

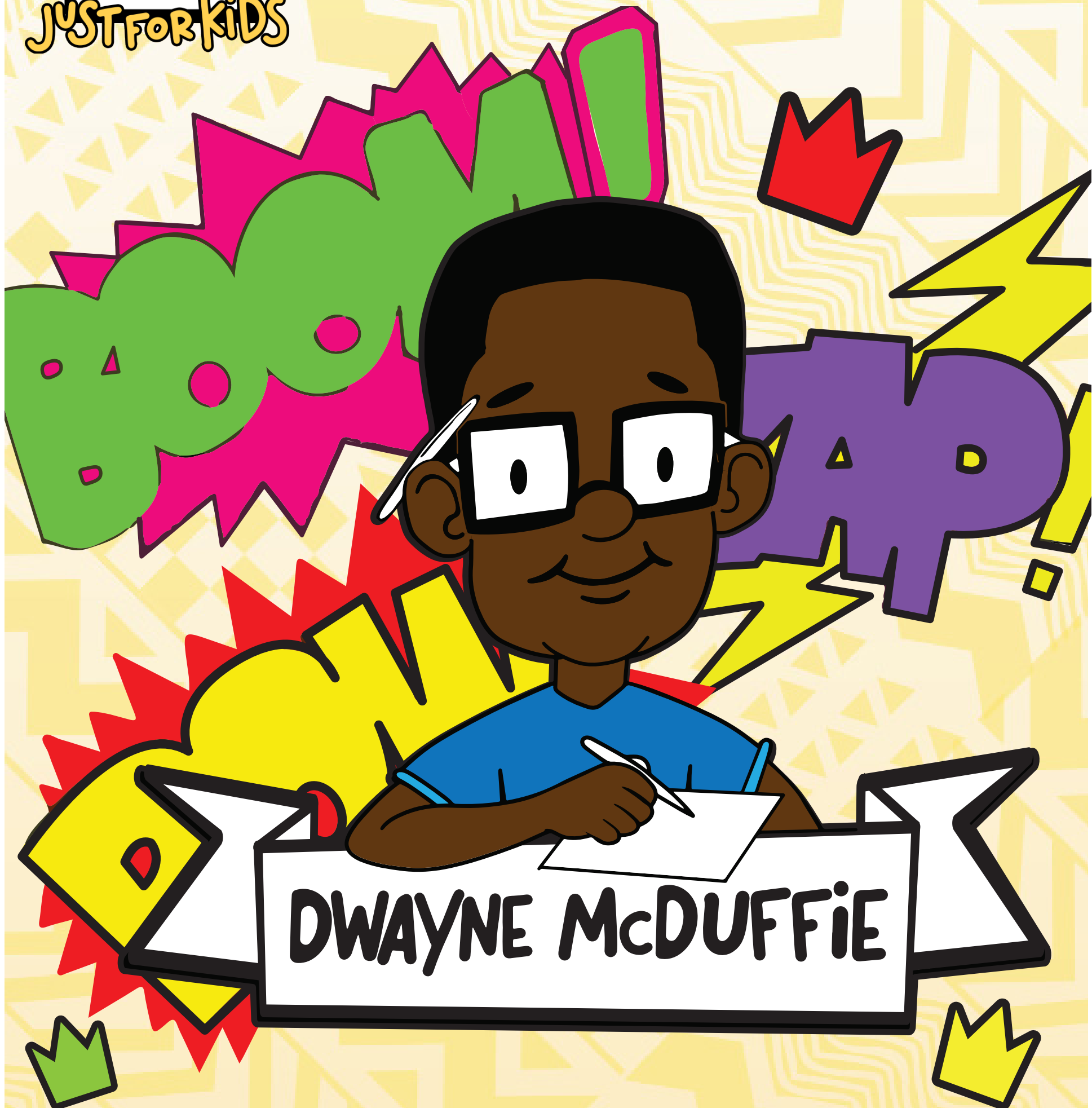
**BECAUSE  
OF THEM  
WE CAN**

**BOX**

**JUST FOR KIDS**

# BECAUSE OF DWAYNE MCDUFFIE

AGES 9 - 12



# THE STORY BEHIND THE STORIES

*Instructions: Read the story about Dwayne McDuffie, which is very very similar to events that happened in his life.*

There are some **fictional** heroes and This story is about a real-life hero named Dwayne McDuffie who not only created some well known Black superheroes but also was the **owner** of a comic book company.

It all started when he was a child. McDuffie loved comic books. He was **impressed** with the artwork and he loved the stories. But there was a problem he couldn't shake. The Black superheroes he read about didn't seem so **relatable** to him. He wanted to read about characters that were not only Black but also had some personality and didn't just fight.

McDuffie searched and searched for comics but most of the comics that he liked didn't have many main Black character. One that that he found he did like was Black Panther by Don McGregor. He always loved comics but he **focused** on his education and went to college getting his master's degree. However, he didn't let his passion die, so when he got older he first started in comics working at Marvel. This young man had the dream and he even helped to create a famous Marvel comic called "Damage Control".

But this young man didn't stop there. He made his own comics and superheroes! He **cofounded** and created Milestone Media. Thanks to his work and that of Milestone Media even more Black superheroes were born - like Static and Icon.

One day he was sitting in his office and he got a call that would completely change his life.

"Mr. McDuffie?"

"Yes?"

"How would you feel like we made Static into a cartoon and had you as a writer?"

"I'd love that", he screamed.

Dwayne McDuffie not only proved no dream is too big but he showed we can do what we love while making a huge **impact**.

**POW**

there are some real ones.



**BANG!**

THERE'S SOMETHING VERY POWERFUL ABOUT SEEING YOURSELF REPRESENTED...

DWAYNE McDUFFIE

# READ & RESPOND



*Instructions: Now that you've read Dwayne McDuffie's story, identify three words to describe his character and explain why. Find three words to say what happened and then explain why. Then describe at least one setting in the story.*

## CHARACTER:

| WORD | EXPLANATION |
|------|-------------|
|      |             |
|      |             |
|      |             |

## SETTING:

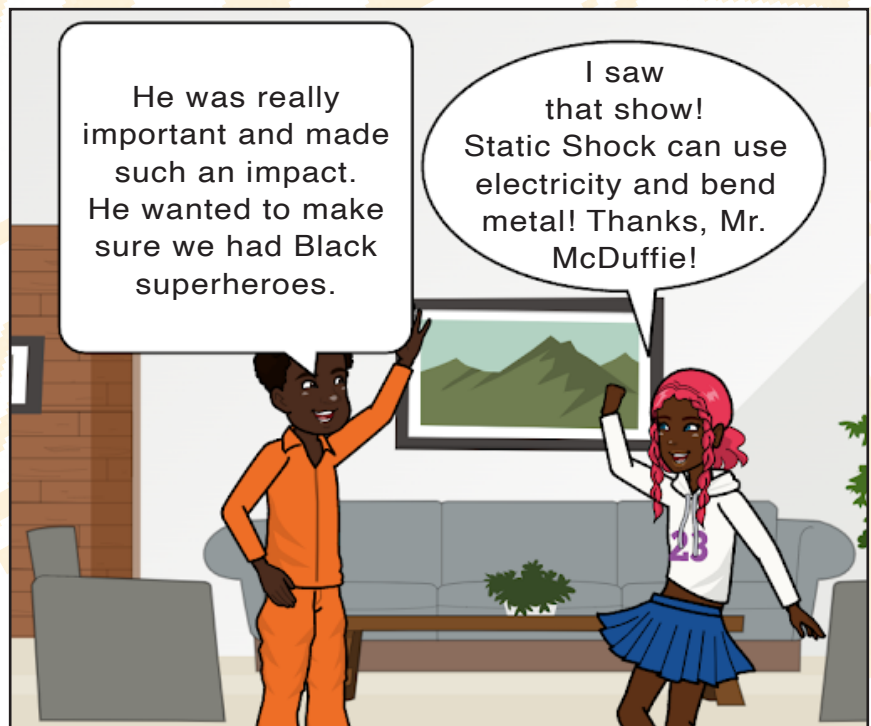
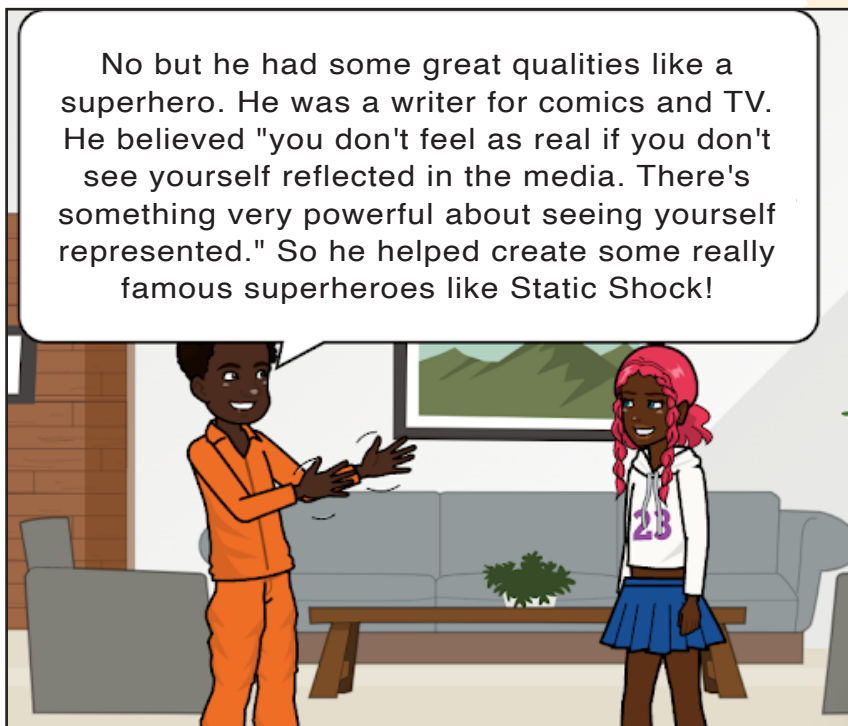
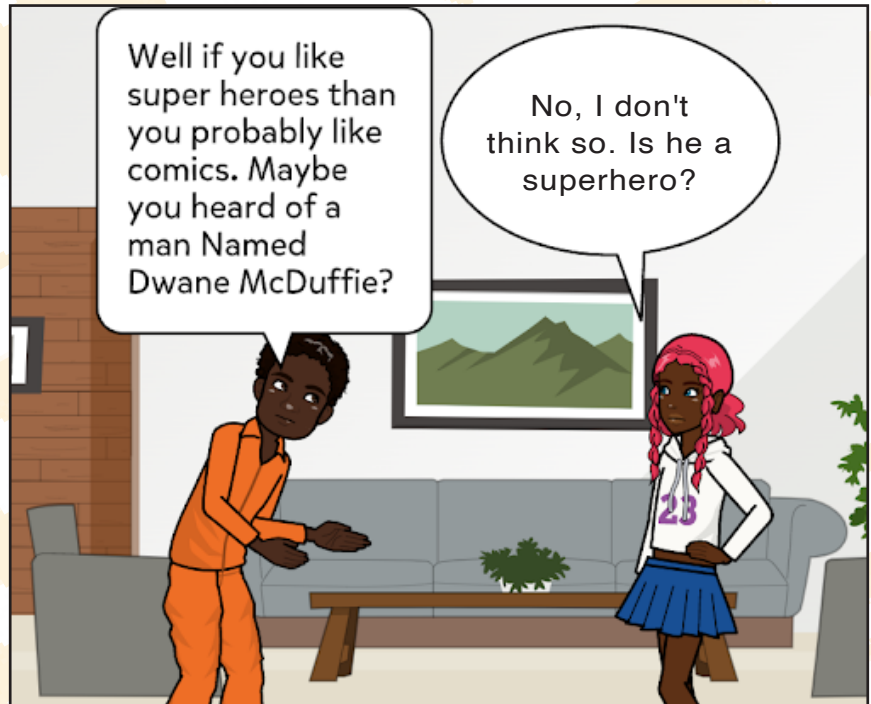
| WHERE? | DESCRIPTION |
|--------|-------------|
|        |             |

## PLOT:

| WHAT HAPPENED? | DESCRIPTION |
|----------------|-------------|
|                |             |
|                |             |
|                |             |

# CREATIVE COMICS

*Instructions: The comic below is about the impact of Dwayne McDuffie. This is a great example of how to use a comic to tell a story and to help someone else learn something new. Think about a topic that you want someone else to learn about and turn it into a comic!*



## GLOSSARY

**Fictional** - written stories about people and events that are not real.

**Owner** - a person or group that owns something.

**Impressed** - to cause (someone) to feel admiration or interest.

**Relatable** - possible to understand because of being like something you have known, experienced, etc.

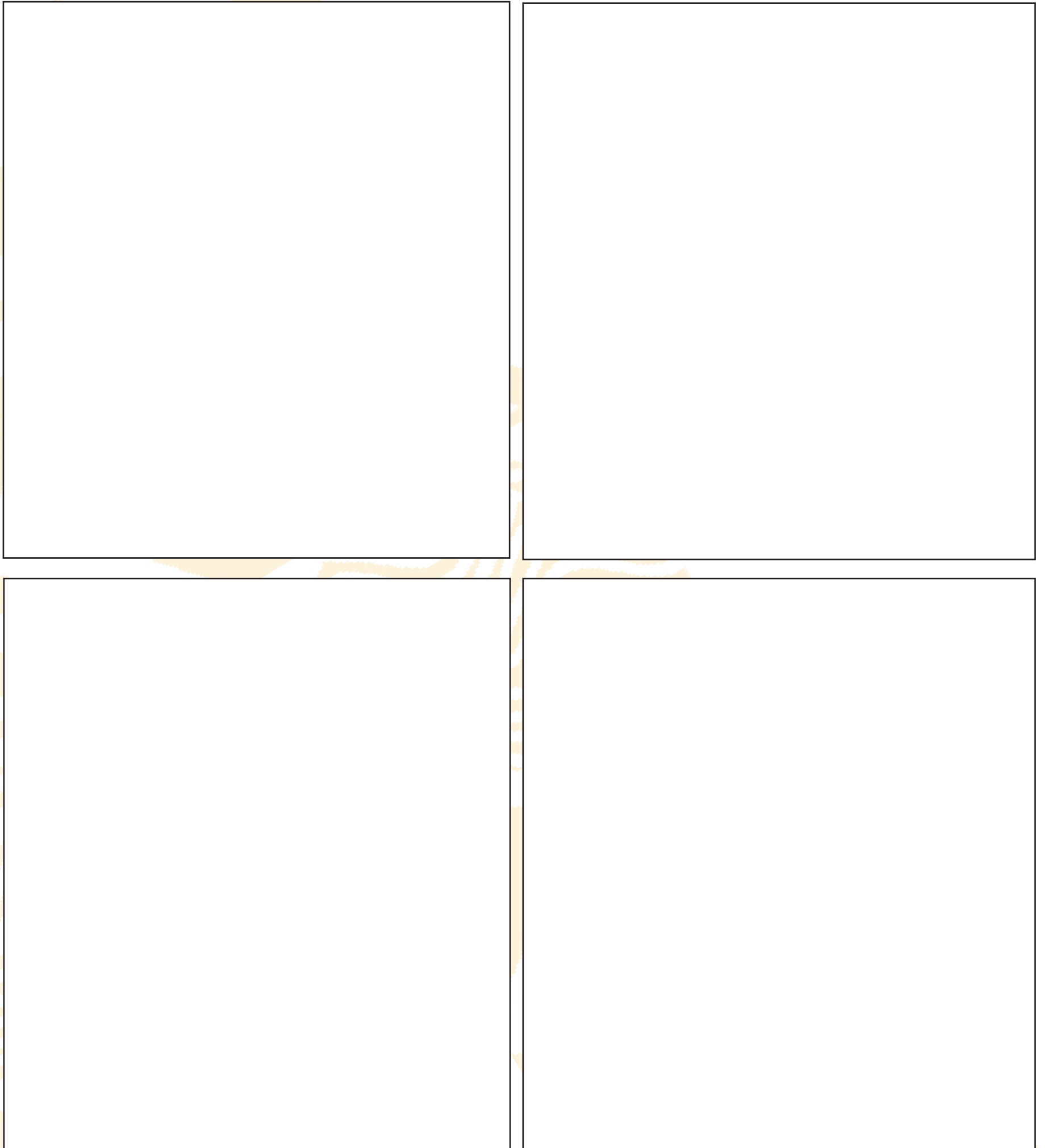
**Focused** - gave attention and effort to a specific task or goal.

**Cofound** - to begin or create (something that is meant to last for a long time) with another person or people.

**Impact** - a powerful or major influence or effect.

# IT'S YOUR TURN!

*Instructions: Now draw your own comic!*

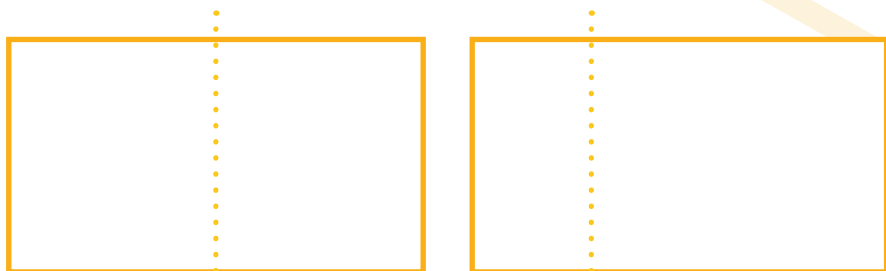


The page contains four large, empty rectangular panels arranged in a 2x2 grid, intended for drawing a comic. The panels are separated by thin black lines. The entire page is framed by a thick yellow border, and there are decorative yellow and orange brushstroke-like patterns in the corners and along the left and bottom edges.

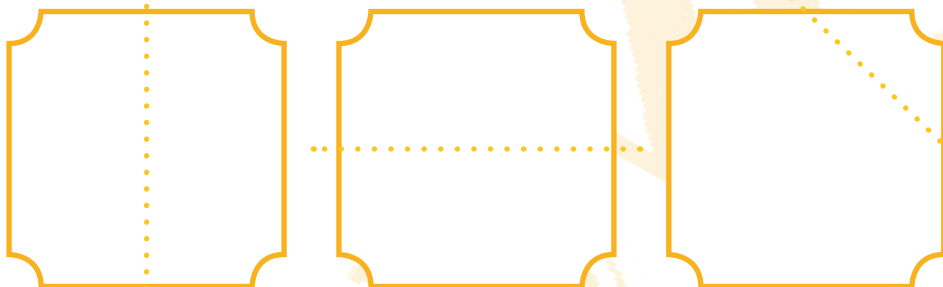
# MATH IS MY SUPERPOWER

You will create a math superhero. In the example below, you this superhero is called "Symmetry Woman". She can use her mind to cut things perfectly in half by using a line of symmetry. She won't do this to people but she can save people because she can cut weapons in half, she can stop a car by cutting it in half, and she can even help cut things like food in half so people can share. Below you have to be like Symmetry Woman and find the link of symmetry in each shape. For each set, circle the correct line or lines of symmetry for each one. Some sets may have more than one right answer! When you are done you can challenge yourself and create your own math superhero and create your own problems.

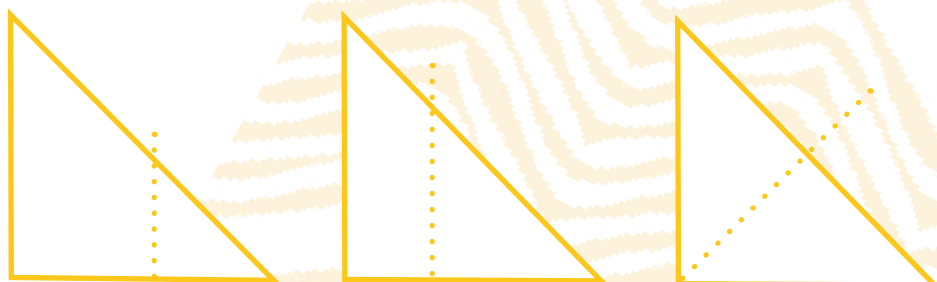
1.



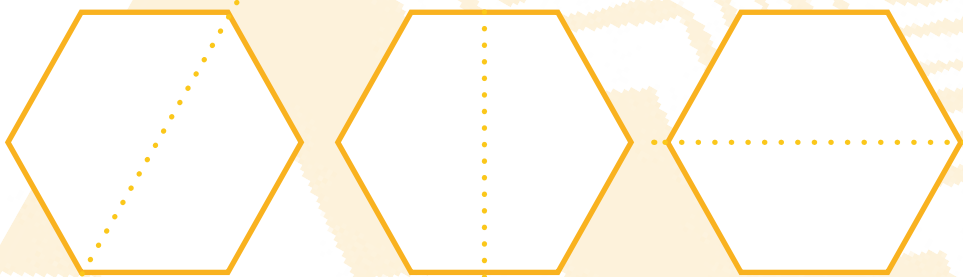
2.



3.



4.



ANSWER KEY: The following should be circled: (1) The 1st shape (2) The 1st and 2nd shape (3) The 3rd shape (4) All the shapes

## TAKE THE PLEDGE

**I WILL HONOR**  
THE SACRIFICES OF  
MY ANCESTORS.

**I WILL BELIEVE**  
IN ME.

**I WILL PURSUE**  
MY DREAMS.

**I WILL HELP**  
OTHERS ALONG  
THE WAY.