

# CoolitArt

## Stop Motion Animation: Emotion



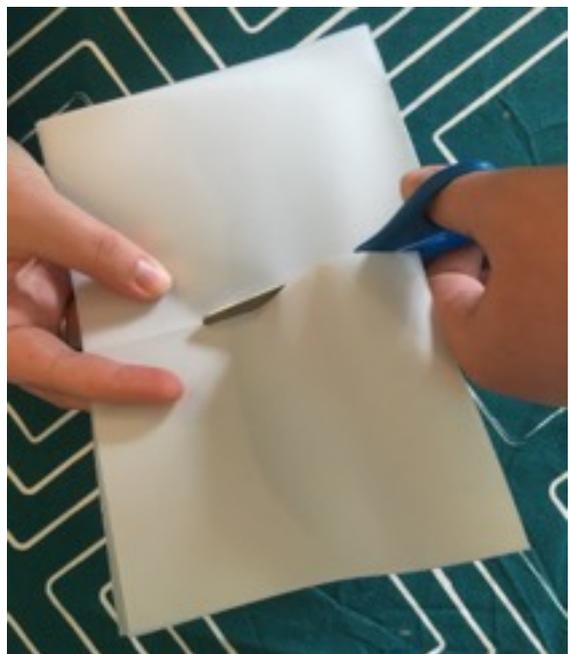
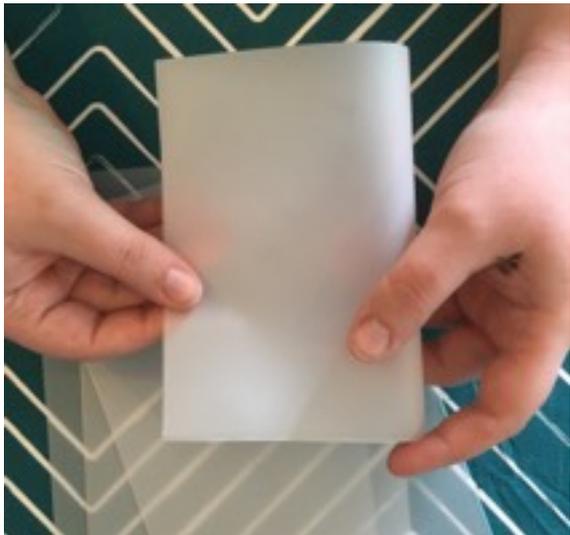
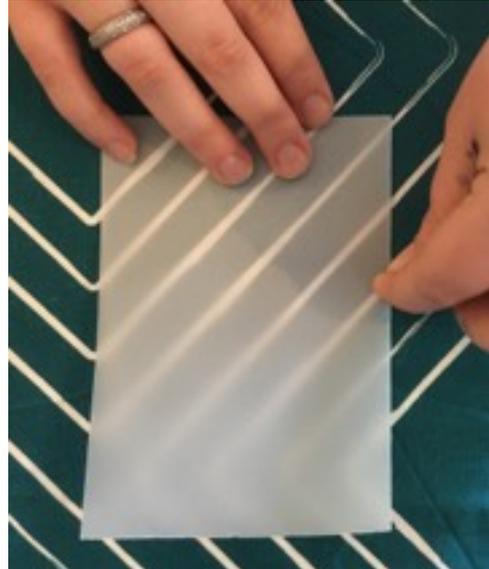
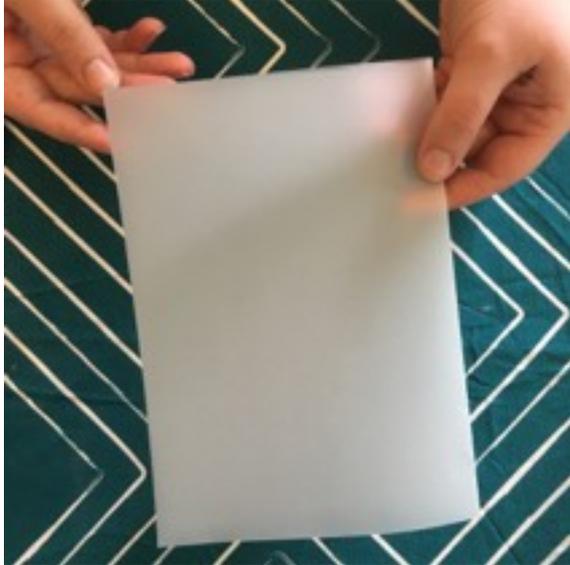
This is a really easy way to learn about stop motion - focussing on how to do changing emotions

Tools and Materials:

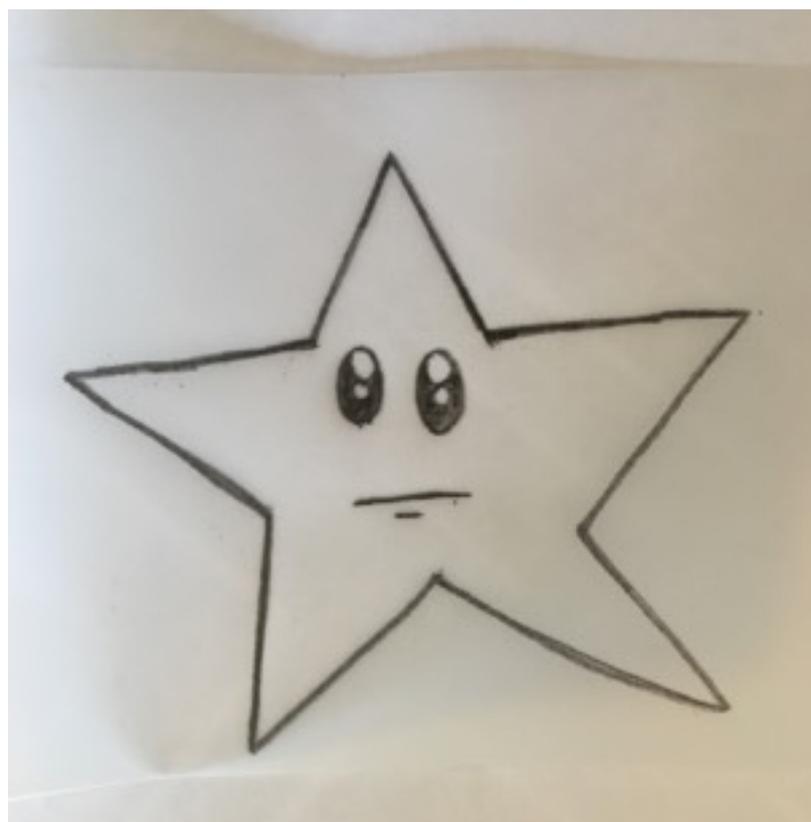
- 3 sheets of A4 Tracing Paper
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Bulldog Clip



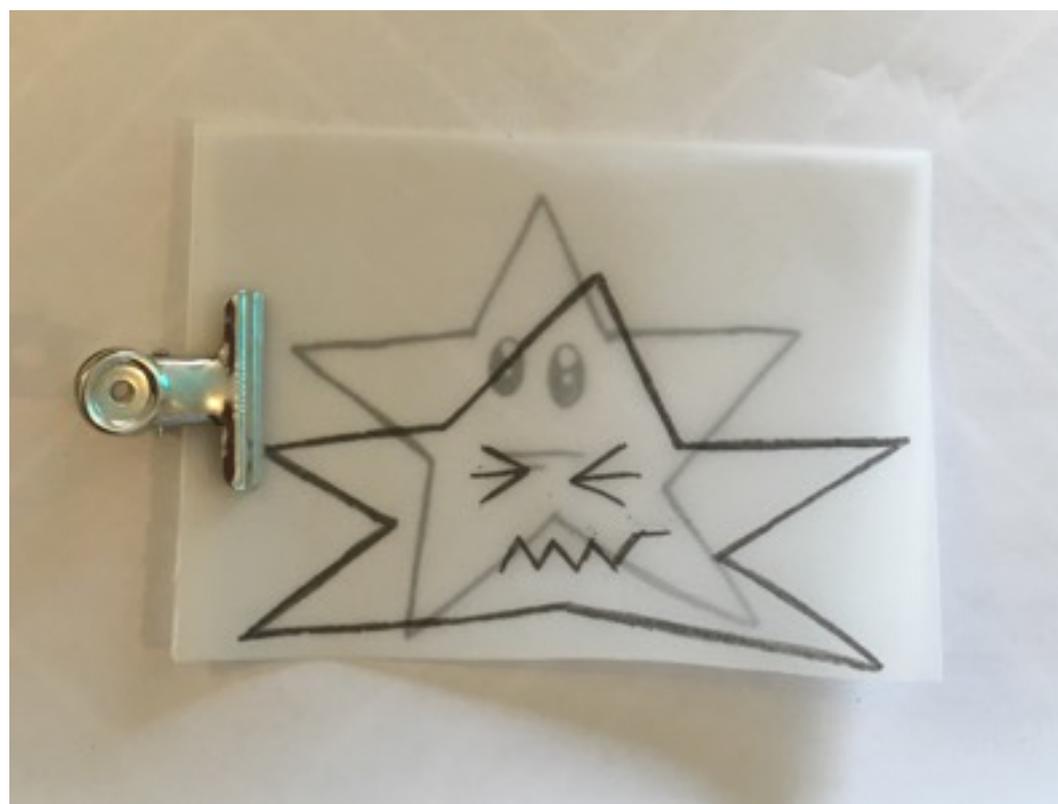
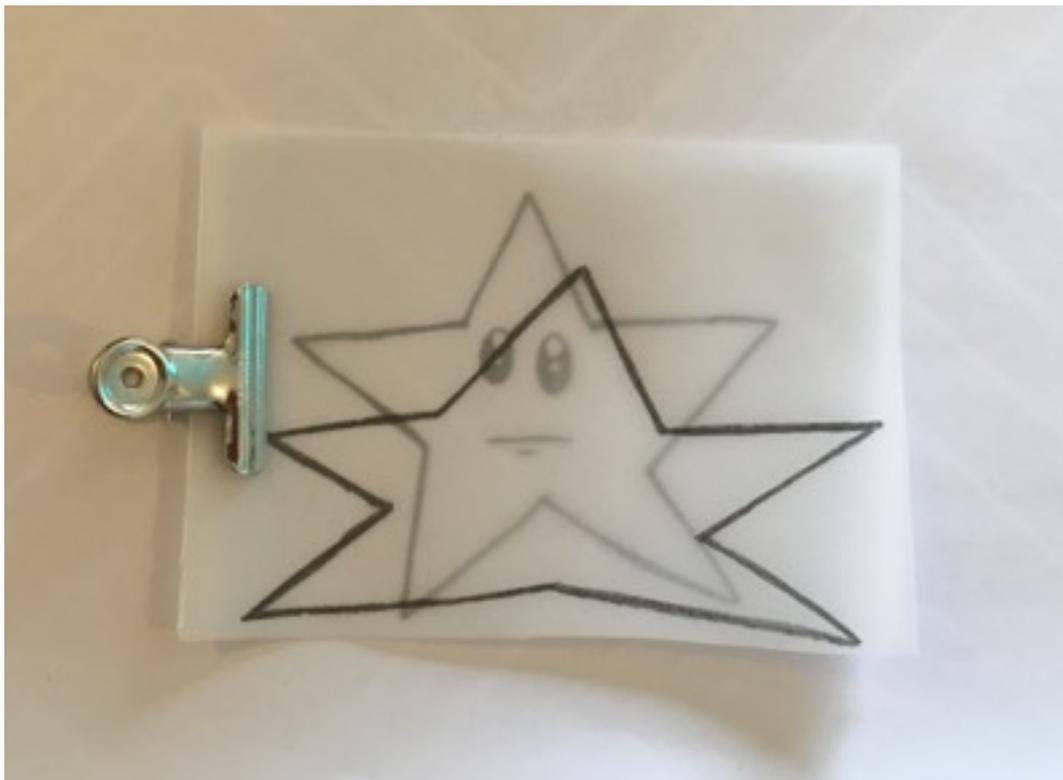
First take your paper, fold it in half and cut the down the line and then fold it in half again and cut it - each page will give you 4 bits so you will have 12 in total.



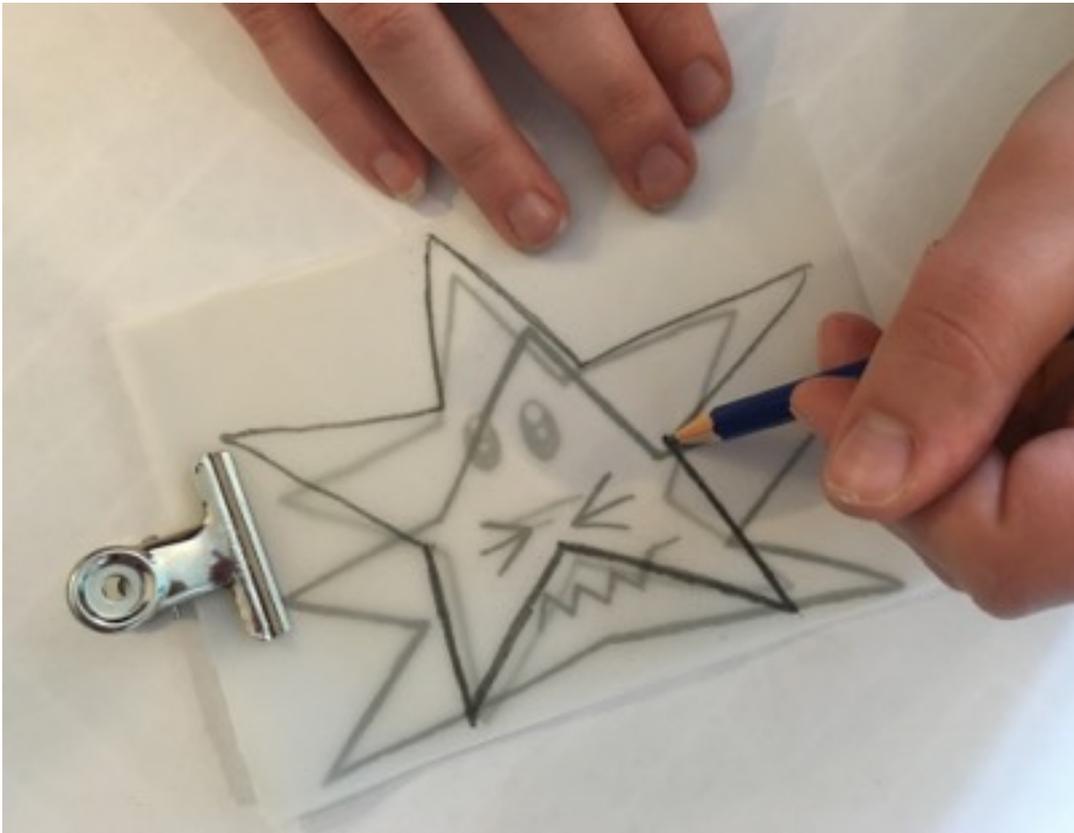
Once you have your materials ready you can design your character! It is good to keep to outlines with not masses of detail because you have to recreate it every time - when you draw their face draw a neutral expression - not happy not sad almost “blank”



To get an expression we need to do 4 main drawings; “normal” like the one above, “squash”, “stretch” and then the expression such as surprise, happiness or whatever you would like your character to experience. Laying a piece of tracing paper over your drawing you can “squash” your character like so - make sure it’s wider and shorter than the original drawing with a face is if being squashed



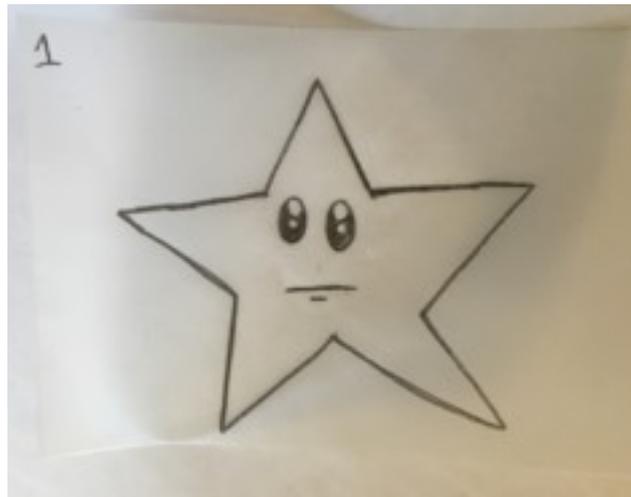
Now we have done our “squash” time to do our “stretch” again using your original drawing you want this one to be taller and thinner than the first so it looks like your character has been stretched with a surprised face

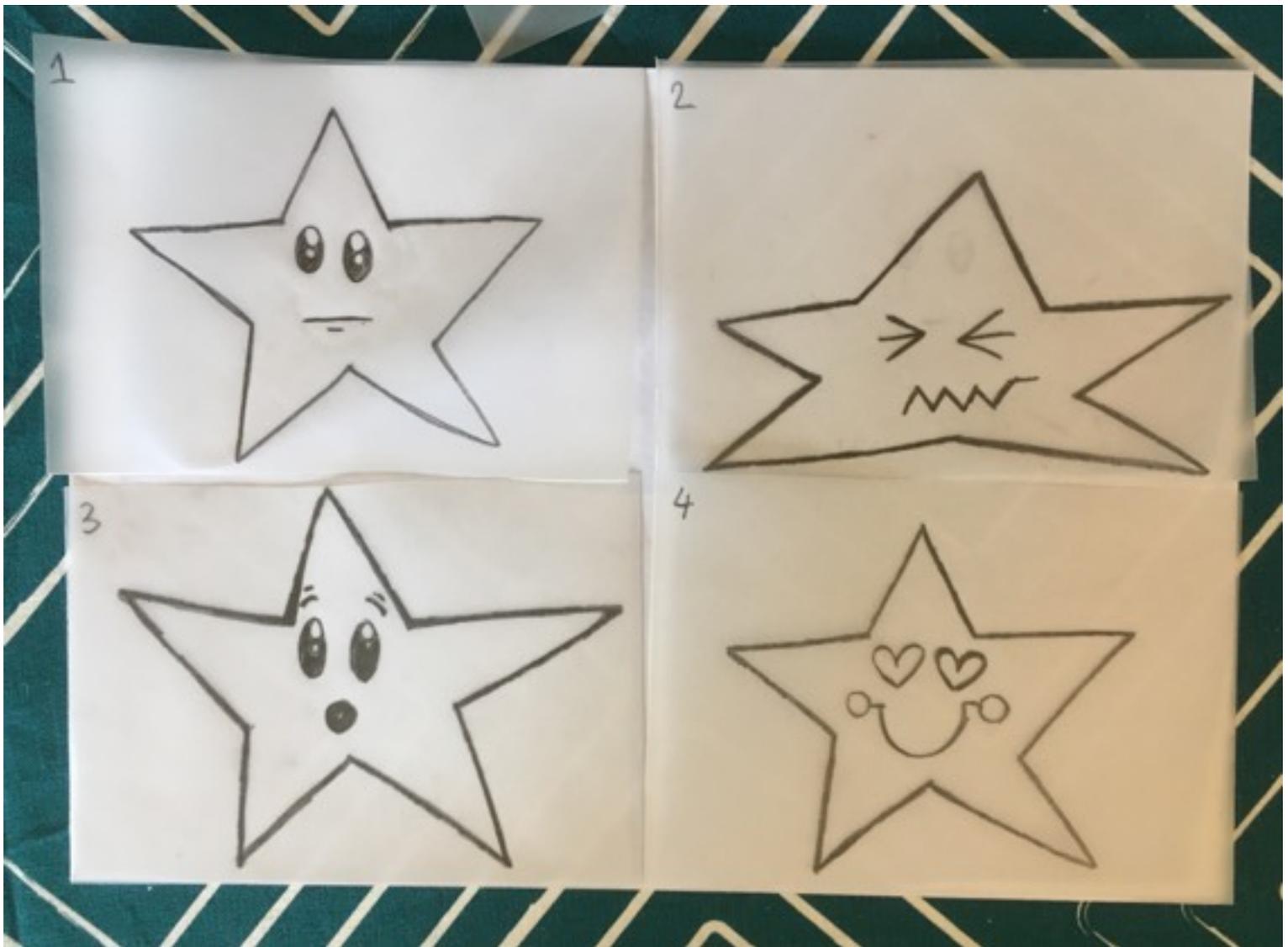


Using your “normal” drawing of your character you can now create your expression - we wanted ours to look like he loves something!



So you should have your 4 different images: “normal”, “squash”, “stretch” and “expression”





Animation is a very intensive process to make it look smooth you have to do drawings with a small difference to get from one stage to another! We have 4 drawings but we have 12 bits of paper so we need to do in between stages so that it doesn't look so jumpy. We will do 3 drawings in between "normal" 1 and "squash" 2 - 2 drawings between "squash" 2 and "stretch" 3 and 3 drawings in between "stretch" 3 and "expression" 4

We know it sounds like a lot to try and understand - but once you get it is really easy and you can even explore doing different emotions and even think about doing actions!

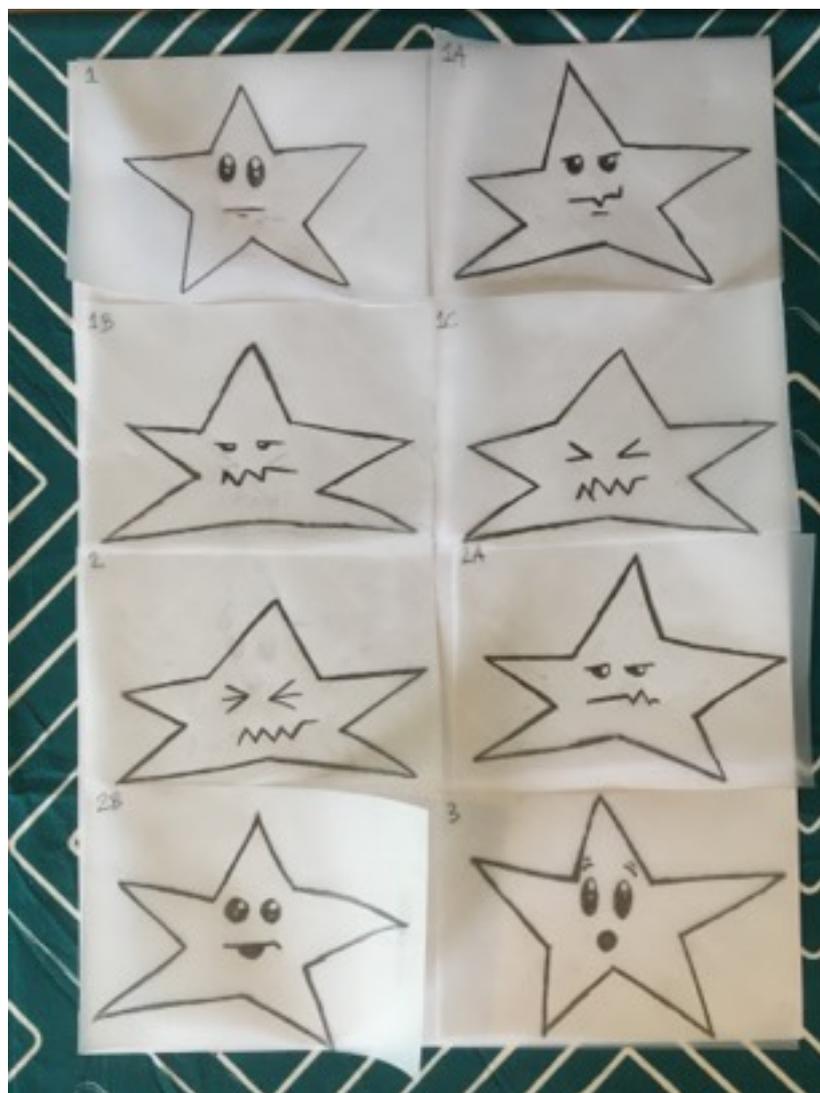
Using “normal” and “squash” as guides you want to do a drawing slightly changing from one to the other - but spacing it over 3 drawings!



So you should end up with drawings much like this



Now to go from “squash” to “stretch” in 2 drawings



Lastly the 3 drawings to get from “stretch” to “expression”



You can use your finished drawings as a flip book or you can scan them or photograph them very carefully so they line up. You can turn it into an animation using movie software play around with the timing of the photos to see what works and what doesn't - see what you can find online or you already have on your computer! There are lots of things on the internet like tutorials on youtube to give you more inspiration!

You can see our finished work here:

<https://youtu.be/f2IJIFBN0BA>

You can check with our friends over at The Flipgarden if they have any events coming up where you can learn about animation in one of their workshops!

<https://flipgarden.wordpress.com>

Happy animating!!