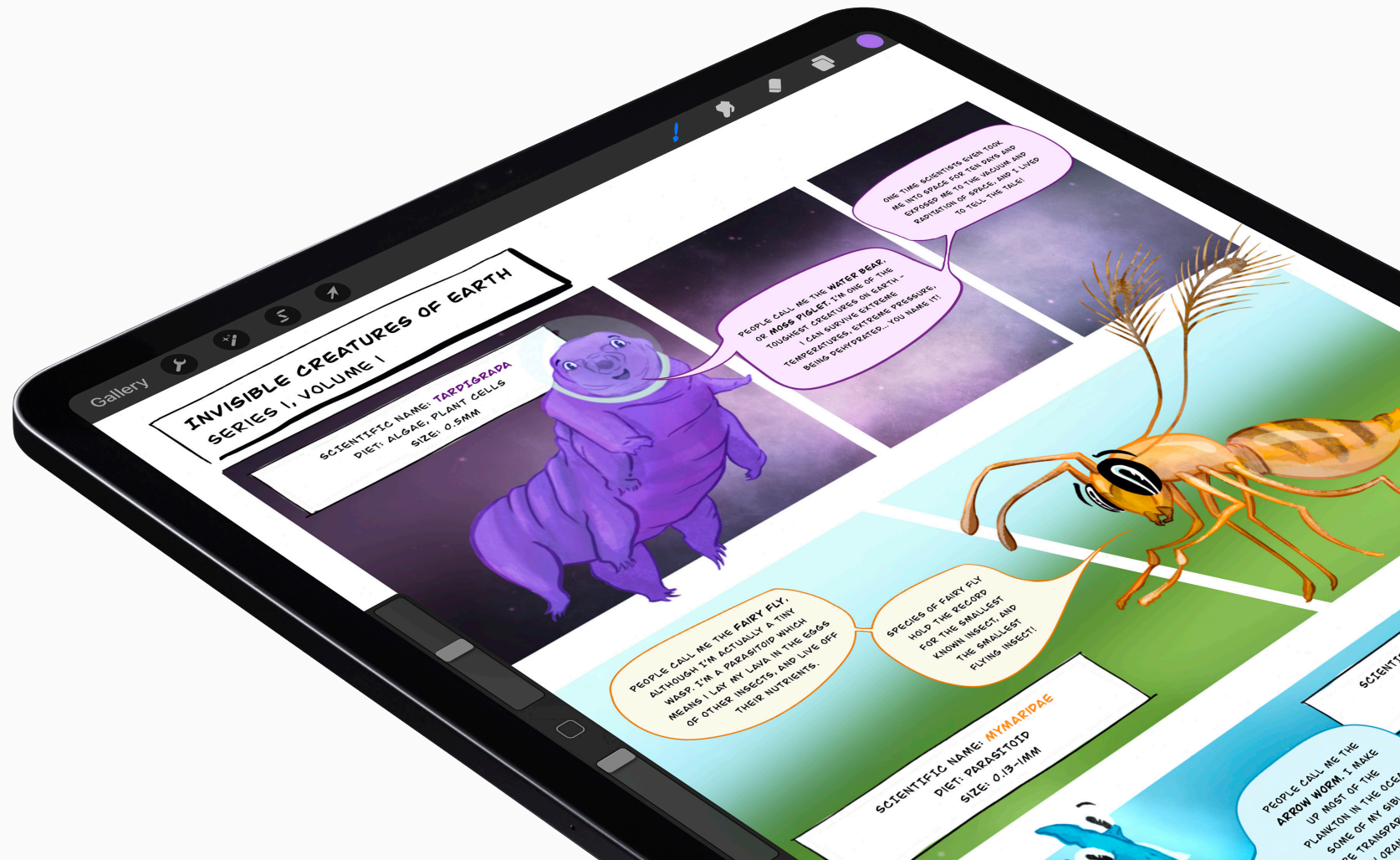


## LESSON IDEA

# Microscopic marvels

ART & DESIGN

SCIENCE



Learn with  
**Procreate®**



# Lesson ideas

Use these Lesson Ideas to spark your imagination for using Procreate in the classroom. Feel free to take them further and make them your own.

# Microscopic marvels

In this lesson students will research the earth's tiniest creatures, and develop them into fully formed characters, with feelings, emotions and personalities.

All you need is an iPad and the following apps:



Procreate



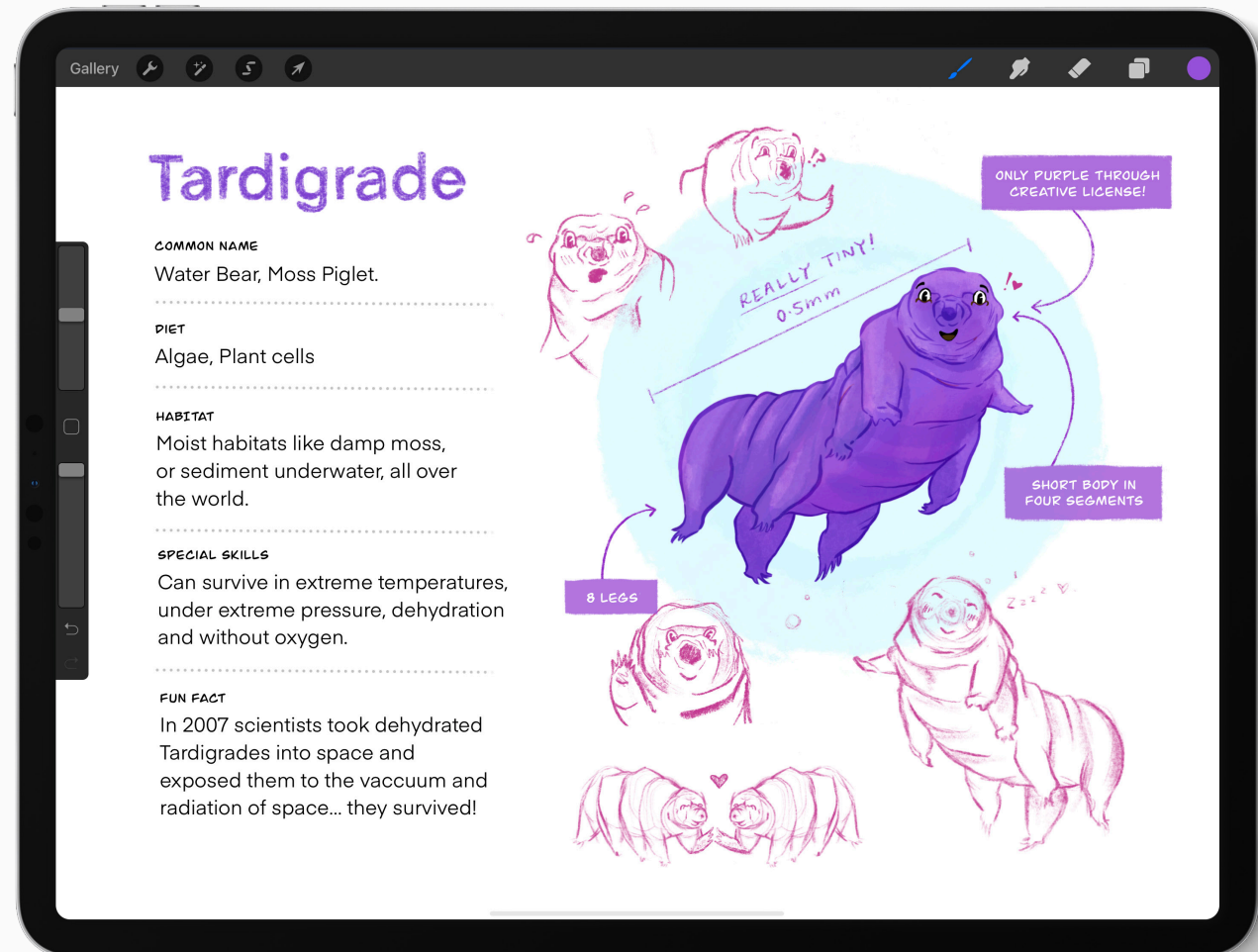
Safari



Pages

## Educational Value

- ✓ Students will engage in a character design process to do in depth research on a microscopic creature.
- ✓ Students use creative writing skills to build a narrative based on their research.
- ✓ Students understand the complex and diverse existence of micro-organisms, and their importance in the biodiversity of our planet.



# In this guide

1	What is character design?
2	Investigation
4	Developing character
7	Create a character sheet
11	Take it further



# What is character design?

1.

## Drawn to life

Character designers visualize how characters thought up by writers will look in comics, TV, film, games and books based on their imagined personality.

They usually do lots of research before they start drawing, and create a summary character sheet of their final design. That gives a quick overview of the character to hand onto others in the production process.

In this lesson, you'll be following the character design process for one of Planet Earth's amazing, microscopic organisms.

### CHECK THIS OUT!

Look at this amazing commission artwork by illustrator and animation character designer [Max Ulichney](#). He makes a living creating characters that capture incredible energy, movement, and emotion.



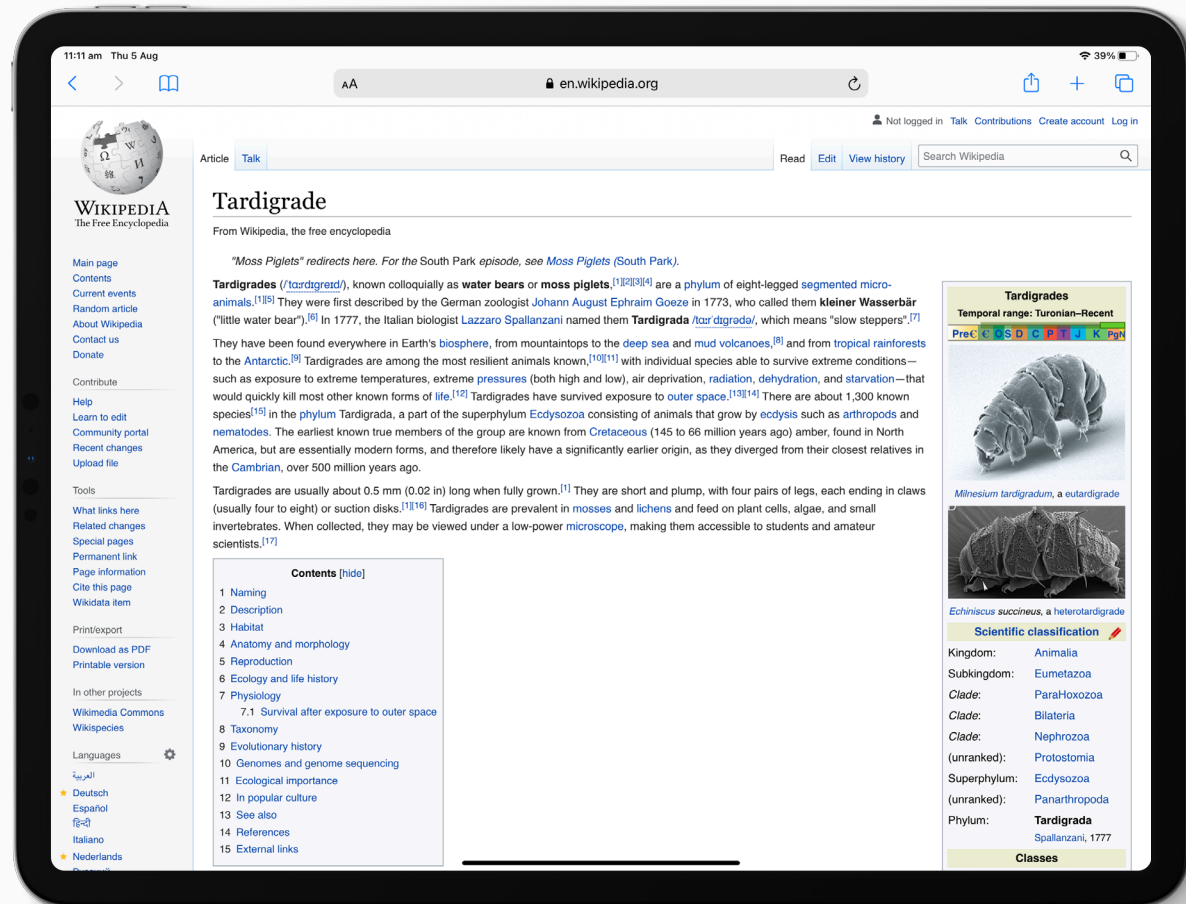
# Investigation

2.

## Research your tiny creature

Use *Safari* to research your tiny creature. This could be a microorganism that you've learned about in science class, seen on television, or you might go to the library.

Spend some time researching, and pick an organism that is too small to see with the naked eye. Pick a creature that you think you could add personality to through character design.



Safari



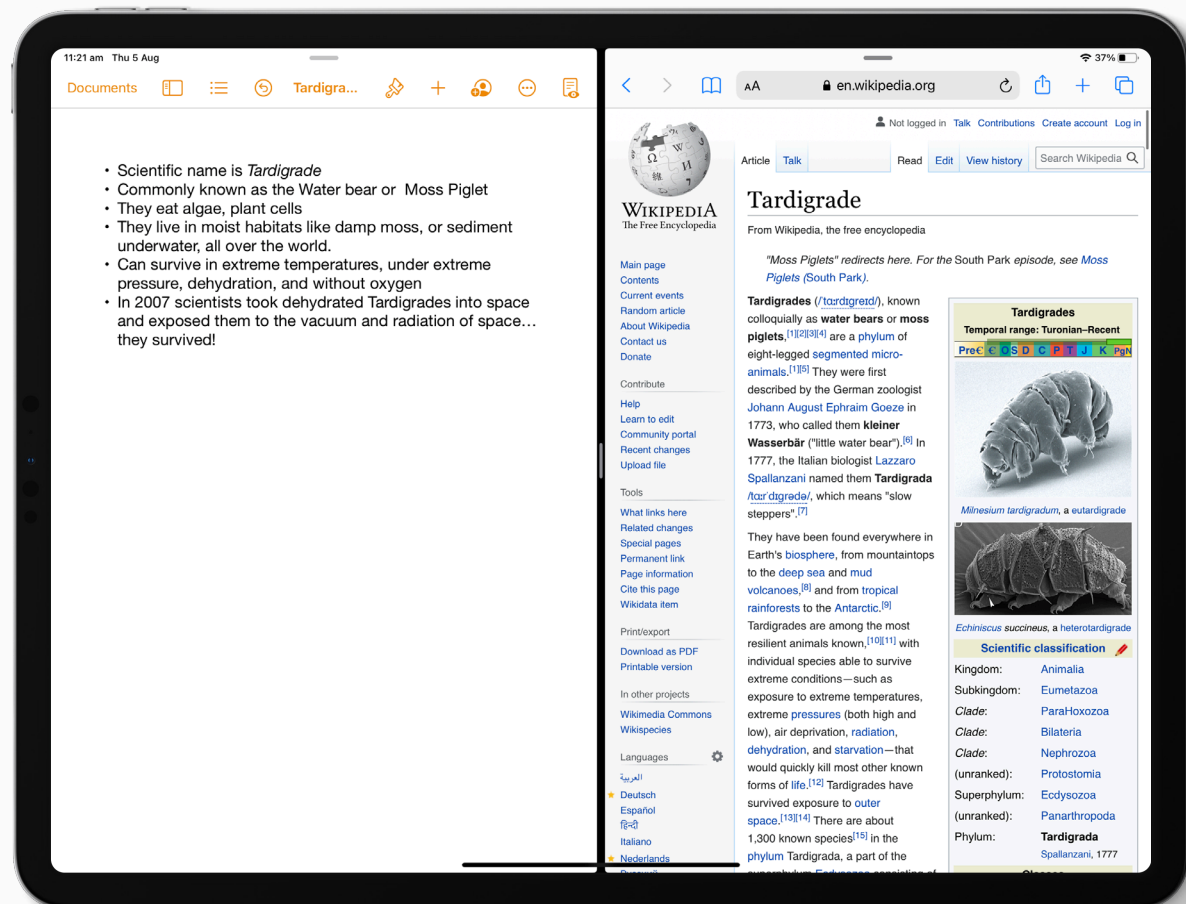
## Finding the facts

Open *Pages* in multi-tasking mode with *Safari*, and start to compile a profile of your organism as you do your research. Think about what they eat, where they live, their size – you might even find some fun facts about them along the way!

Compile a few photos of your creature from your research into your *Pages* document for research for later.

### TWO THINGS AT ONCE

You can use multi-tasking mode to have both *Safari* and your *Pages* document open on your iPad at the same time. To enter multi-tasking mode, swipe up from the bottom of the screen to open the Dock while in Procreate. On the Dock, touch and hold the *Pages* app. Then drag it off the dock to the left or right edge of the screen.



# Developing character

4.

## The perfect personality

Referring to your research think about what kind of personality your organism might have, if you were to watch a cartoon about it, or read about it in a comic book.

- \* What are three words you will use to describe your character, as if it were a person?





## Sketch development

Use your three personality words to guide you as you start to sketch what your organism might look like if it were a character.

- 1 In your *Gallery* tap the + icon to create a screen-sized canvas.
- 2 Tap the *Brush* tool, and select a brush from the Sketching brush set.
- 3 Do a collection of quick sketches of your character feeling different emotions, or in different poses to test your character design out.

### YOUR CREATIVE LICENSE

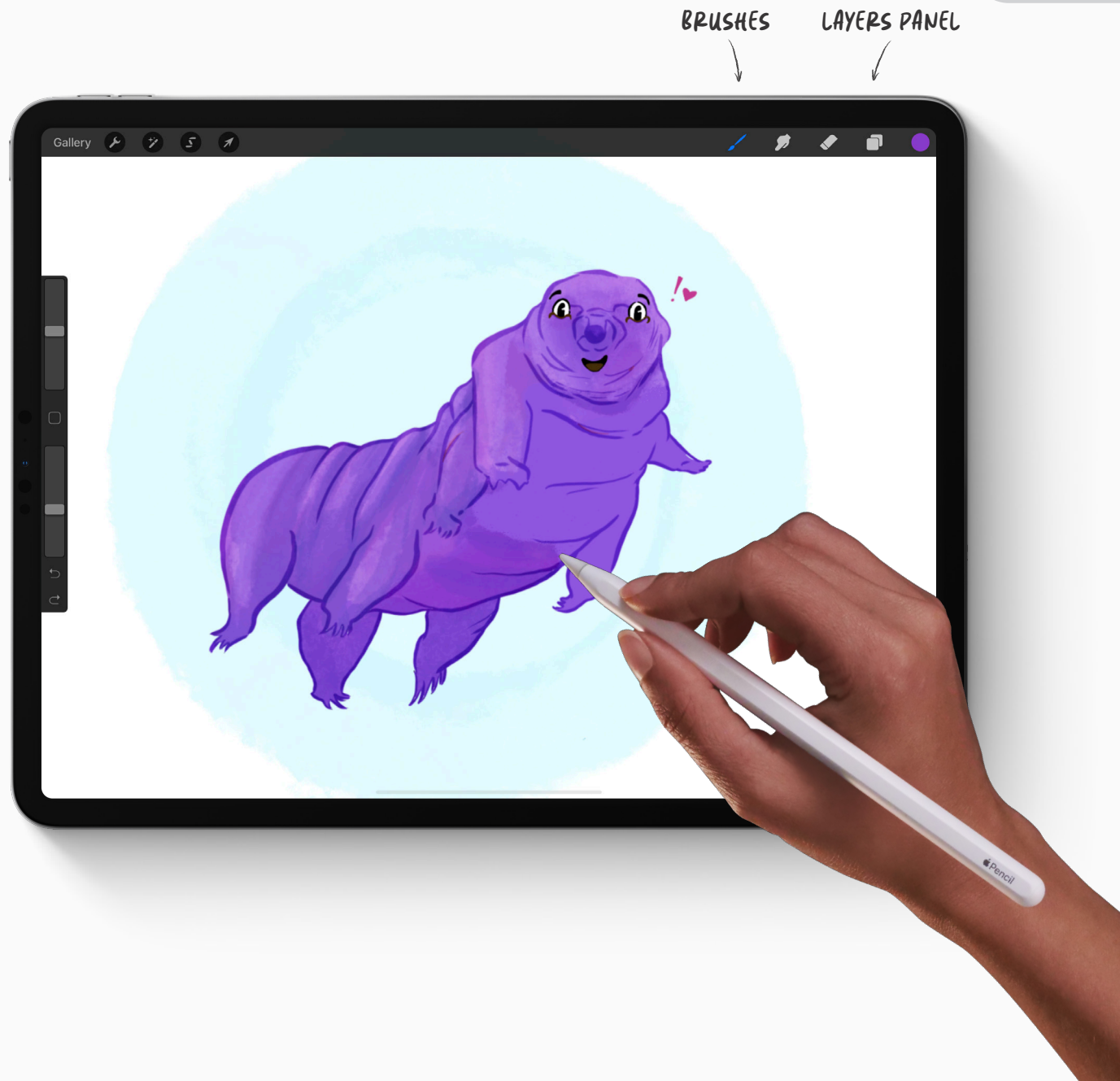
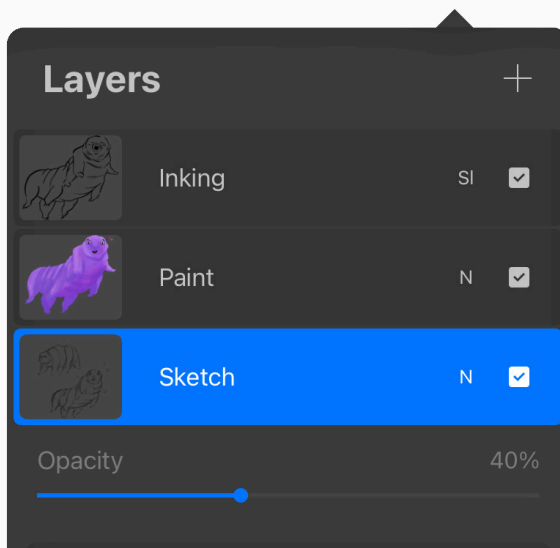
Remember that this isn't a technical illustration, you're giving your creature energy and life! You can be creative in your choice of colours, give it a face if it doesn't have one. It's your artistic choice. How much personality can you give your creature while keeping it recognisable?



## Paint it up

Choose your favourite sketch, and on a new layer, use color and texture to create a realised version of your character.

- 1 Tap the icon with the two squares in the top-right menu to open the *Layers Panel*.
- 2 Tap the *N* on your sketch layer, and drag the *Opacity* slider down to around 40% so you can ink over it.
- 3 Tap the *+* icon to create a new layer, and explore brushes in the *Inking* and *Artistic* brush sets to render your creature.





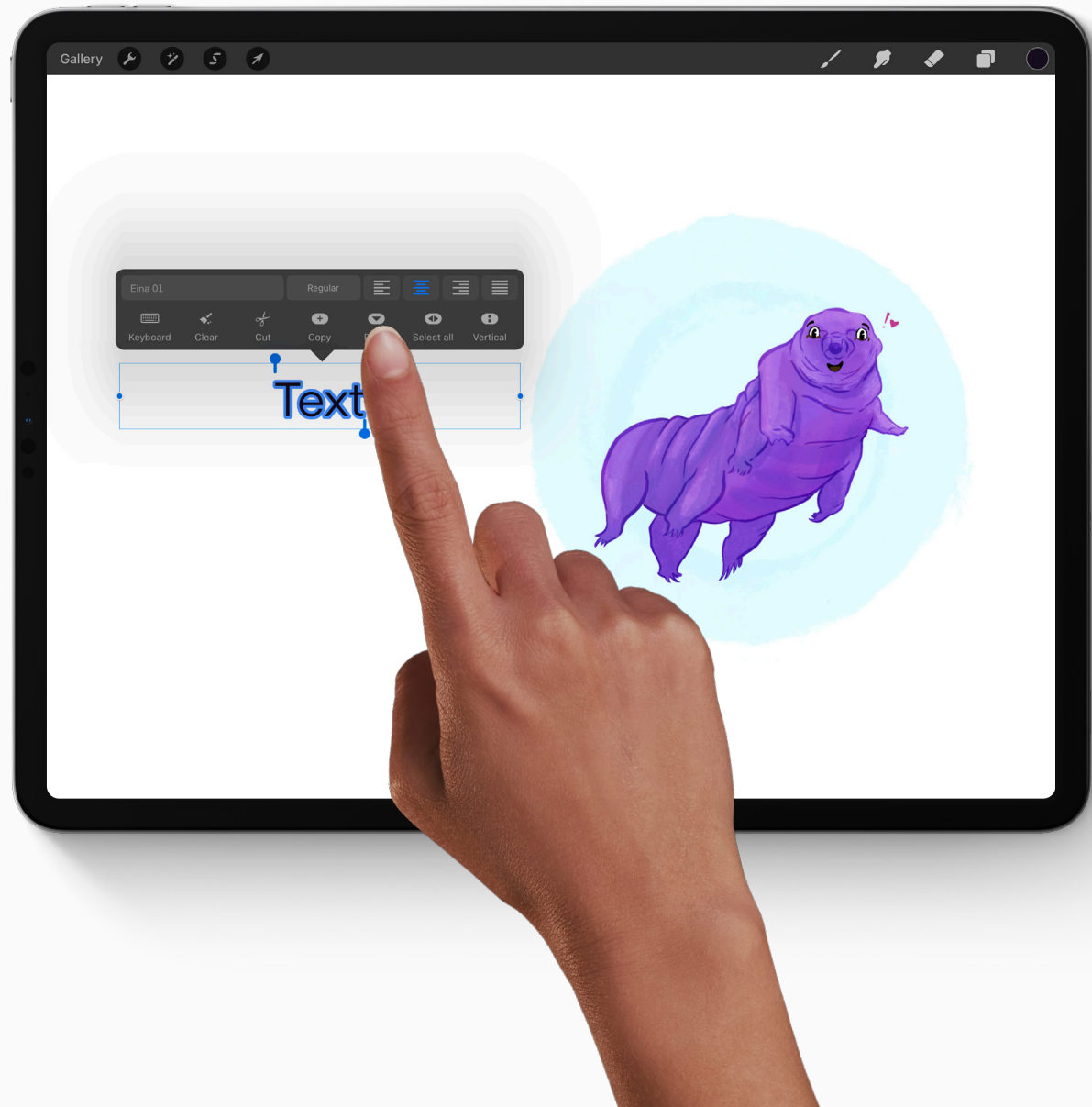
# Create a character sheet

7.

## Incorporate your research

Add a summary of your research onto your character sheet so your classmates get a quick snapshot of your creature's traits.

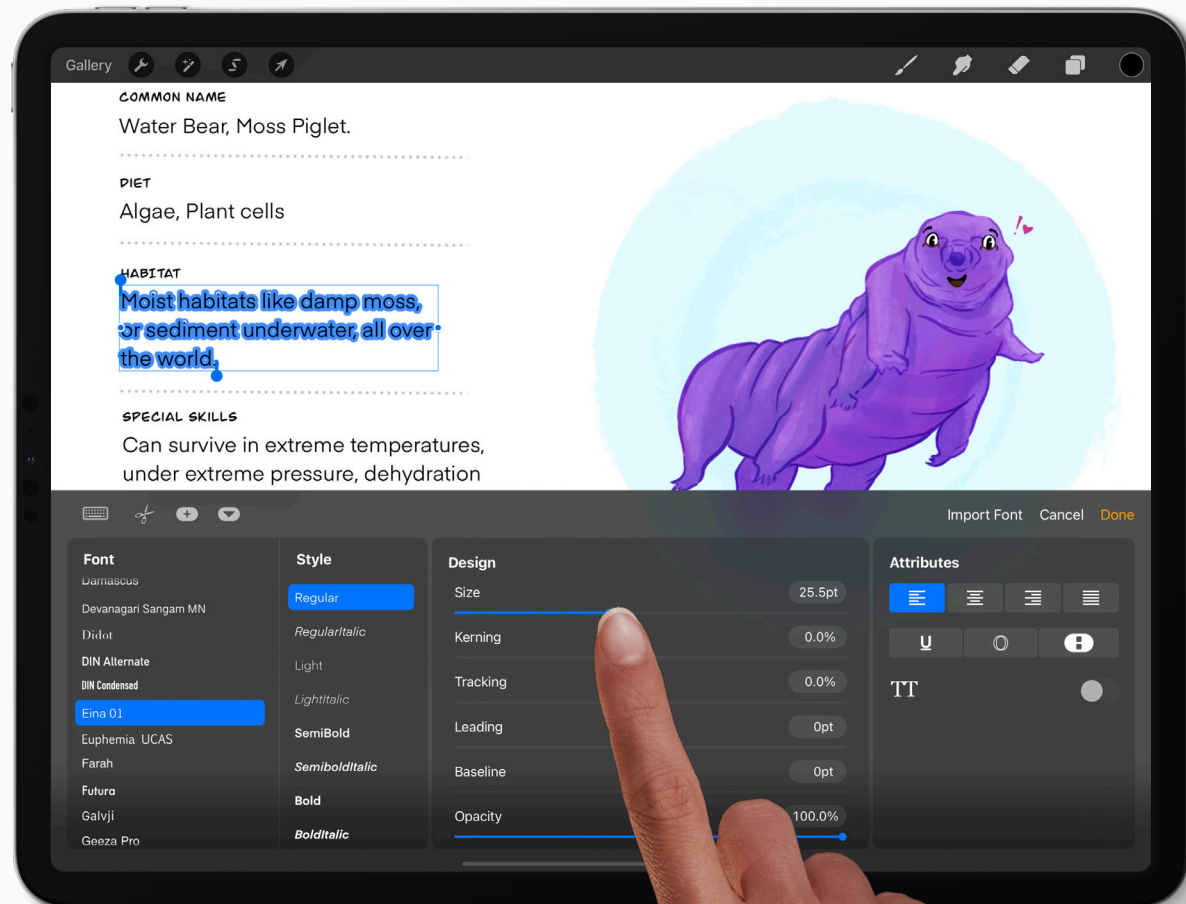
- 1 Go to your *Pages* document and copy your text.
- 2 Back in Procreate, tap the wrench icon to open the *Actions menu*.
- 3 Tap *Add*, and then tap *Add Text*.
- 4 Now tap inside your text field to open the *Text Companion*, and tap *Paste*.



TAP HERE

## Edit your text

- 1 Tap the font name on your *Text Companion* to open up the *Edit Style Panel*.
- 2 Experiment with the *Font*, *Style*, *Design* and *Attributes* settings to adjust the layout of your text.



## Annotations and expressions

Create another new layer, and add in any additional facial expressions or annotations that you think would help other artists as they draw with your characters.



## Voila!

Now you've completed your character sheet it's time to swap with your classmates to build all your characters into a story.



# Take it further

11.

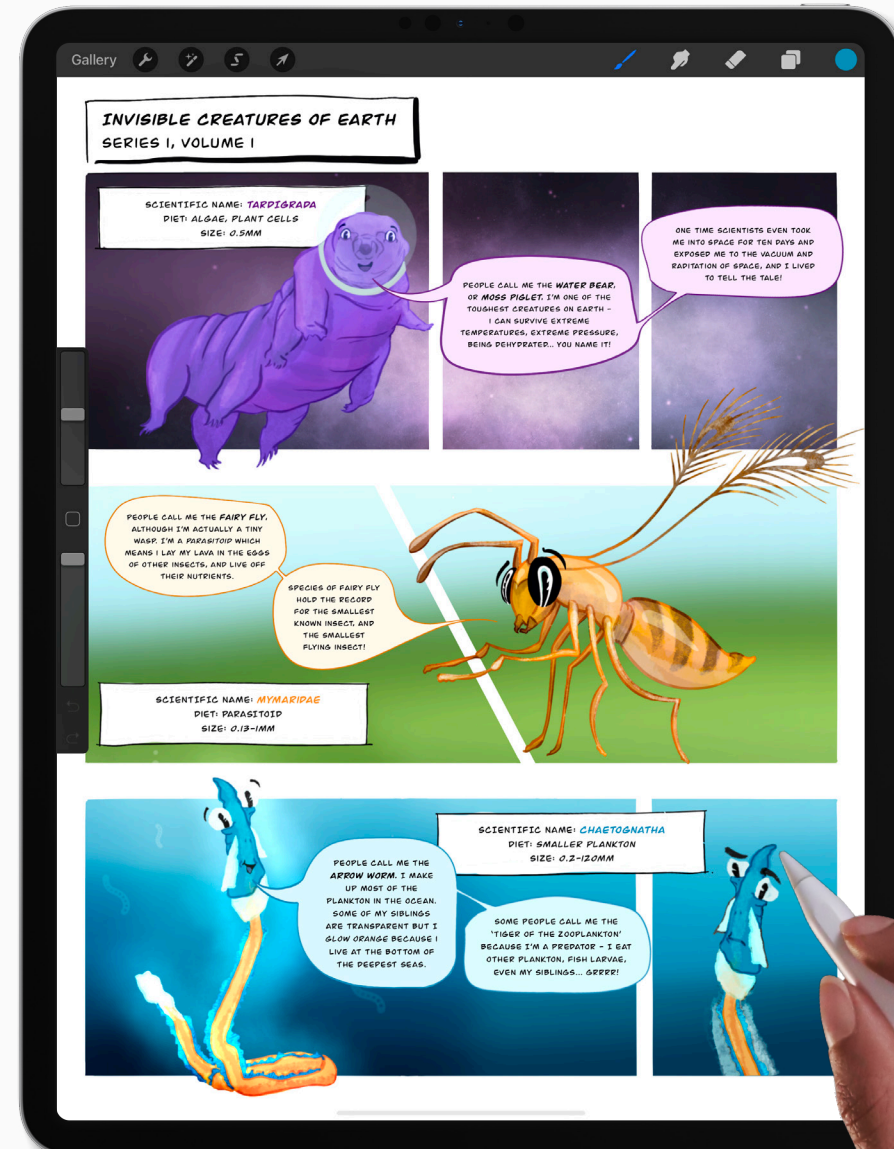
## Storytelling

Use your character summary sheet to inform a creative writing piece in *Pages*, where your character is the protagonist.

## Create a comic

Swap and share your character designs using Airdrop with your class mates, and redraw their characters in your style to combine into a comic strip.

How might you combine each of the different tiny creatures into the one short comic?





# Create

Artistic expression helps make education meaningful, memorable and fun. Find more creative lesson ideas at [education.procreate.art](https://education.procreate.art)

To dive deeper into the full creative potential of Procreate, see our Handbook at [procreate.art/handbook](https://procreate.art/handbook)



Learn with  
**Procreate®**