

ALONG CAME A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER

Strange Steve Ditko and the Creation of Spider-Man

An Unauthorized Biography

written by Annie Hunter Erikson, illustrated by Lee Gatlin

ACTIVITY GUIDE

Spider-Man's web of stories began far before the first drawing of nerdy teenager Peter Parker. They started with Steve Ditko, a kid who loved comics so much that he would brave blizzards to get new issues. Steve was strange—he was introverted, his art was shadowy, and his characters didn't fit the mold of handsome heroes like those crafted by Marvel legends Stan Lee and Jack Kirby. But it's not so strange that the traits that made Steve different were what made his characters stand out.

Swing into the life of Steve Ditko and discover how he transformed a brawny, super-powered Spiderman into the perpetually awkward teenager who we know and love: Spider-Man, a character who relies on his inner strength more than super strength, who got his powers not through magic but through the bite of a radioactive spider . . .

This biography takes the mask off the famously reclusive artist and shares the story of how his wall-crawling hero became a friendly neighborhood icon.



CONNECT THE DOTS

Connect the dots to help Spider-Man vanquish his villains!



•

•

•

•

•

•

•



SECRET IDENTITY WEB-SLINGING

Sling Spider-Man's webs to match the superheroes to their alternate identities.

Spider-Man

Superman

Batman

Wonder Woman

The Incredible Hulk

Captain Marvel

Clark Kent

Bruce Banner

Peter Parker

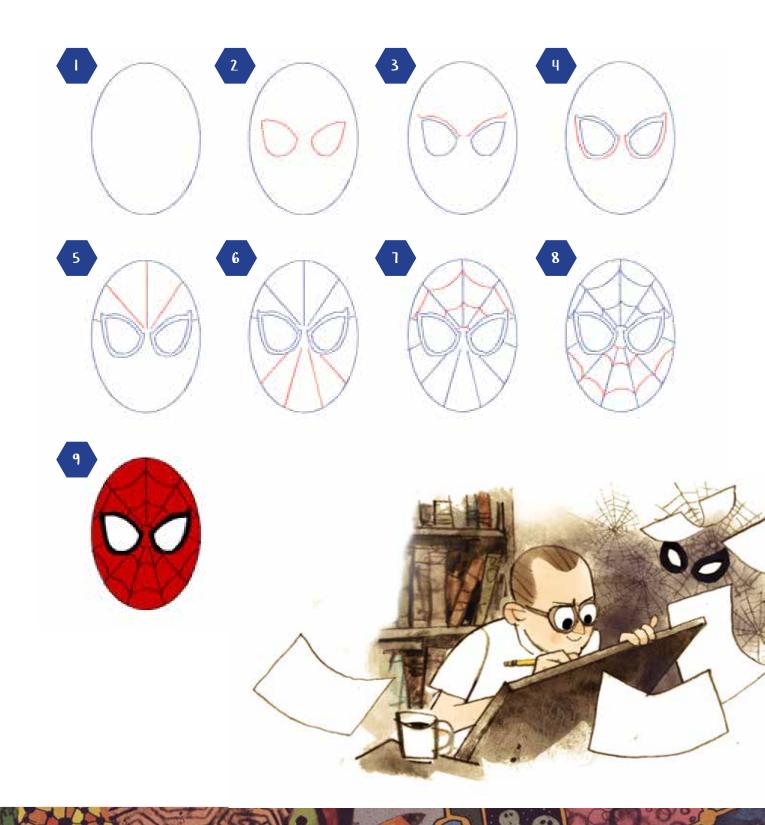
Bruce Wayne

Carol Danvers

Diana Prince

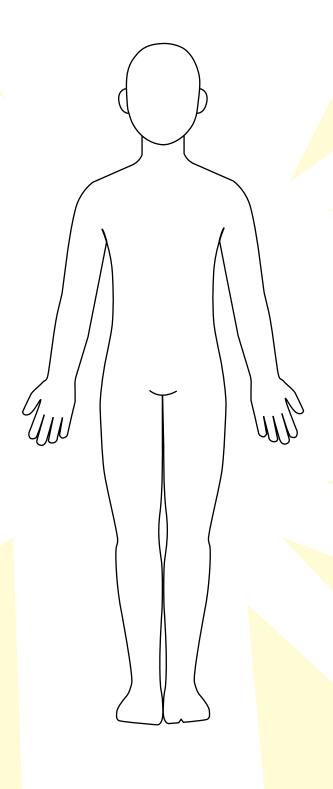
HOW TO DRAW SPIDER-MAN

Follow this step-by-step guide to draw just like Steve Ditko.



CREATE YOUR OWN SUPERHERO!

Design their supersuit & give them superpowers.



CREATE YOUR OWN COMIC

Use the boxes below to draw your own comic using your superhero, just like Steve Ditko! If you're stuck, try battling with a villain or crafting their origin story.