous?



Pro tip: Keep your character design simple. Think about the round shapes and big heads in Peanuts. A clear, repeatable design makes it easier for readers to connect with your characters—and for you to draw them again and again.

Imagine Their World

- Where does your story happen?
- A normal town with a twist?
- A fantasy world full of strange rules?
- A small apartment with big emotions?



You can draw a map or simply list important places: a bedroom, a park, a secret hideout, a classroom, a spaceship. Think about the tone of the world. Is it peaceful, chaotic, magical, realistic, or something in between?

Keep the Plot Simple but Honest

You don't need a huge story to say something meaningful. Start small and true.

Try this simple story frame: [Character] wants [something], but [problem] is in the way. So they [try something] and learn [lesson or surprise].

Brainstorm here:



Example: Charlie Brown wants to kick the football, but Lucy pulls it away every time. He keeps trying anyway and we learn something about persistence.

Draw in Panels: Show What Happens

Comics are a mix of images and words. You don't have to be a professional artist to tell a great story.

Start with:

- A 4-panel layout (like a comic strip)
- A 6-panel grid (for more action or dialogue)

Use:

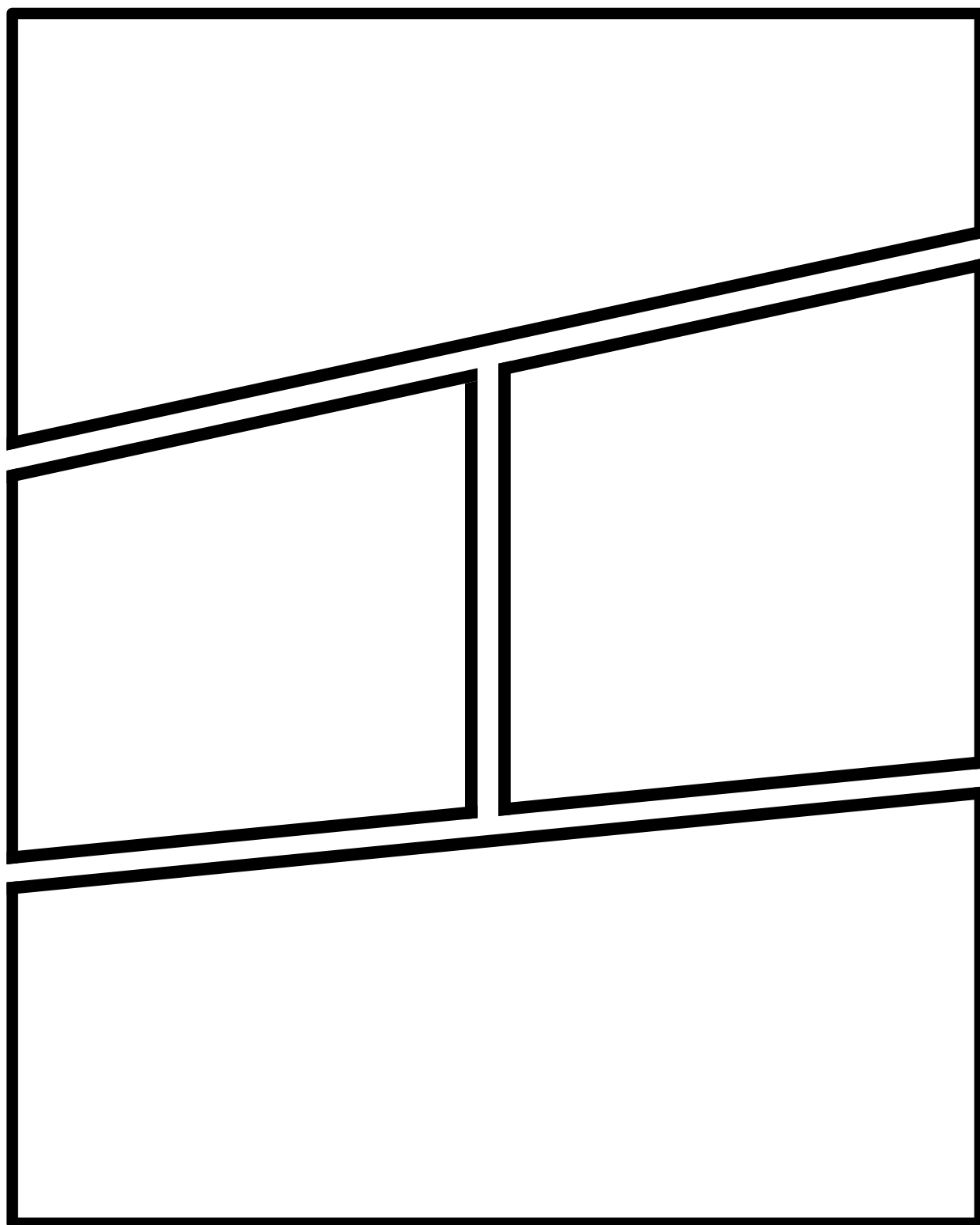
- Speech bubbles
- Thought bubbles
- Sound effects like “crash,” “pop,” “sigh,” or “snap”

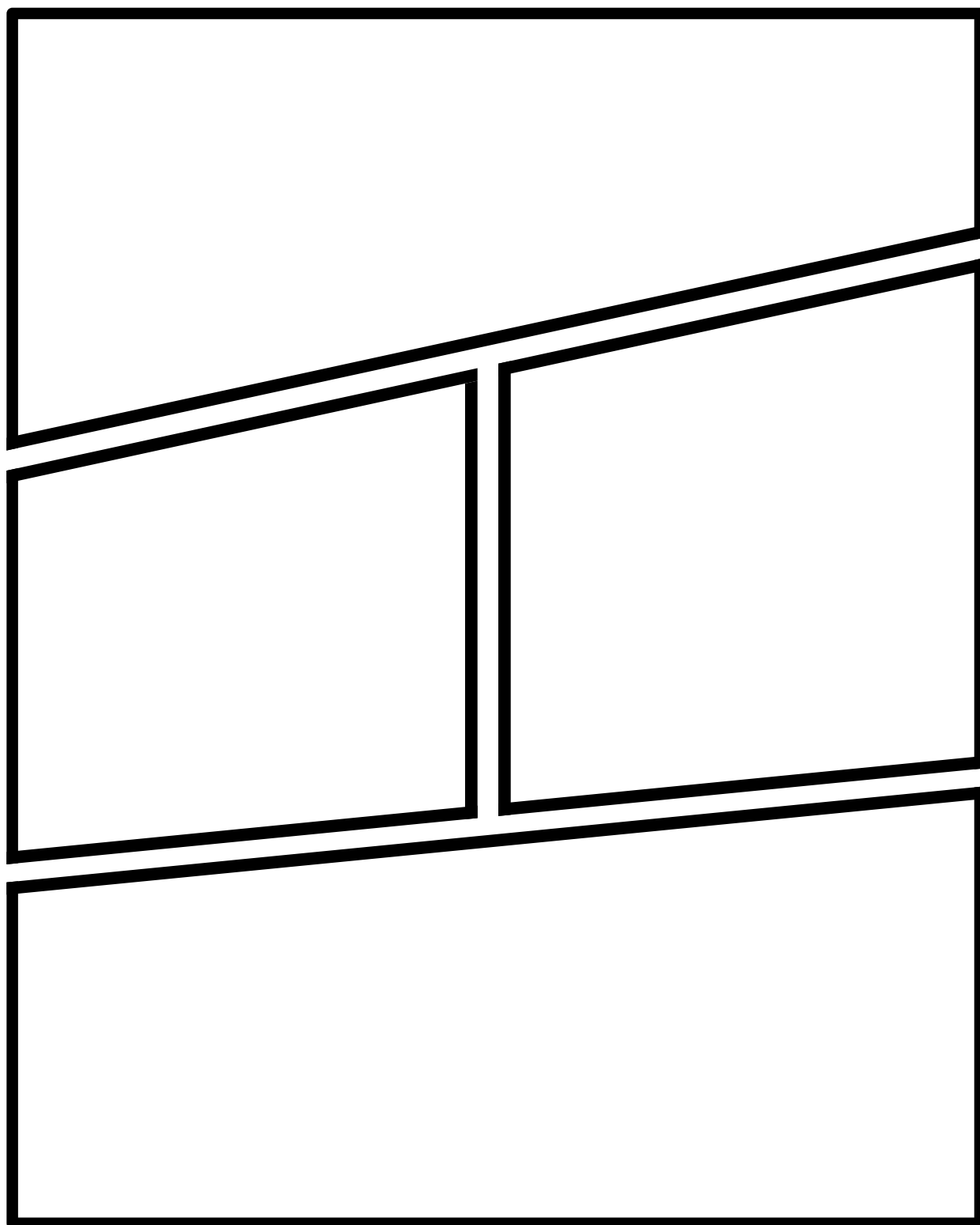
Panels help guide your reader's eyes across the page, so keep them clear and organized.

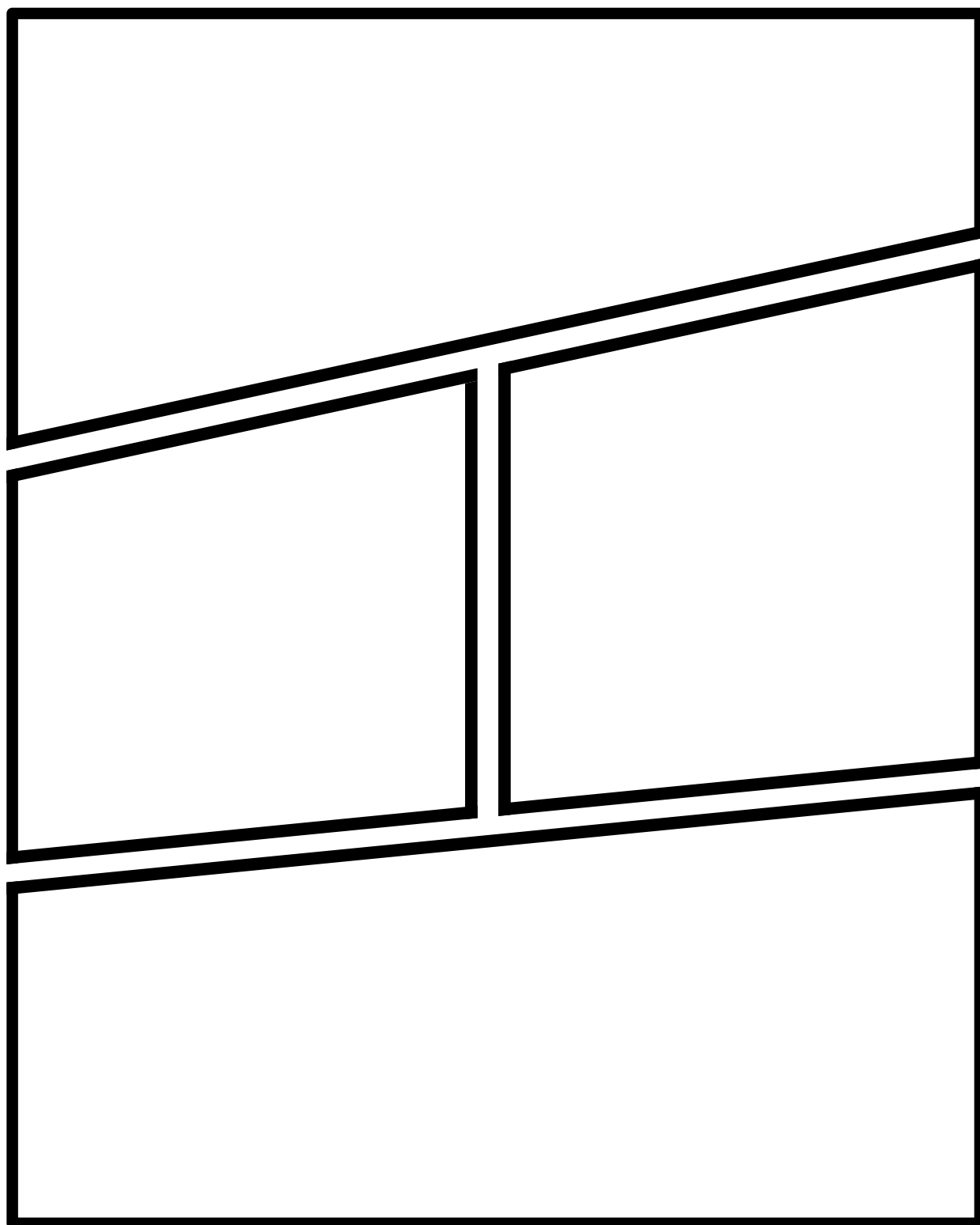


Try It!

A blank comic book page template with four panels. The panels are arranged in a 2x2 grid. The top-left panel is a simple rectangle. The top-right panel is a rectangle with a diagonal line running from the top-left corner to the bottom-right corner. The bottom-left panel is a rectangle with a diagonal line running from the top-left corner to the bottom-right corner. The bottom-right panel is a rectangle with a diagonal line running from the top-left corner to the bottom-right corner.







Balance Big Feelings and Small Moments

The best comics, like Peanuts and Frizzy, show the full range of being a kid.

Include:

- Funny scenes with friends
- Quiet moments of reflection
- Conflicts or misunderstandings
- Learning and growth

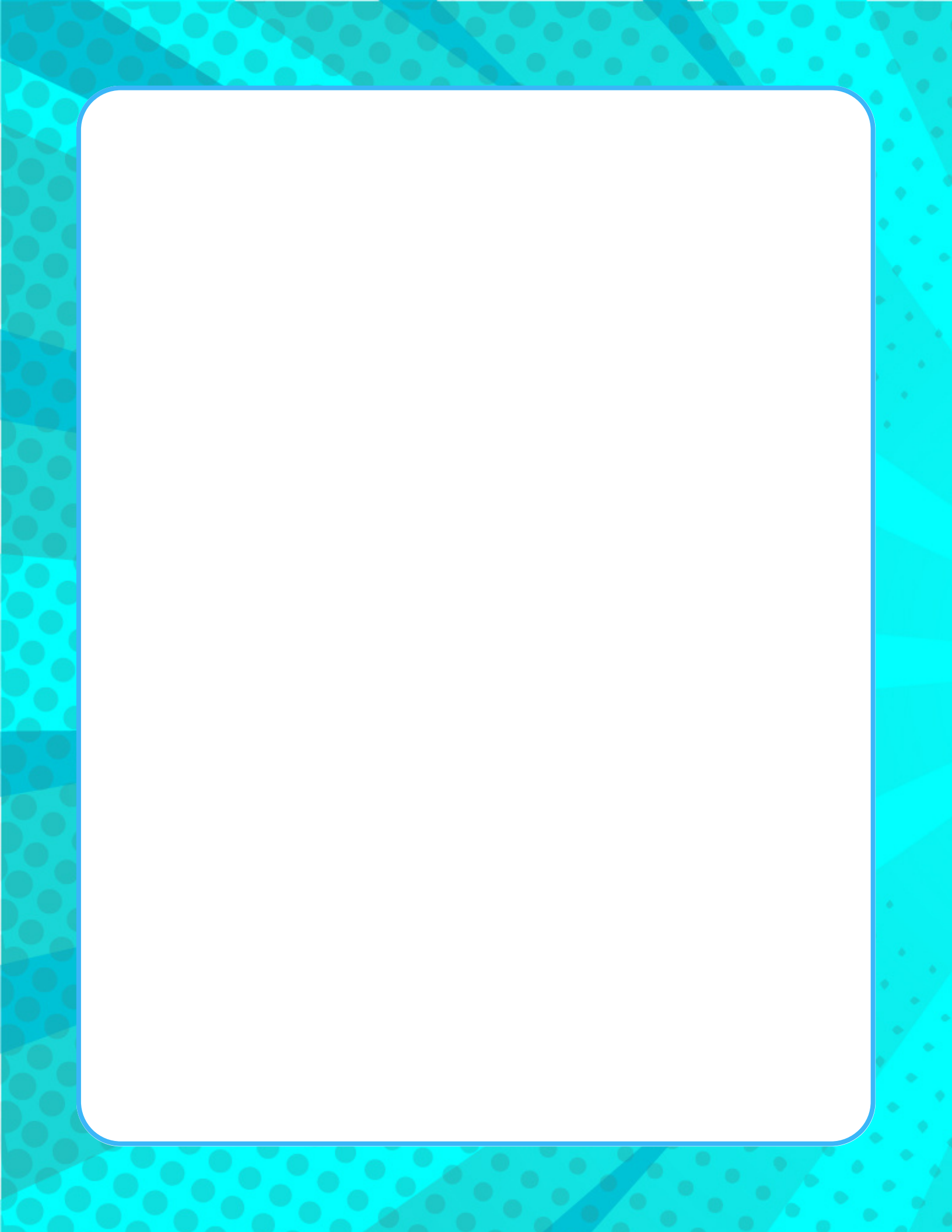


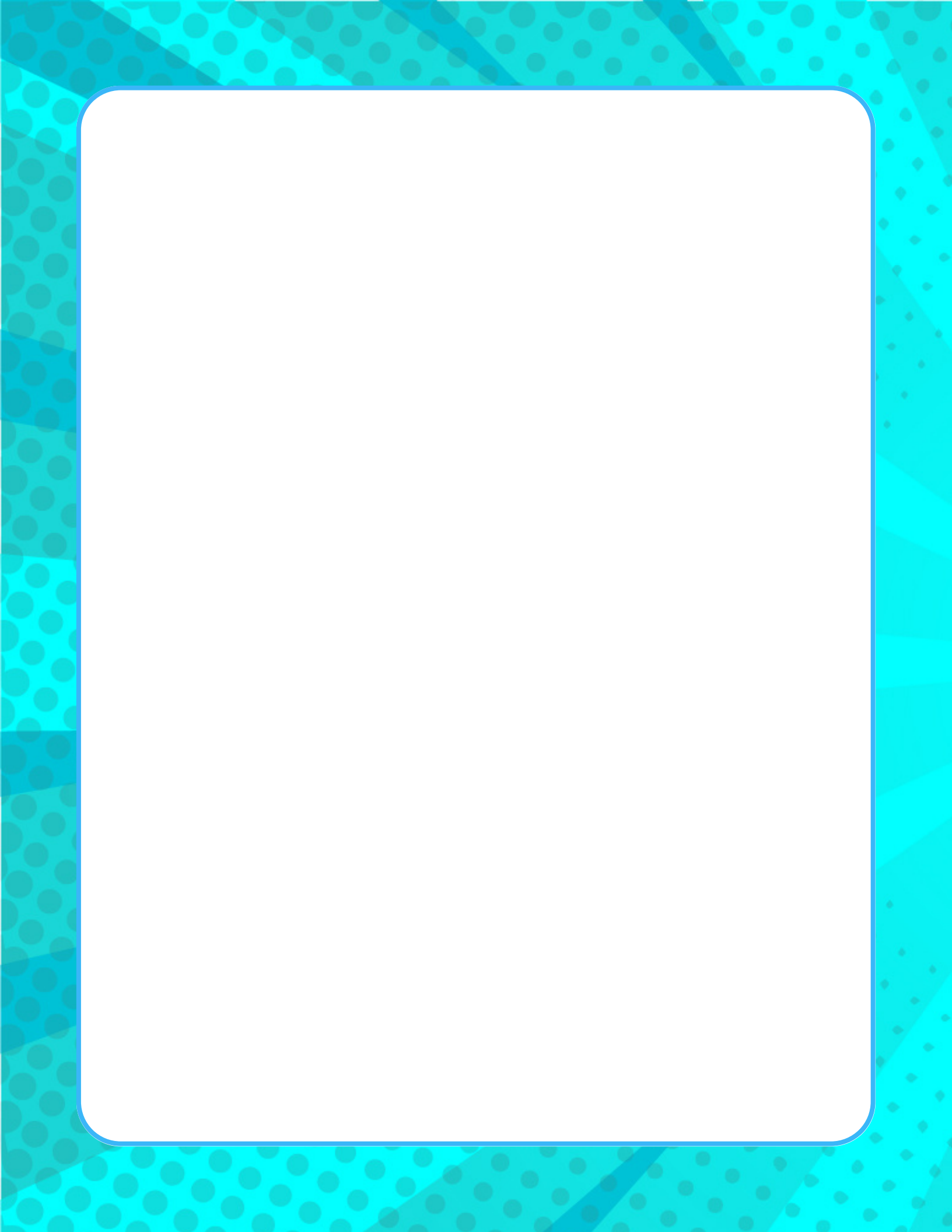
Brainstorm here:

Let your characters be kids. Let them play, worry, mess up, and keep going.

Take Inspiration, Not Imitation

It's great to learn from other comics but your story should feel like yours. Try drawing your characters in the styles of of other comics, then return to your own style. See what fits you best.





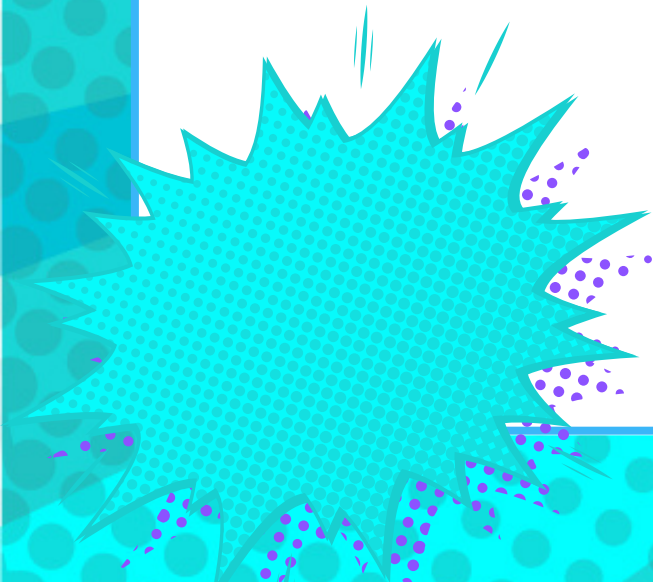
Mission

Your drawings don't have to be perfect. Neither do your stories. In fact, that's part of what makes them powerful.

- Snoopy's ears always looked scribbled in.
- Marlene in *Frizzy* creates drawings that reflect her inner world.
- The *Peanuts* characters are filled with small flaws that make them lovable.

Every comic you make helps you grow. Let your world evolve with you.

Write a message to yourself here on what you hope to accomplish:



Design a Cover

Make a title page for your comic. What's the main image? What feeling do you want it to show?



A Reminder

“Good grief.” – Charlie Brown

“It’s not just hair. It’s me.” – Marlene

Comics can make people laugh, cry, think, and feel seen. Whether your story is silly, serious, or somewhere in between—if it’s true to you, it will stick with someone else too.

Your voice matters. Now go build your comic world.

Now, take a break, refresh your muse, and try these steps next to bring your comic one step closer to life:

- **Comic Mood Board:** Draw faces with different emotions. Think about how your characters react.
- **Character Interview:** Write out questions and answer them in your character’s voice.

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