

Comics and Illustration workshops with author/illustrator, Emily Fella

I design my comics and illustration workshops to tie in with curriculum topics of your choice. The sessions have the power to engage pupils with writing, character creation and drawing in addition to their current topic.

- Age range KS1-5.
- Suitable for schools, SEND settings and other arts & cultural settings.
- Please see below for testimonials.

Themes

Go for a general 'comics' or 'picture book' theme, or ask me to create workshops to tie in with your current topics. Examples of the kinds of themes that work well are space, heroes and villains, robots, myths and legends, oceans, rainforest, forest, seasons, Stone Age, Ice Age, Chinese New Year, India, Aztecs, dragons, fairy tales, diverse characters, portraits/diary, fashion/costume, World Book Day, National Year of Reading, Arts and Literacy themed weeks.

Workshops I provide for different age groups with timings

Character workshop (adapted for all ages). 45 minute - 1 hour sessions

- Quick intro to me and how I create characters
- Step-by-step character tutorial, adding their own details and expressions
- The group think about what other characters they would need to tell a great story and create their own original characters with support from me.
- This work can be used for further creative writing and comic creation

Character and comics workshop (adapted for all ages). 1 hr 30 minute sessions

- Quick intro to me and how I create characters
- Step-by-step character tutorial, adding their own details and expressions
- The group think about what other characters they would need to tell a great story and create their own original characters with support from me.
- Tips and inspiration for creating their own comics
- Create a one page comic featuring their characters.

Character creation in a scene (works well for Reception - year 2). 1 hour

- Quick intro to me and how I create characters
- Step-by-step character tutorial (the group have a lot of opportunity to individualise their character)

- Develop the page into a scene (such as the ocean)
- Create new characters to populate the scene following tips and inspiration.

Picture book workshop (Reception to year 2). 1 hour - 1 hr 30 minute sessions

- I show the group how I create characters, then read through shortened versions of 'Banana' (a great story with just 2 words) and 'This Book Just Ate my Dog' (an interactive picture book with no flaps or folds).
- Following tips and inspiration the group create their own characters
- Finally, they create a picture book plan on a template.

Mark making to create a scene (Nursery). Around 30 minutes

- Quick intro to my work
- I demonstrate on the flip chart and the pupils follow me to draw something really simple like a group of straight lines using HB pencils.
- We draw more lines to create tree trunks.
- We switch to crayons to draw the tree foliage.
- We can then build up the scene in different ways such as adding insects and a river etc using a choice of coloured pencil and crayons. As we go along I ask them how it feels to use the different media - what's easy to hold, how to describe the different marks we can make and what colours we use.
- I read them a forest related story with lots of interaction.

Useful to Know

- I include printable resources such as planning and evaluation sheets for pupils, comic/picture book templates and guidance notes for teachers.
- I require PowerPoint facilities and a flipchart, and the pupils need A4 paper or art books and pencils.
- I am CRB checked and registered with the DBS Update Service.
- I have public Liability insurance
- Pricing information is available on request. A discounted rate is applied for full day bookings, which can include an assembly and workshops with different year groups and topics. Please contact me [here](#).

Artsmark and the Arts Award

Please take a look at my provision for schools working towards and sustaining [Artsmark](#) status. I'm also an Arts Award supporter and a trained Arts Award Adviser and can adapt sessions to support your programme.

[Website](#)

Testimonials

'Just wanted to say a massive thank you for visiting our school on Tuesday and running these amazing art workshops. All teachers and students said they really enjoyed it! It was a great way to start the last half term!' Abida Tanjum, Year 4 teacher, Fleet School, Camden.

'We loved your visit and all feedback was very positive. We are planning your next visit!' Amanda Curl, Art Lead and Year 1 Lead, Aragon Primary School, Merton.

'Emily was very professional throughout the booking of the workshops. She was clear and provided us with some fantastic resources to be used on the day. The children really enjoyed the session - they loved seeing how a character comes to life. My class were engaged throughout the whole session.' Tracey Ormerod, Teacher and phase lead, Tunstall CEP School, Sittingbourne, Kent.

'It was great to hear from both the children and the other teachers about how much they enjoyed the sessions and how impressed they were with what the children drew. The children came back to classes so enthused about the opportunity to turn their characters into a comic strip, and they have continued to be excited and engaged with it across the school this week. Thanks again for such a wonderful experience for the children.' Iain McGowan, Writing Lead, Pickhurst Infant Academy, West Wickham.

Attendees from teacher's CPD workshops in partnership with Artswork: Southampton, Brighton, Margate and Oxford locations.

Overall, what was your opinion of the Creative CPD workshop: Comics and Illustration to Enhance Curriculum Topics?

- 'Excellent delivery and provision of resources. I learnt skills I can transfer to pupils and it was easy to get to and a very welcoming venue.'
- 'Well thought through and helpful to unlock new ideas.'
- 'It was an incredible session. It was creative, hands on and applicable to my age range. Emily Fellah was knowledgeable and engaging - I would love to hear more from her! I have gone back and spoken to our head teacher to immediately implement this idea across the whole school. She was delighted to hear about the session and, following the training, we are having 15 minutes every Thursday to practice drawing in Emily's style!'
- 'Good content, well-delivered, also good refreshments!'
- 'It was nice to see other teachers feel inspired by the diversity of topics comics can fit into.'
- 'Thank you Emily, the Story Museum and Artsmark. This was a great experience and reminds me why I love teaching creatively!'

Parent's feedback following World Book Day character and comics drop-in sessions at Folkestone Museum

What did you enjoy?

- 'Everything. My children loved it!'
- 'Lovely calm & relaxing atmosphere'
- 'Learning and creating animals'
- 'Drawing the fox'
- 'Everything. Drawing is my favourite thing'
- 'Tips on drawing that children found easy to follow'
- 'Great event, great staff!'
- 'Drawing a robot was fun'

'A wonderful opportunity for our students to get an insight into illustration and what it involves.'
Claire Skipp, Librarian, Ark John Keats Academy, Enfield.

'Thank you so much for an engaging workshop. All the children were keen to listen and learn and were excited to produce their own characters.' Katherine Skelton, Year 6 teacher, Earlswood School, Surrey.

'The workshops were absolutely as described on your website and the children really loved it and produced some great work. They exceeded expectations. I really appreciate you being so flexible and offering to see as many children as possible and to fit yourself around our school and our timetable. Some visitors are so rigid in what they will or won't do so it is refreshing to work with someone who is happy to go with the flow.' Kate Horne, Deputy Head, Maybury Primary School, Woking.

'Thank you so much for coming to Goldsworth and sharing your workshop. The children were so excited about dedicating time to comics, and they got an awful lot from the sessions – their comics were lovely and they were enthusiastic to continue with them in following lessons. They were keen to continue with this learning and could apply it to other lessons after. The children have said how inspired they felt and how much fun they had being creative. It was really wonderful to explore comics and illustration within Book Week, which normally sees us celebrate chapter-book authors in KS2, so I would be keen to do something similar in the future.' Laura Pether, Year 6 Teacher, Goldsworth Primary School, Woking

'Emily's visit was perfect for our pupils, they had a chance to learn about the life of an illustrator/author, as well as learning some top tips for drawing themselves. I have been asked by many when she is coming back as they really enjoyed the visit!' Hannah Williams, Assistant Principal, Littlegreen Academy, Chichester.

'This was an absolutely fantastic session! The children were very engaged and I've never seen them so quiet. They all loved the content and the step-by-step approach worked well. Your modelling was brilliant and all of the children were able to create your character, as well as their own. Everyone loved the session, even children who think they can't draw. I really like how you reinforced that you think that everyone can draw. Thank you so much.' Abbie Purcell, Teacher, Heathfield House School, Chiswick.

‘Just wanted to say a thank you on behalf of all staff and children - the workshops were very well received and the children thoroughly enjoyed them! We will certainly consider booking you in the future.’ Rebecca Shacklock, School Business Assistant, Aston on Trent Primary School.

‘My daughter attended the comic workshop at the library this afternoon and I just wanted to say thank you so much for arranging this session. It was absolutely brilliant and all the kids seemed to respond well, even though there was quite a range of different ages and levels of talent. What an incredible treat and a fantastic way to get kids to engage in drawing and make the library a fun part of their half term activities.’ Parent’s email to West Wickham Library

‘The workshop was absolutely lovely! The children loved it and it was wonderful to see their own personalities shine through in what they created. Thank you so much! J’

‘The session was brilliant. The children loved it and were so enthused – they have been longing to carry on with their illustrations ever since the workshop! They really enjoyed being able to create their own characters and Emily led the workshop extremely well. She gave them starting points but then allowed them to be creative with their own ideas.’ Teachers at St. Peter’s C.E. Primary School, Hammersmith, London

‘Poverest Primary School had the fantastic opportunity of having Emily with us for a week where she taught our children the art of creating comic strips. She guided and supported the children through the process using resources which we were given before the workshops commenced. These resources were clear and concise giving us, the teachers, plenty of material to work with so that the children were fully prepared for their workshops. Emily adapted the workshops to suit the age and ability of the class. We were impressed with how she delivered the workshops and her skills and knowledge she brought to the classroom. We would highly recommend Emily and she is returning next year to work with us again.’ Elisa Irwin, Poverest Primary School, St Mary Cray, Kent

‘Loved it – awesome lesson.’ Mike Pile, Year 5 Teacher, Wingham Primary School, Canterbury

‘Emily was a fantastic workshop leader, delivering creative drawing sessions over Google Meet during the Summer. She provided lots of support and encouragement to the young people throughout the project and they loved seeing her portfolio and hearing about her creative process. Emily was very organised and prepared great resources for the sessions.’

Emma Chiplin, Creative Learning Officer (SEND), Museum of the Home, London

‘Many thanks, once again, for helping in our Super Hero ArtsWeek at Spring Grove.

Your workshops were well planned, suitable for all age ranges and delivered calmly and professionally. The children were able to follow your instructions and demonstrations perfectly and were keen to work on their comic strips after your sessions had finished. Your workshops were delivered to children at both school and at home via Google Meet due to our current Covid-19 situation without issue. The resulting work surpassed expectations and was due to you being

inspirational - which was just what I was hoping for! I hope to work with Years 3 and 4 over the next two weeks to complete their Arts Award at Discover level, using the assembly interview you gave and the ideas that stemmed from their workshops. I would be more than happy to be contacted by other schools in respect of supplying a reference for your excellent schools' workshops.' Clare Drury, Art Co-ordinator, Spring Grove School, Wye

'Thank you SO much for the session today. The children in my class loved it and are very keen to get their comic strips done! I thought you had a lovely manner with the children and they were brilliantly engaged in drawing this afternoon.' Ben Smith, Director of Sport, Spring Grove School, Wye

'I just wanted to say a big thank you from myself and Year 5 for your amazing workshop today. The children absolutely loved it, so much so that some of them asked to stay inside to continue their work at break! We all learnt lots and the children are looking forward to using these skills in upcoming lessons this week.' Grace Stone, Prep 5 Class teacher, Spring Grove School, Wye

'Emily delivered two picture book workshops to our KS1 children. She kept the children fully engaged throughout and every one of them was able to create a character for a picture book. AT KS2, she taught comic strip workshops and, once again, our children participated enthusiastically and produced some great work. Afterwards, our children were keen to spend more time on their creations and were pleased with their achievements. Thank you, Emily!' Zoe Fraser, Teacher, Wingham Primary School, Canterbury

'A really engaging session - the children loved it and produced some really high quality art work! Thank you so much Emily!' Sinead Costello, Teacher, Fleet Primary School, Hampstead.

'Emily was very inspiring! All the kids enjoyed attending the workshop and really understood the technique to work on their own. Brilliant!' Silvana Altamore, Arts and Events organiser & Manager of Crofton Park Community Library.

'What I really enjoyed was the level of challenge that followed the introductory task. Everyone was fully engaged and seemed to gain confidence as the session progressed. There was a very happy, industrious atmosphere in the room.' Naomi James, Teacher, Old Palace Preparatory School, Croydon.

'Emily engaged all of the children and kept them entertained. She helped the children expand their ideas. She also boosted their confidence by complimenting their work. Thank you!' Emily Whitehead, Teacher & SENCO, Birtley House Independent School, Kent.

'Thank you again for two amazing workshops. Everyone has praised you for managing the group, teaching, demonstrating and guiding them. For innovative concepts and suggestions. They said your wealth of knowledge and ideas made the workshops fantastic. Some of our teachers also plan to use what they have learnt with children back in the classroom.' Catherine Roper, Marketing &

Communications Manager, The Eden Academy, Middlesex.

'Emily spent three days at Bradfield workshopping with our pupils. They were taught how to come up with a short story board and then illustrate their ideas in a storyboard cartoon. The children were fully engaged and came up with some great ideas and even better comic strips. We highly recommend this workshop for children of all ages and can't wait to invite her back again.' Tara Williamson, Co-Curricular Coordinator, Bradfield College, Berkshire

'It was fantastic to see the children so engaged in their drawing.' Class Teacher, Seaford Primary School, East Sussex

'The children had some great ideas and Emily was brilliant at inspiring the children.' Teaching Assistant, Seaford Primary School, East Sussex

'Emily's comic strip workshops were professionally presented, relevant to the Reading Challenge theme and the families who took part were very engaged.' Geoff James Manager, Library Services to Children & Young People, Islington Libraries

'Nicely paced – boys were engrossed. The quietest my son has been for ages. Well organised event; all the children seemed very engaged & interested. Great idea and very enjoyable. My boys loved this – they were so focused throughout. Emily is brilliant at encouraging the children. Excellent way to get kids involved in storytelling with pictures. Great opportunity to get into the comic world. My children said everything was brilliant & they really liked drawing their own comic strip. A very good session – the children were encouraged and given individual attention. Good pace – Emily is very patient with the children. All the children became involved in drawing different pictures which was interesting to watch. Emily had good constructive comments to help inspire the children.' Parent's feedback taken from event evaluation forms Children's Book Festival, Southend-On-Sea

'The children really enjoyed the workshops and my class were so excited to share their work with me when I got back!' Nichola Pritchard Art Co-ordinator, Lordswood Primary School, Chatham

'Thank you so much for the day – the feedback was fantastic and I know the kids really really enjoyed it! We're thinking about how to use it in a project next term now. I hope we can do it again next year!' Kelly Davies Trust Lead Practitioner, The Stour Academy Trust

'Emily delivered very engaging workshops and encouraged the children to be creative and have fun. Everyone enjoyed the sessions.' Monica Sever, Hackney Libraries' Children and Young People's Manager

'The boys had a great time and were fired up about drawing cartoon illustrations for days after your visit.' Ray Cassar Teacher of Art, Willington Independent Prep School, Wimbledon

'A wonderful two days! All classes were engrossed in their workshops, Emily engaged all age

groups well and everyone was inspired to have a go – even the adults! Definitely the highlight of our Book week.’ Sarah Johnson Head of Year 6, St Martin’s C of E Primary School, Folkestone

‘Emily has delivered 2 amazing workshops at Grove Park Holiday Programme to children aged 7 to 16 years. The workshops were enjoyed by all of our young people and her exciting and fun filled delivery style has been noted by our staff. We look forward to many more workshops with Emily.’ Makeida Winston, Youth Worker, Elevating Success UK

‘Thank you for a very successful workshop with our Browns school students. Both the Juniors and Seniors had a wonderful time. The teachers also gave me great feedback. Hopefully we will see you again soon.’ Chris Ponulak, Deputy Head, Browns Secondary School, Kent

‘Emily Fella carried out 3 inspirational events for children at Southwark Libraries during the summer of 2014. Emily works very well with children and young people and is able to share her vast knowledge and skills in graphic and comic art with children of all ages. Emily also judged the Southwark Libraries Graphic Art Competition 2014 and spoke to the winners about their work. I would recommend Emily and would like her to work with us again.’ Elaine Walters, Principal Young People’s Librarian, Southwark Libraries

‘We have really enjoyed having Emily to visit Petts Wood Library, the children loved the two illustration workshops which were attended by children of 3 years to 12 years. Emily kept all ages engaged in her artistic instruction and the children very much enjoyed creating their own pictures. Emily delivers her workshops in a calm and patient way which the children really responded to. We very much hope Emily will come and see us again soon.’ Jenny Hawke, Supervisor, Petts Wood Library

‘Thank you for doing the workshop for us – the children loved it!’ Vanessa Williamson Assistant Group Manager (West), London Borough of Bromley

‘Emily held the attention of the children, keeping them focused while also attentive and patient, making sure everyone was at the same point, and leaving no one behind.’ Ashburton Library Assistant, Croydon Borough

‘I wanted to send you a quick email to congratulate you on this event. My daughters thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were brimming with enthusiasm for what they’d created. Comics and illustrated fiction so often get overlooked so well done to your library for offering this workshop. Thank you very much.’ Jo Taylor, Parent

‘Can I just say how much my boys enjoyed this. Please do continue to offer such events for this age group.’ Neelam Sharma, Parent

‘My son who isn’t particularly artistic attended a comic workshop at the local library and that was it, he was hooked. From then on, he spent hours at his desk designing and drawing his own comic

strip. He couldn't wait to go again and now draws comic birthday cards for all the family (and not a computer screen in sight!) Professionally organised and fantastically run.'

Mike Buckland, ParentComics Workshops