

Drawing Emotions

Domain IIb: Recognizing Facial Expressions

GOAL: The goal of Drawing Emotions is to learn about the specific components of the face that make up a particular emotion. Most of the information about expression is conveyed through the eyes and the mouth. Learning to interpret changes in these areas (eyes and mouth) will assist the child in distinguishing between facial expressions by recognizing the specific elements that accompany a given expression.

OBJECTIVE: The child will be required to attend to specific changes in the eyes and mouth for each expression. This will assist the child distinguish between facial expressions by recognizing the specific elements that accompany a given expression. The child will learn make clear distinctions between the following most common facial expressions:

- scared
- happy
- angry
- sad
- surprised

The child will first learn the key components (eyes and mouth) for drawing facial expressions using cartoon faces. Once these steps are mastered, the child will then learn to incorporate facial expressions into comic book scenes.

MATERIALS :

- The “How to draw expressions” table
 - crayons
 - markers
- The Incomplete Face Coloring Sheets (5 Expressions, 10 Pages)
- Comic book template
 - Word bubble cut-outs
 - Magazine clippings (optional)
 - Family and Friend photos (optional)

PROCEDURE:

Step 1: Introduce the Emotion

Decide what emotion or expression that you would like to work on (e.g. anger). Introduce the emotion to the child by discussing the feelings that accompany anger. If appropriate, have a conversation with the child about “things that make you angry”. You might also want to model an angry face and have the child reciprocate. The next step is to talk about “what an angry face looks like”. This is where you would talk about the specific features of an angry face as indicated on the “how to draw expressions” table.

Step 2: Color and Explore

Select the Incomplete Face for the expression you would like to complete. Begin the activity by having the child draw-in the missing half of the face. Start with the faces that are divided left and right so that the child has a hint for what the eyes and mouth should look like. Once the child has mastered this, you can use the faces that are divided top and bottom. You may also want to have your own picture to complete so that you and the child can compare and discuss your different pictures at the end of the activity. Try to prompt the child to pay close attention to the slanting of the eyebrows and shape of the mouth as these are the “key” features of each expression. Use the “how to draw expressions table” for information on each expression as well as how to use color to effectively communicate emotion. Also, you will notice that for each Incomplete Face Expression, there is a small icon with the complete face in the top right corner. To increase the difficulty of the task, you can cover or remove the icon.

HELPFUL HINT

Having a small mirror on hand for the child to practice his or her own facial expressions is a useful way to show the changing features of the eyes and mouth for each expression.

Step 3: Make up a Story

In the last step you can comment on the completed picture with the child. This is also a good opportunity to “make up a story” about the person in the picture. Talk about why this person is angry, what happened to make them feel that way, what they can do to

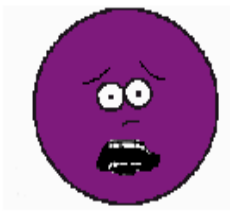




feel better, etc. At this point, you can have a more personal discussion with the child about situations that make them feel angry.

BONUS: MASTERY

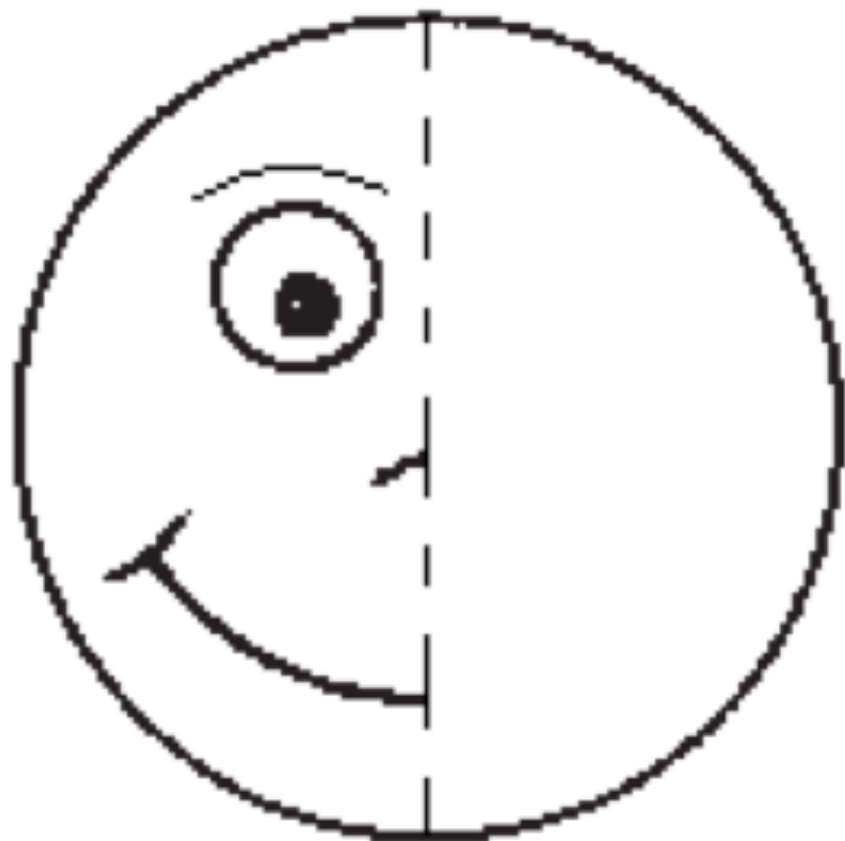
Once the child has brainstormed a story about the person in the picture. Incorporate this story into a comic book by using the comic book template. The child can draw the character in the comic template and use the word bubbles to say what the character is feeling and why. The comic book template can be used to display the story of why the character is “angry.” If the child does not want to draw the character, you can use magazine cut-outs of people displaying emotions and create a story with them, or you can use photos of the child’s own family and friends to make a story.

let's FACE it

How to Draw Expressions Table

Expression	How to Draw
 <p data-bbox="565 751 711 800">Scared</p>	<p>Eyes: wide, eyebrows arch upward</p> <p>Mouth: open, can show teeth</p> <p>Extra: can add movement lines to indicate "shaking in fear", can draw hair "standing on end"</p>
 <p data-bbox="565 1003 691 1052">Angry</p>	<p>Eyes: eyebrows turn downwards, eyes narrow slits</p> <p>Mouth: corners down-turned, can show teeth for a scowl</p> <p>Extra: use bold colors such as red or black to help convey the emotion</p>
 <p data-bbox="565 1276 699 1325">Happy</p>	<p>Eyes: wide, may crinkle a little bit</p> <p>Mouth: corners turn up, may have dimples</p> <p>Extra: use bright, cheerful colors such as yellow or pink</p>
 <p data-bbox="565 1507 646 1556">Sad</p>	<p>Eyes: eyebrows turn upwards, tears</p> <p>Mouth: corners of mouth turn downwards</p> <p>Extra: use colors such as blues and greys to convey sadness</p>
 <p data-bbox="557 1759 735 1808">Surprise</p>	<p>Eyes: wide, eyebrows are arched and high</p> <p>Mouth: is open, is in the shape of an "O"</p> <p>Extra: could use a bold or "shocking" color such as bright orange, can draw hair standing straight up</p>

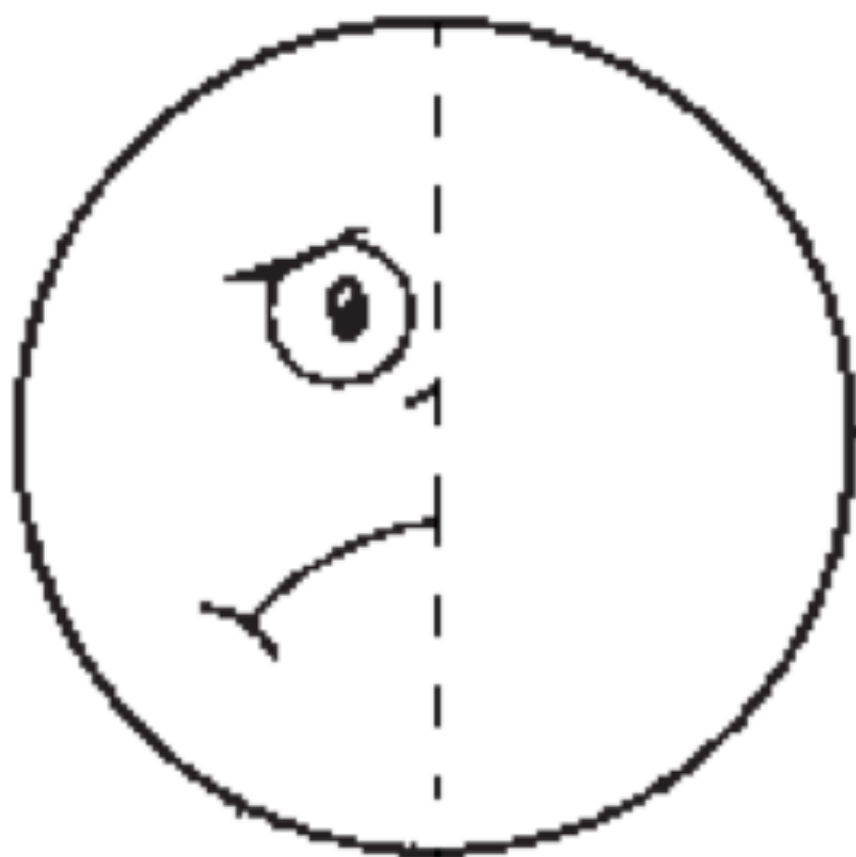
Drawing Happy



This person is happy because _____

I feel happy when _____

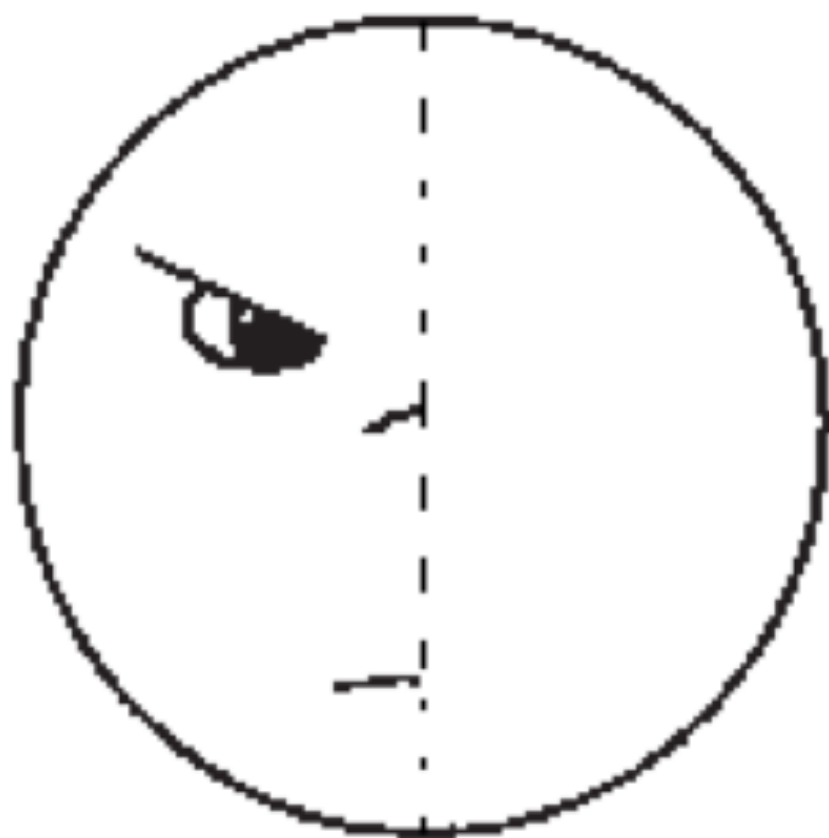
Drawing Sad



This person is sad because _____

I feel sad when _____

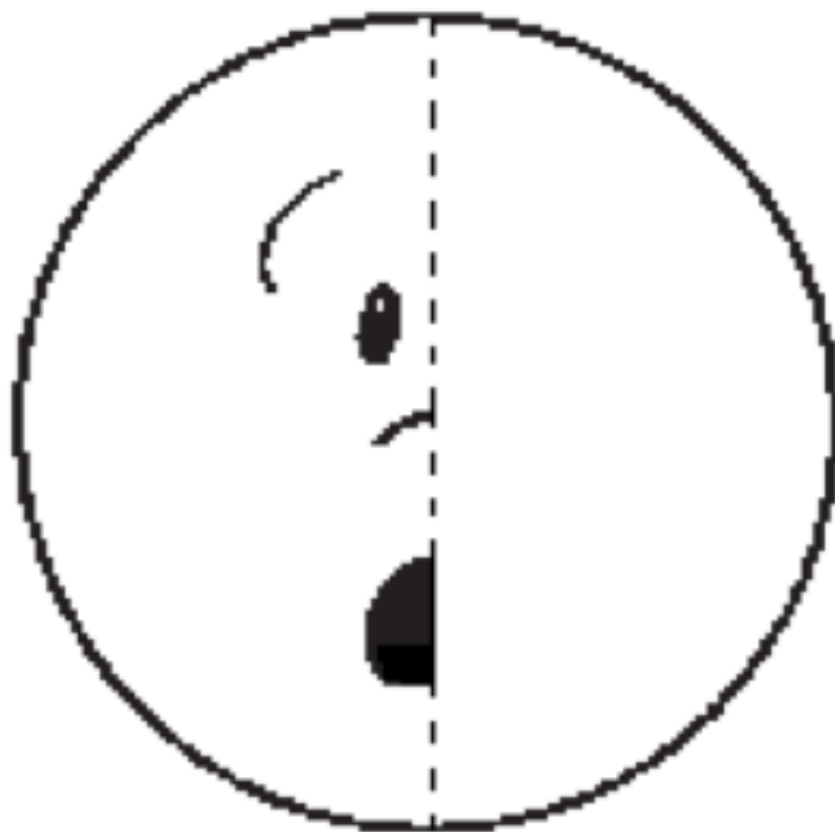
Drawing Angry



This person is angry because _____

I feel angry when _____

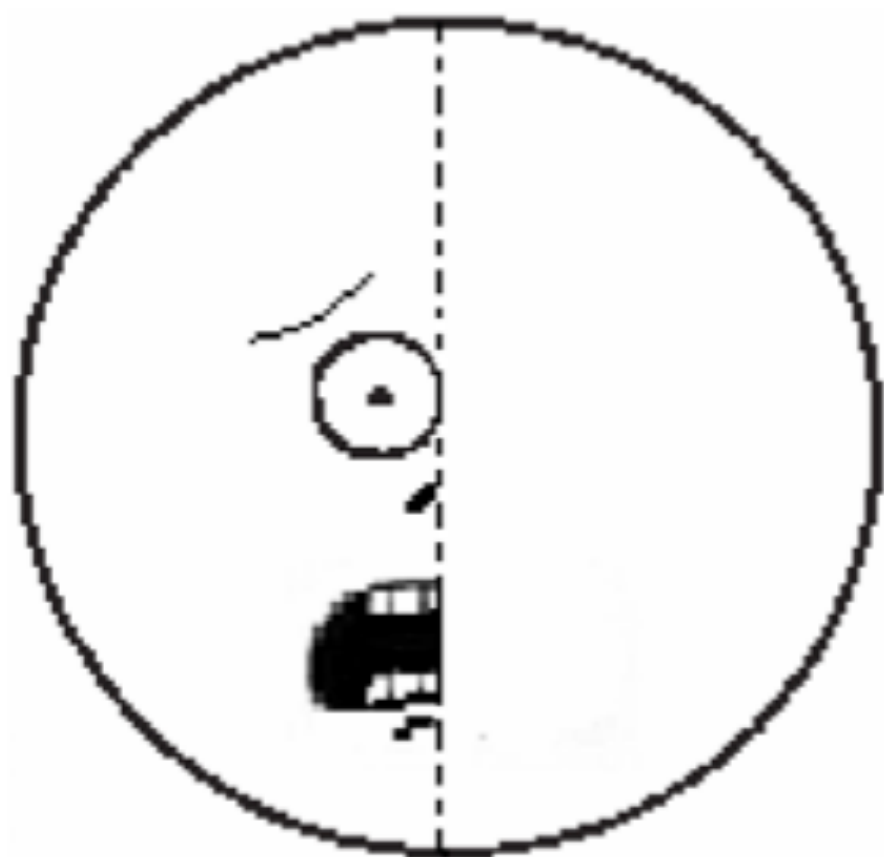
Drawing Surprise



This person is surprised because _____

I feel surprised when _____

Drawing Scared



This person is scared because _____

I feel scared when _____

Drawing Happy



This person is happy because _____

I feel happy when _____

Drawing Sad



This person is sad because _____

I feel sad when _____

Drawing Angry



This person is angry because _____

I feel angry when _____

Drawing Surprise



This person is surprised because _____

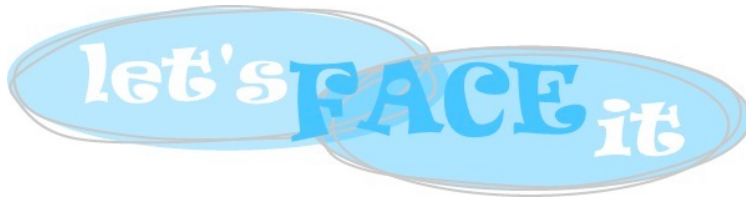
I feel surprised when _____

Drawing Scared

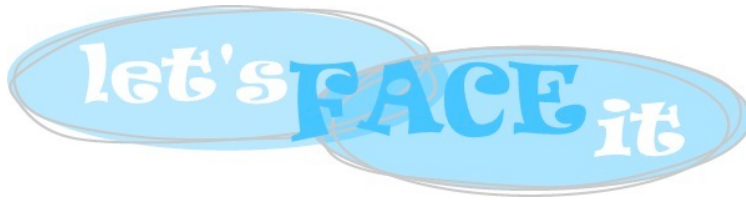


This person is scared because _____

I feel scared when _____



Comic Book Template 1



Comic Book Template 2

