

Picture This An Illustration Tutorial by Craig Smith

Craig's talks are about books and pictures.

...what authors, editors, and illustrators do ...but the main focus is drawing! **Where** to begin? **What** to keep in mind? **How** to make choices?

Plus tips for bringing characters to life with movement, expression, humour and drama. With LOTS of hands on learning-by-drawing.



About Craig Smith

Over 40 years Craig has illustrated close to 400 books – picture books, junior novels and many readers – collaborating with many of Australia's most experienced writers and editors.

The writers include **Doug MacLeod, Libby Gleeson, Sally Morgan, Duncan Ball, Emily Rodda, Gary Crew, Paul Jennings, Rachel Flynn** and **Nigel Gray**... The books include **Billy the Punk, Where's Mum, Sister Madge's Book of Nuns, Bob the Builder & the Elves, Emily Eyefinger** (series), **I Hate Fridays** (series), **Cabbage Patch Fib** (series), **Toocool** (series), **Going Bush With Grandpa** (series). More recently **The Windy Farm, The Unforgettable What's His Name, Some Secrets Should Never Be Kept, Remarkably Remy** and **I Was Only Nineteen**.

Session Information:

Craig's presentations are about drawing. More particularly, his presentation is about the basic questions and choices for the illustrator when thinking about how to approach a text.

To explore these questions, students are guided through a fun exercise – starting in a deliberately loose, rough, imprecise way – sketching the simple shapes first, thinking through the choices, and trying out imaginative – both dramatic and humorous – ideas.

The choices he has come to see as most important are to do with:

- characterization (including where and when a story is set),
- movement and expression (body language),
- viewpoint, arranging shapes, using light and shadow...

The tasks set are age appropriate from pre-school to senior.

Every session is a bit different, but each is at least in part a workshop. Students will be drawing, and trying out pointers in a guided way within the session. Thus all students experience how an illustration begins to take shape.

Several books and examples of finished illustration will be referenced in a session. One important teaching text is "Doctor Frankenstein's Other Monster" by Nigel Gray.



BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES:

Nexus Arts www.nexusarts.com.au

Phone 03 9528 3416 Freecall 1800 675 897 Email nexusarts@netspace.net.au

Feedback for Craig Smith

“The students loved it! They were engaged, enthused and certainly enjoyed the presentation and the drawing. Craig’s passion for what he does is very clear and this just adds to his obvious talent. A great session and I would highly recommend him to other schools. Thank you!!”

Ben Tait, Minyip PS, VIC

“We were absolutely thrilled with Craig Smith’s visit to Swan Reach last Tuesday. He kept the children enthralled with his entertaining manner and the creation of his drawings. They were especially delighted with their ability to create their own characters in their own drawings. Craig’s visit was a most educational and memorable experience.”

L Kennedy, Swan Reach PS, VIC

“The students were engaged throughout the whole session. They particularly enjoyed the hands-on drawing experience. Craig’s support materials were good and varied.”

Jane Salter, Warracknabeal PS, VIC

“P-6 Loved it! Fantastic presentation.”

Melissa Saario, Drouin South PS, VIC

“Very professional presentation. Showed awareness of audience needs and respected their input. Very positive reaction from students - attentive and comfortable to ask questions and respond. Pace, volume, tone and content all age appropriate for 9-11 year olds, great demonstration and activity went very well.”

Graeme Adams, Murtoa College, VIC

“Thank you Craig. The children and staff loved your workshops.”

Helen Woods, Our Lady Help of Christians (Wendouree), VIC



BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES:

Nexus Arts www.nexusarts.com.au

Phone 03 9528 3416 Freecall 1800 675 897 Email nexusarts@netspace.net.au