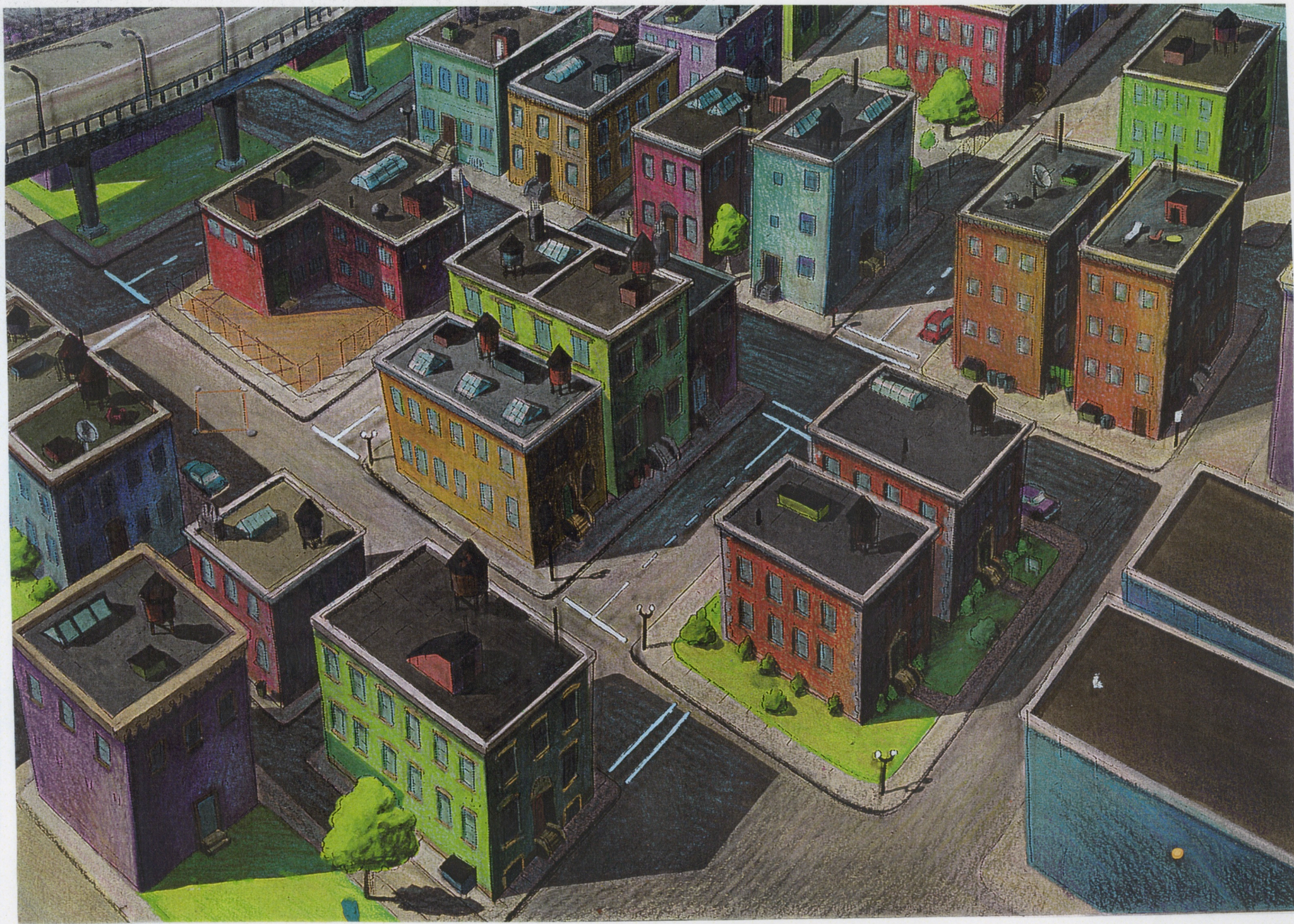


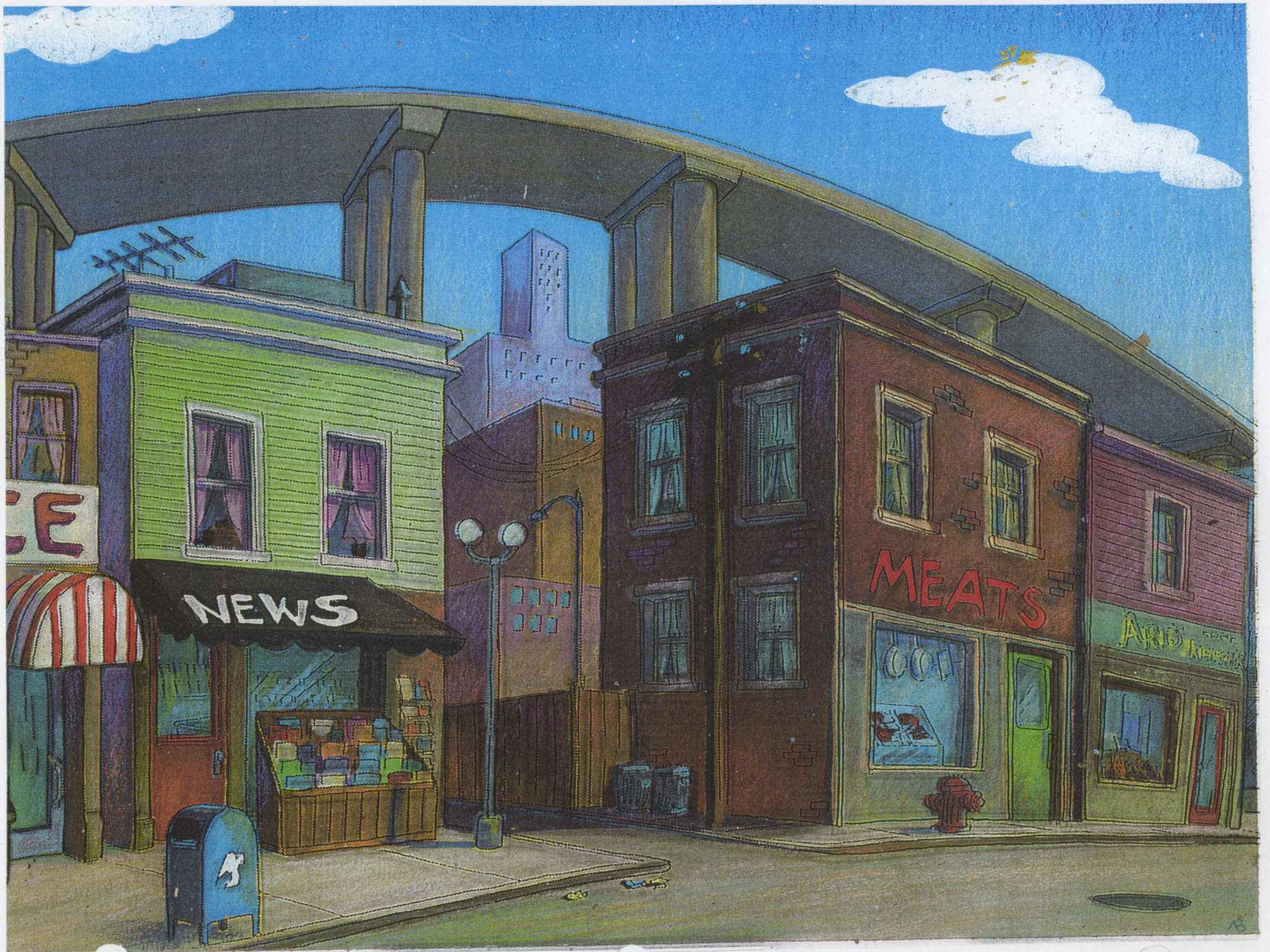
the
Hey Arnold!
show bible

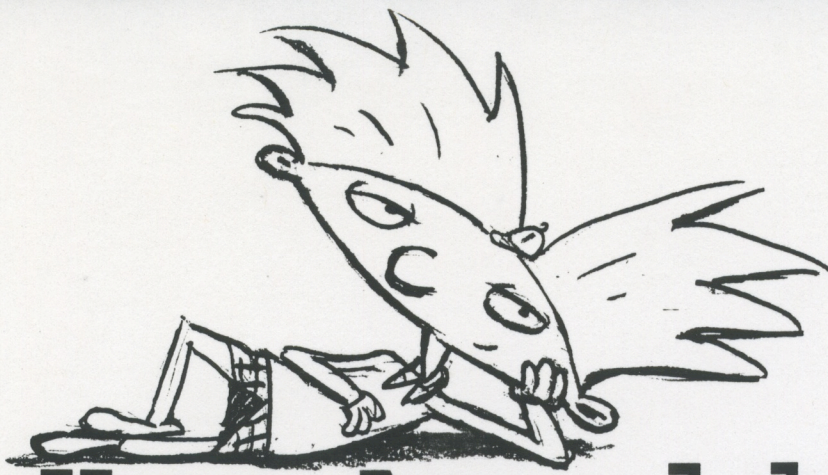
text:
Craig Bartlett

art:
Clint Bond
Tuck Tucker
and the Hey Arnold! artists

July 1998
fourth season







Hey Arnold!

is about the adventures of a nine-year-old, football-headed kid who lives in a boarding house under a freeway with his grandparents, several cats and dogs, a pig named Abner, and a handful of eccentric boarders. It's about life in the fourth grade, and unrequited love, and playing baseball in the street, and best friends, and betrayals, and secret handshakes, and rooftops, and grandpas who tell long stories, and vacant lots, and all the little stuff that seems so important when you're a kid.

Arnold and his friends know the ten-block-square area between their houses and the school like the back of their hands. It's the kind of a neighborhood where if Arnold gets challenged to a fight at school, the butcher Mr. Green will know about it before Arnold passes his place on his walk home. "Hey Arnold! You know what I'd do...?" In other words, it's the kind of warm, knowing community none of us really belongs to, but wish existed. It's safe. Arnold can go out the window of his skylight at midnight, climb down the fire escape and meet his friends for an adventure.

There's plenty of dark urban ambience, and even the threat of physical violence, but this city has more of the retro romance of "West Side Story" than the post-modern danger of "Goodfellas." Other "Hey Arnold!" influences include the jazzy and melancholy "Charlie Brown" specials of the '60s, the ritually recurring gags of "Rocky and Bullwinkle," the cityscapes of Edward Hopper, the thousands of kid plotlines of "The Simpsons" (believe me, they've done 'em all), and the sitcoms we grew up on.

Hey Arnold! features the voices of real kids, and if I've learned anything in four years of making it, it's that our secret weapon is the emotional realism that comes from those real kid performances, strongly aided by the show's deeply saturated color palette and Jim Lang's equally saturated music score. The following pages contain sketches and bios of the Hey Arnold! characters, each one packed with emotional realism. Enjoy!

Craig Bartlett

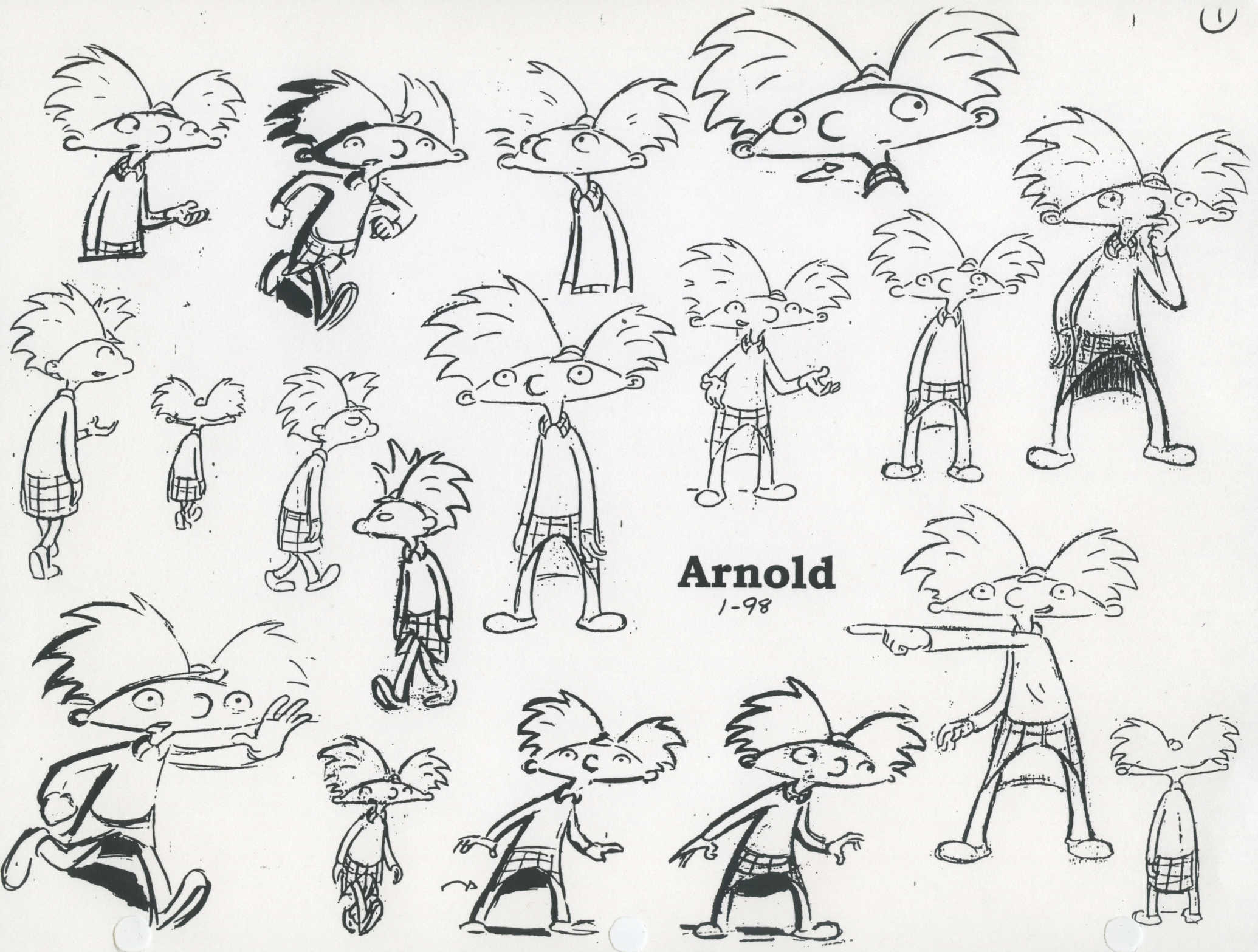
ARNOLD

The star of the show, Arnold serves as the calm center around which everyone else can go nuts. He's philosophical, idealistic, romantic and hard to rile. But Arnold has a powerful will - he makes things

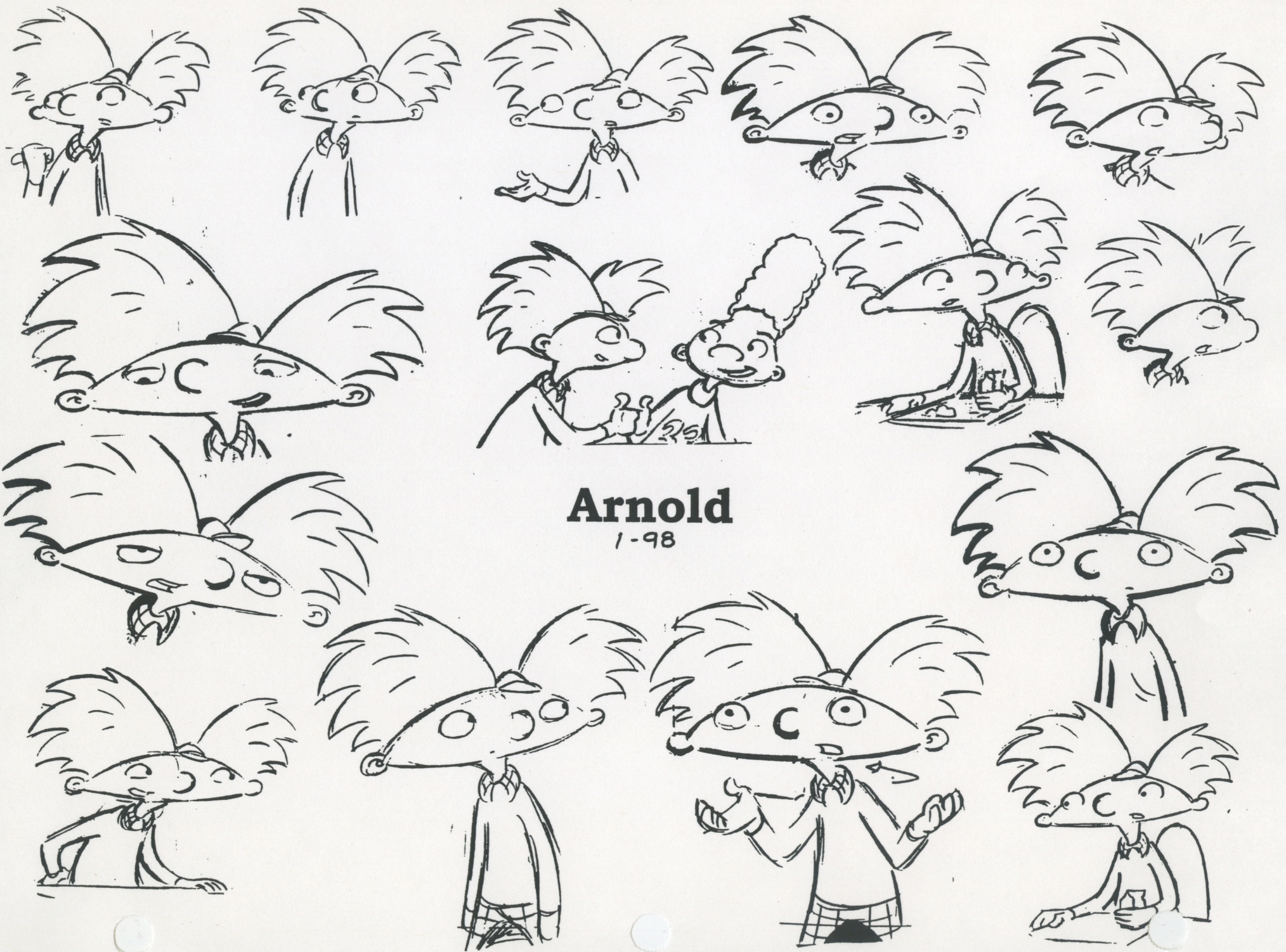


happen. Arnold's only fault is that he tends to find himself in the middle of everyone else's business. He's always trying to make things right, to "fix" people, and sometimes it pisses people off. Arnold can be forgiven, because he's making up for his own incompleteness - his parents left him with his Grandma and Grandpa when he was not quite two and then disappeared in an airplane à la Amelia Earhart.

Arnold started life in Craig's living room in '88 in a series of clay-animated shorts as a five-year-old in a blue school uniform - a mute, daydreaming observer. When the Hey Arnold! pilot was developed for Nickelodeon in '94, Arnold grew up to age nine, lost the uniform, picked up a voice, a best friend, Grandma and Grandpa, the boarding house and the under-the-freeway urban setting. He kept the football-shaped head, the tiny blue hat, his imagination, and his job: he's still the star.

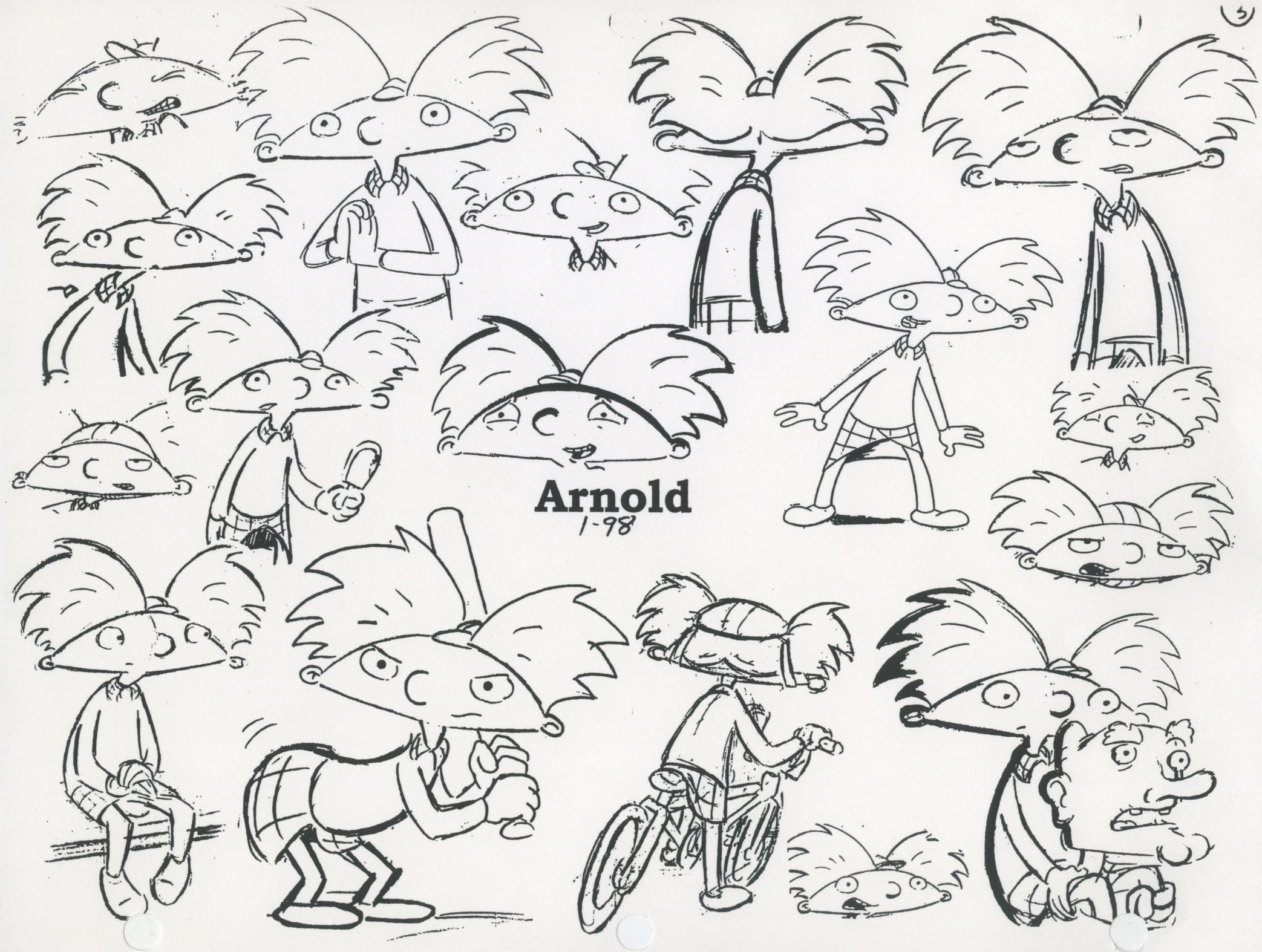


Arnold
1-98



Arnold

1-98



Arnold
1-98

HELGA

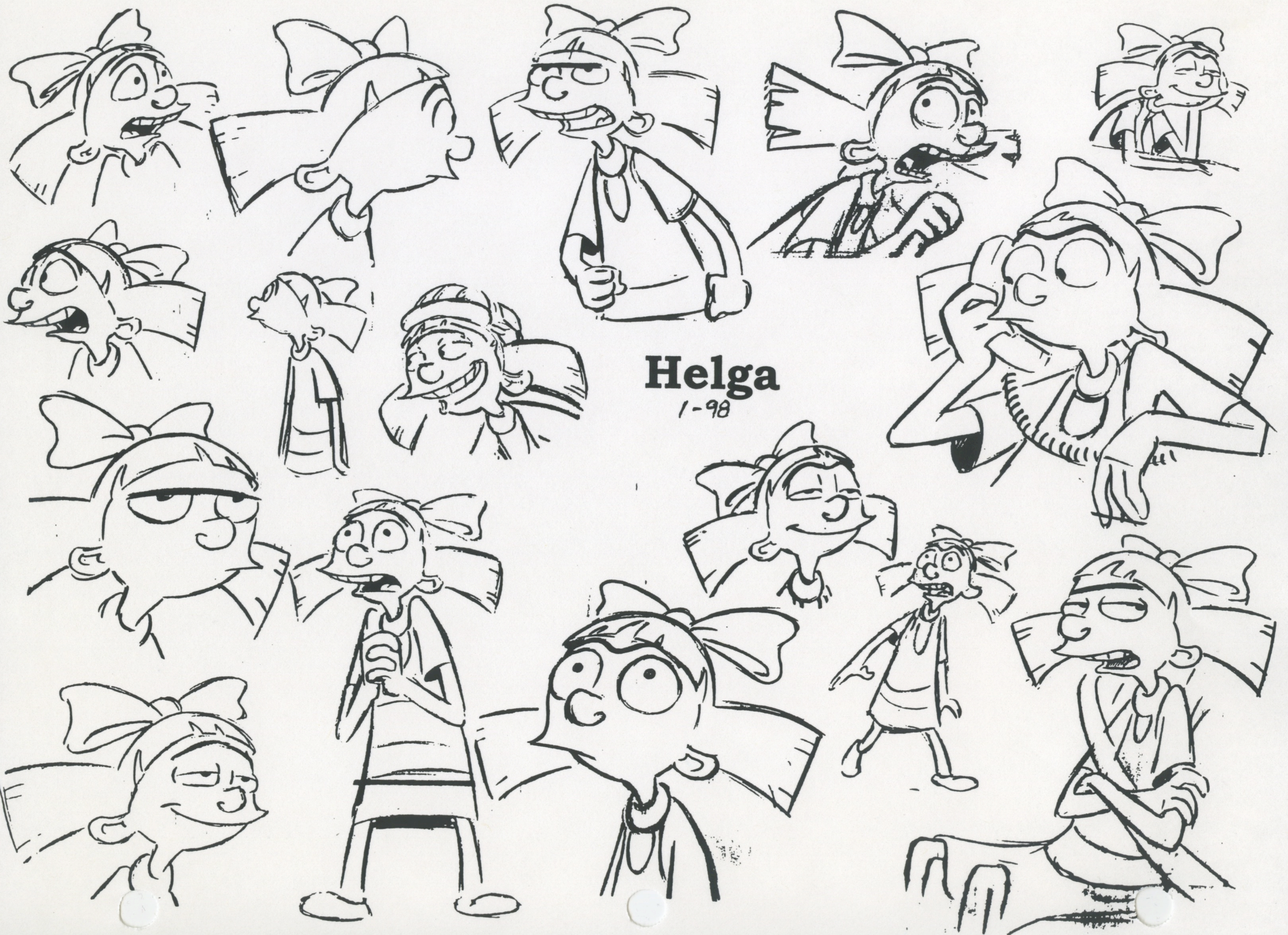
Helga G. Pataki is the pink-bowed bane of Arnold's existence. Loudmouthed, obnoxious and outwardly brittle, Helga rules the fourth grade with an iron



fist. She's cool and tough and hard — except when it comes to one thing... Arnold. Helga LOVES Arnold. Whenever she thinks of him, she goes all soft and fuzzy inside. And she HATES it when she feels all soft and fuzzy. If anyone ever found out how she really felt, she'd be so embarrassed she would die. So there's only one thing to do — make sure everyone thinks she hates the little football head! Outside, she may torture him, but inside her closet she keeps an Arnold Shrine made of stuff of his she scavenged when he wasn't looking. Her parents have no idea what's going on —

Her dad Big Bob the Beeper King is too self-absorbed a blowhard to notice, and mom Miriam has pretty much checked out. Both parents dote on perfect, over-achieving Olga, Helga's big sister, who's thankfully off to college. Special Talent: long, flowery, Shakespearean monologues about Arnold.

Helga episodes: "Arnold's Hat," "Operation: Ruthless," "Arnold's Valentine," "Olga Comes Home," "Helga's Love Potion," "School Play," "Helga Blabs it All."



Helga
1-98



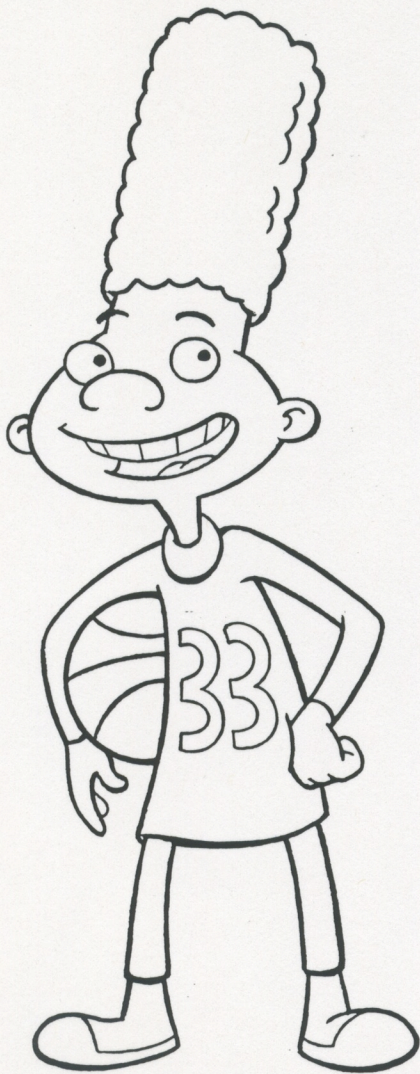
Helga
1-98



Helga
1-98

GERALD

The best friend we all wish we had — Gerald M. Johanssen is savvy, fun-loving, and a willing



accomplice, though he's fond of deflating Arnold's lofty goals. He's the realist to Arnold's idealist — the one who'll point out the craziness of Arnold's schemes and offer practical, butt-saving alternatives. When Arnold wants to find Mr. Hyunh's lost daughter and reunite them for Christmas, Gerald offers this advice: "Arnold — just get him a tie." But deep down Gerald has as good a heart as Arnold, and remains his fiercely loyal friend. Gerald has a sister, Timberly (6), a brother, Jamie O (16). His dad is a civil engineer who's obsessively thrifty — his mom is a good-natured cashier at the Corner Store.

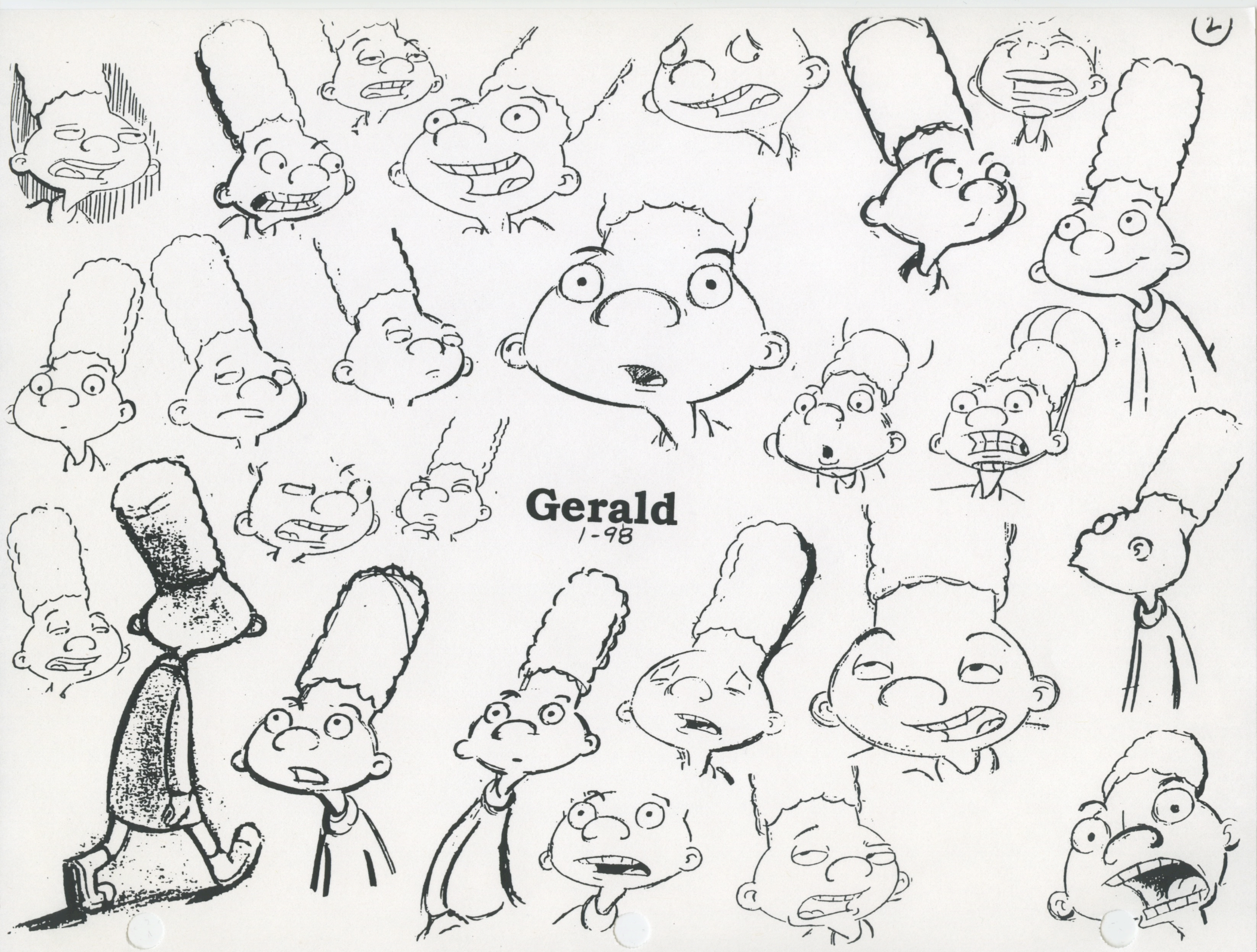
Gerald fancies himself quite a ladies' man, though his experience is limited to what he's read in his mom's magazines. He shares a mutual attraction with Helga's best friend Phoebe.

Special Talent: series role as the teller of Urban Legends. Weakness: get-rich-quick schemes. Best Gerald episodes: "Sixth Grade Girls," "Ransom," "The High Life." "The Haunted Train," "Big Caesar," "Hookey."

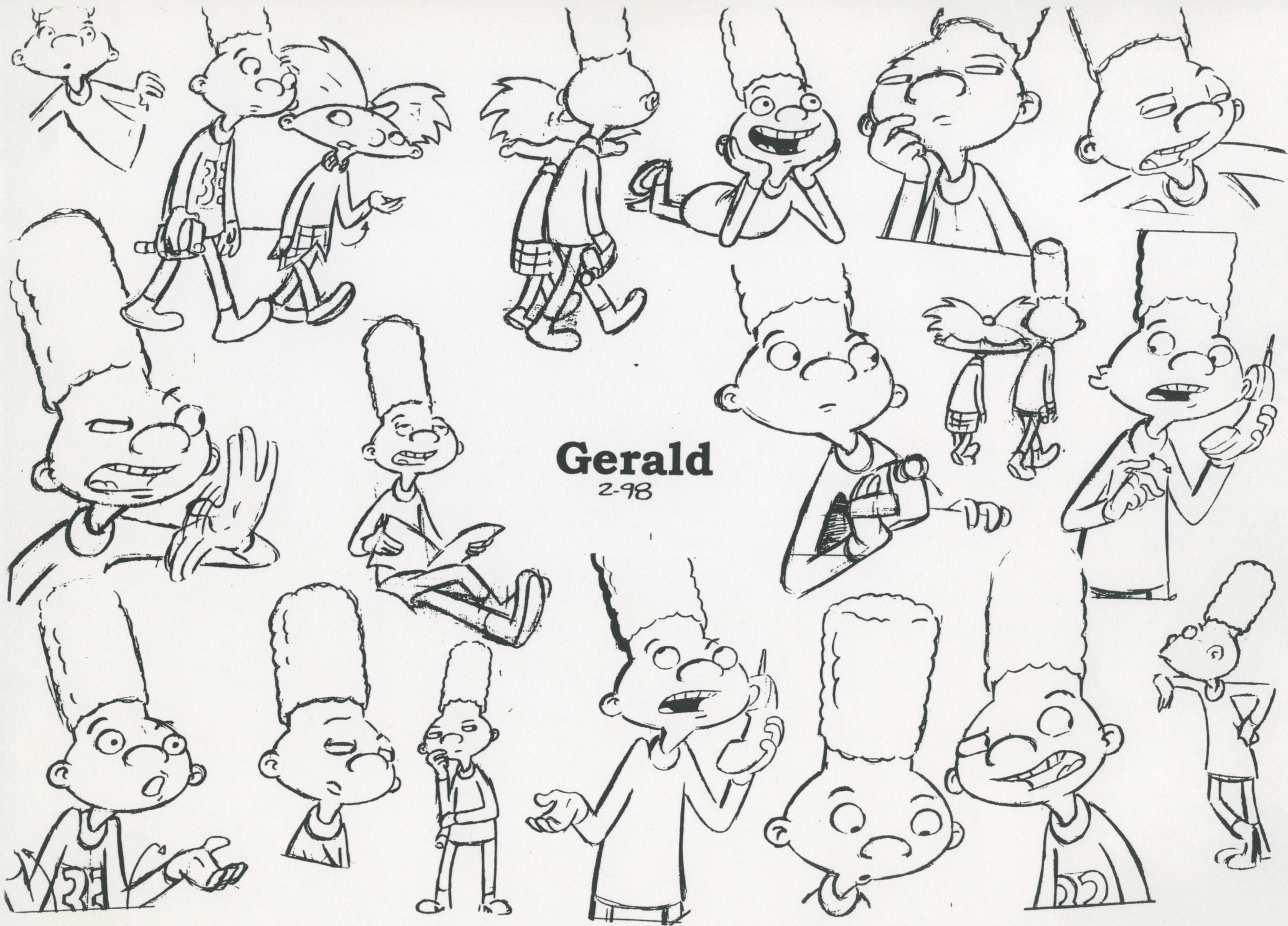


Gerald

1-98



Gerald
1-98



Gerald
2-98

PHOEBE

Phoebe Heyerdahl is Helga's best friend. How good a friend? Helga's secret love for Arnold is safe with her. (Since she and Gerald share a mutual attraction, she completes the foursome). The daughter of Kyo, a

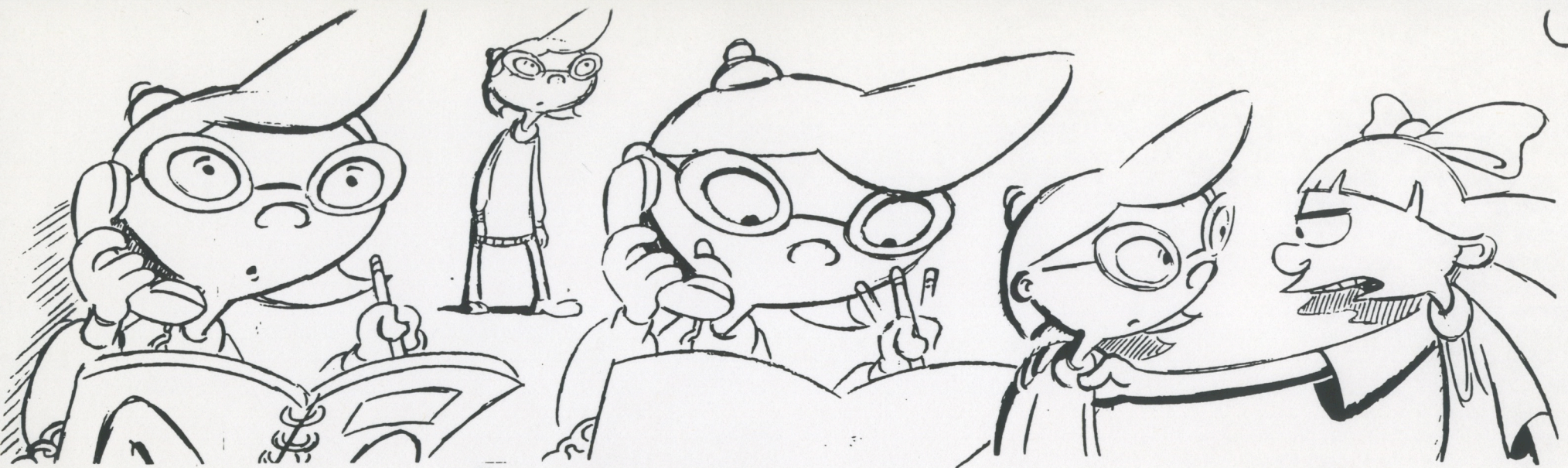


Japanese-born diplomat, and Reba, a sculptor, Phoebe is the smartest kid in the fourth grade, possibly in the whole school. She may be a brainiac, but she's happy to stay in Helga's shadow, even to carry out her orders, taking notes on a little pad. Phoebe's content to play second fiddle because she admires Helga's bravery and pluck — the way Helga just says what she thinks regardless of the consequences. For her part, Phoebe enjoys giving Helga constant advice and has been known to stand up to her on matters of right and wrong,

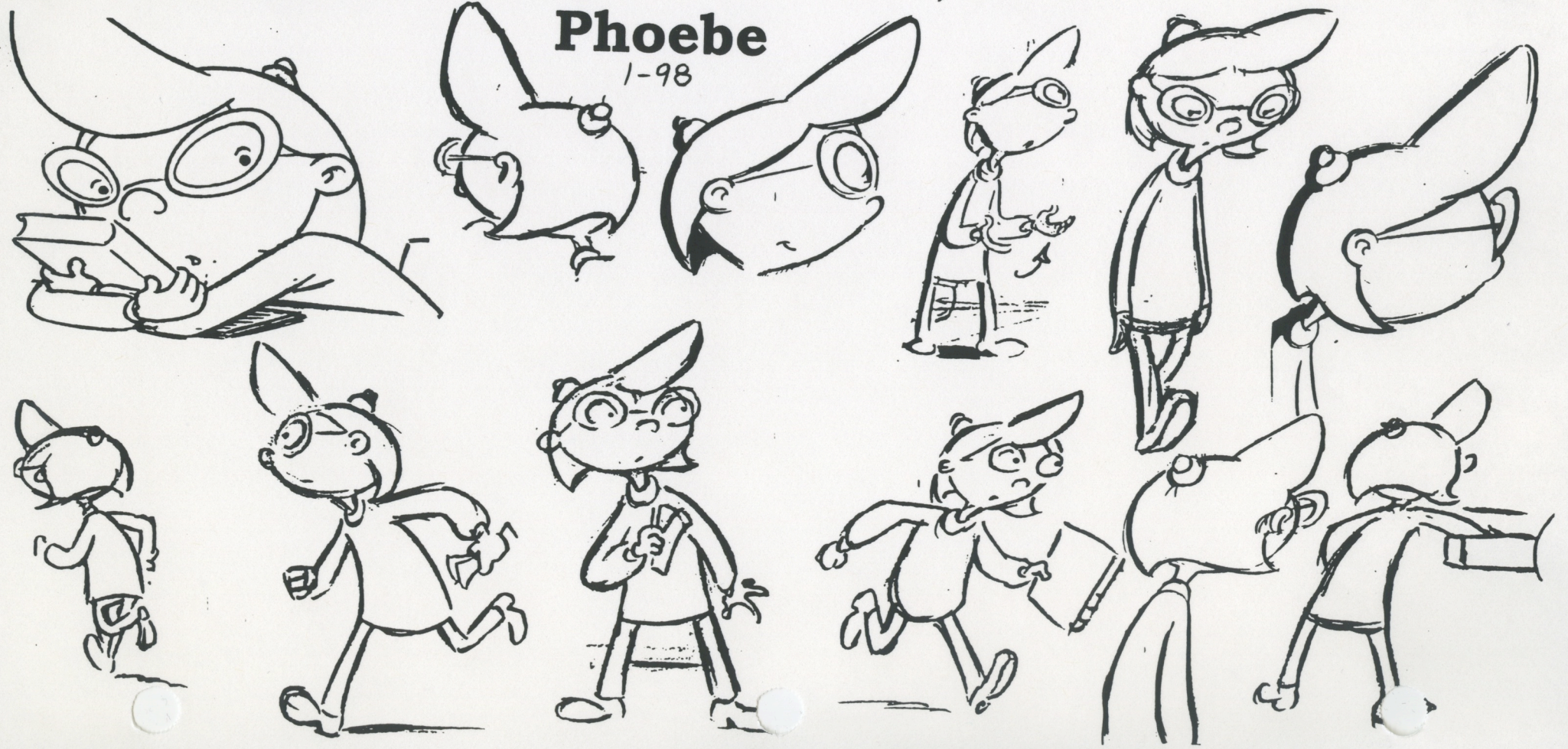
often sharing Arnold's moral-compass point of view. Over the course of the series, Phoebe and Helga's friendship has been put to the test as much as Arnold and Gerald's. Little by little, Phoebe is learning to stand up to Helga, and their friendship is the stronger for it. Special Talents: all things academic. Speaks fluent Japanese. Weakness: Ronnie Matthews. Phoebe episodes: "Hall Monitor," "Phoebe Cheats," "Phoebe Skips," "Pre-Teen Scream."

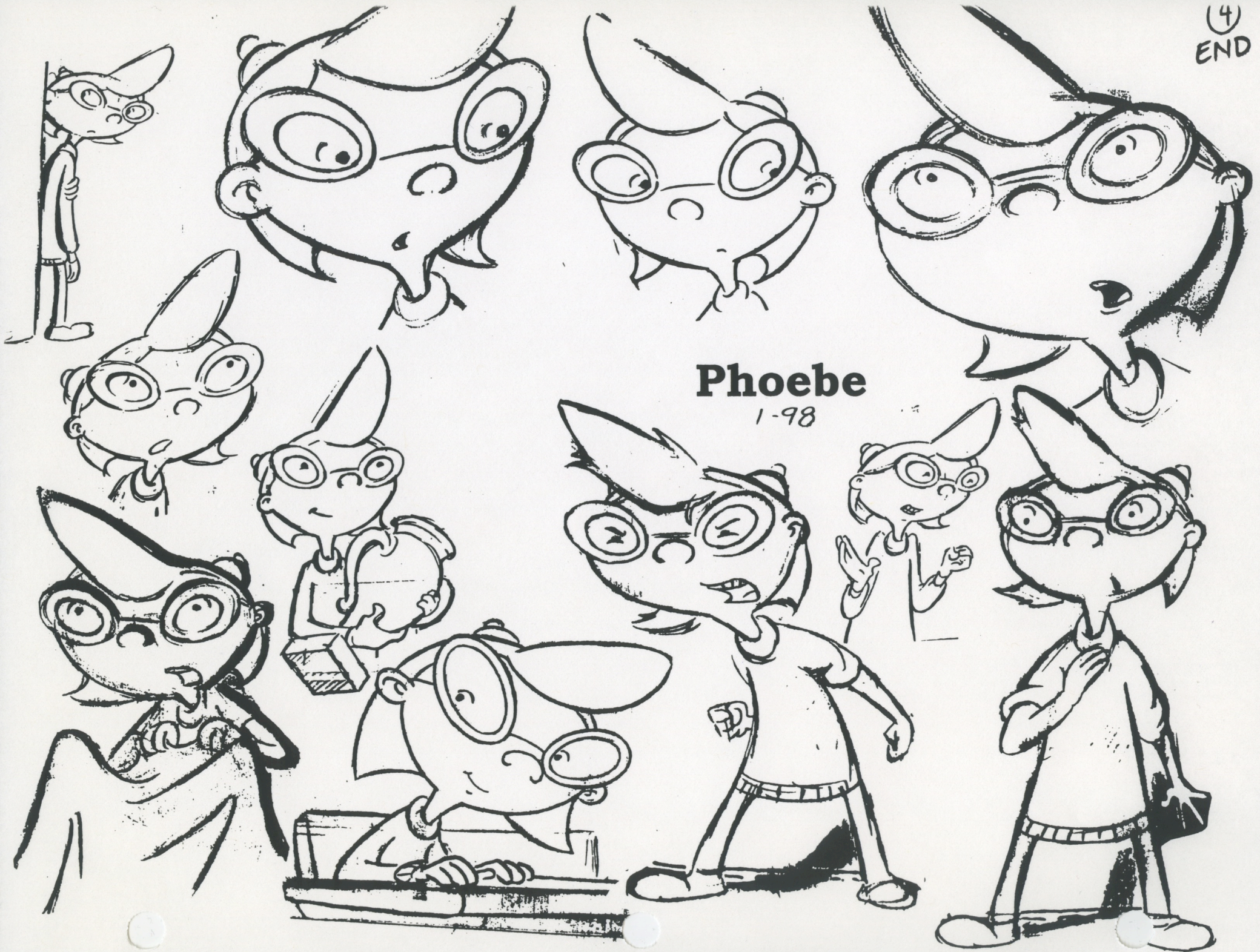


Phoebe
1-98



Phoebe
1-98





Phoebe
1-98

HAROLD

Harold Berman may have evolved more than any other character on the show. As big, loud, blustery, and chicken as the Cowardly Lion, Harold started out as Arnold's nemesis, taunting him and constantly



threatening him with poundings since the pilot episode. But ever since. first season, we've watched Harold show his "sensitive side" (he likes kittens, carries a Wally doll in his backpack). Although he's still quick to anger and threatens Arnold and the other kids on a regular basis, we know that he's a good guy on the road to redemption. Harold discovers he's not actually dumb, only lazy, in "Aptitude Test." He learns to take on responsibility in "Harold's Bar Mitzvah." And he dares to admit that he likes Patty the Big Girl in spite of peer pressure in "Hey Harold!" Harold rules a small posse of kids, often including

Stinky, Sid, and Joey. His dad, Jerry, is mousy and soft-spoken. His mom, Marilyn, is where he got his mouth. Special talents: Butchering. Weaknesses: food, plus he's afraid of almost everything. Harold episodes: "Harold the Butcher," "Hey Harold!" "Harold's Kitty."



Harold
1-98



Harold
1-98

STINKY

Our version of "Alfalfa,"



Stinky Peterson is a

drawling, simple-hearted ol' country boy from Arkansas. One of Harold's inner circle of dopes who go along with the stupidest of plans, Stinky is a regular in the "boy" shows from "Bench Warmer" to "Grand Prix." He's also half of the greek chorus he and Sid provide for Arnold's plans.

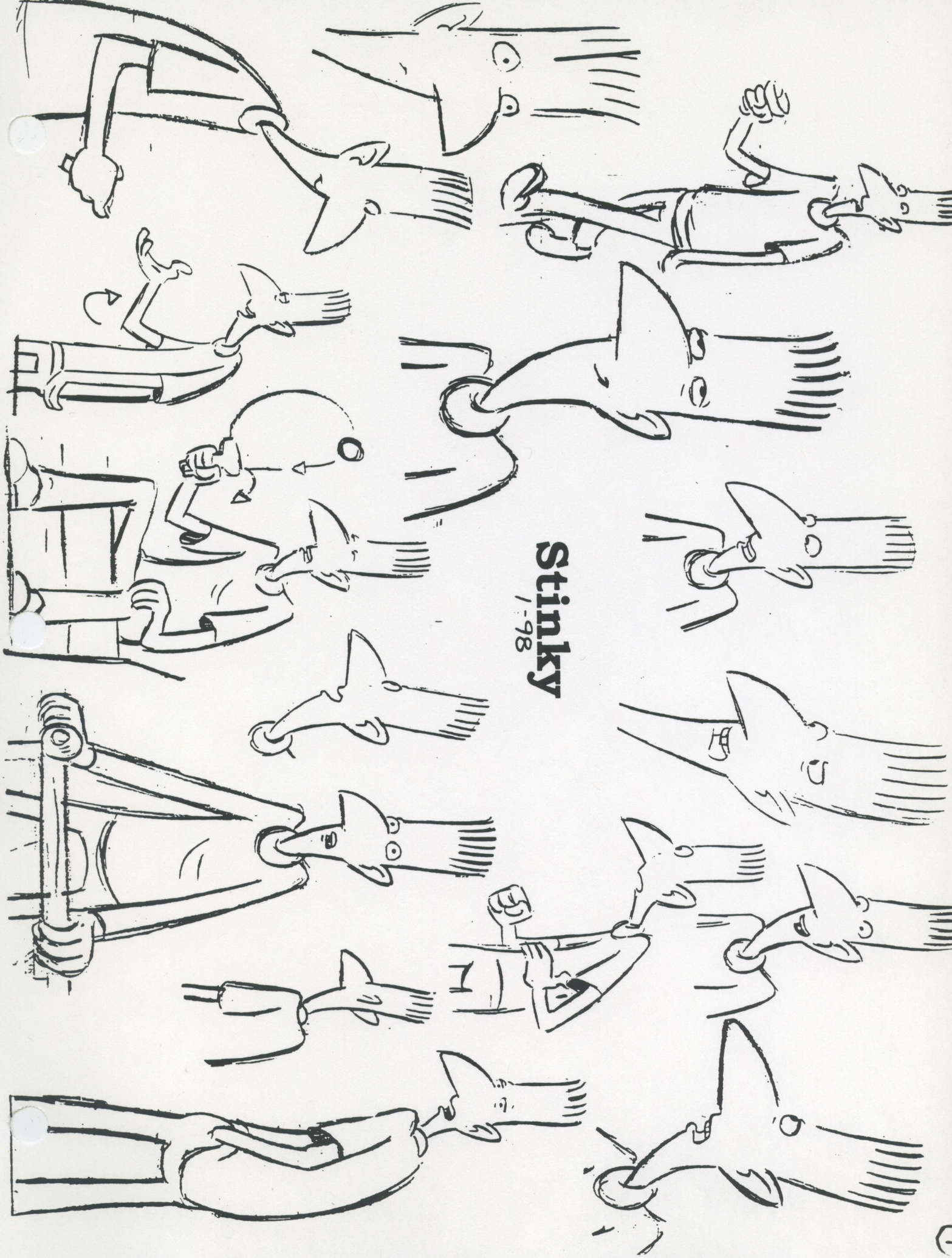
Like the Joads, Stinky's family came west a couple generations ago, towing their two-story shack behind their truck. He lives near Arnold in the same shack with an extended family, most of them also named Stinky.

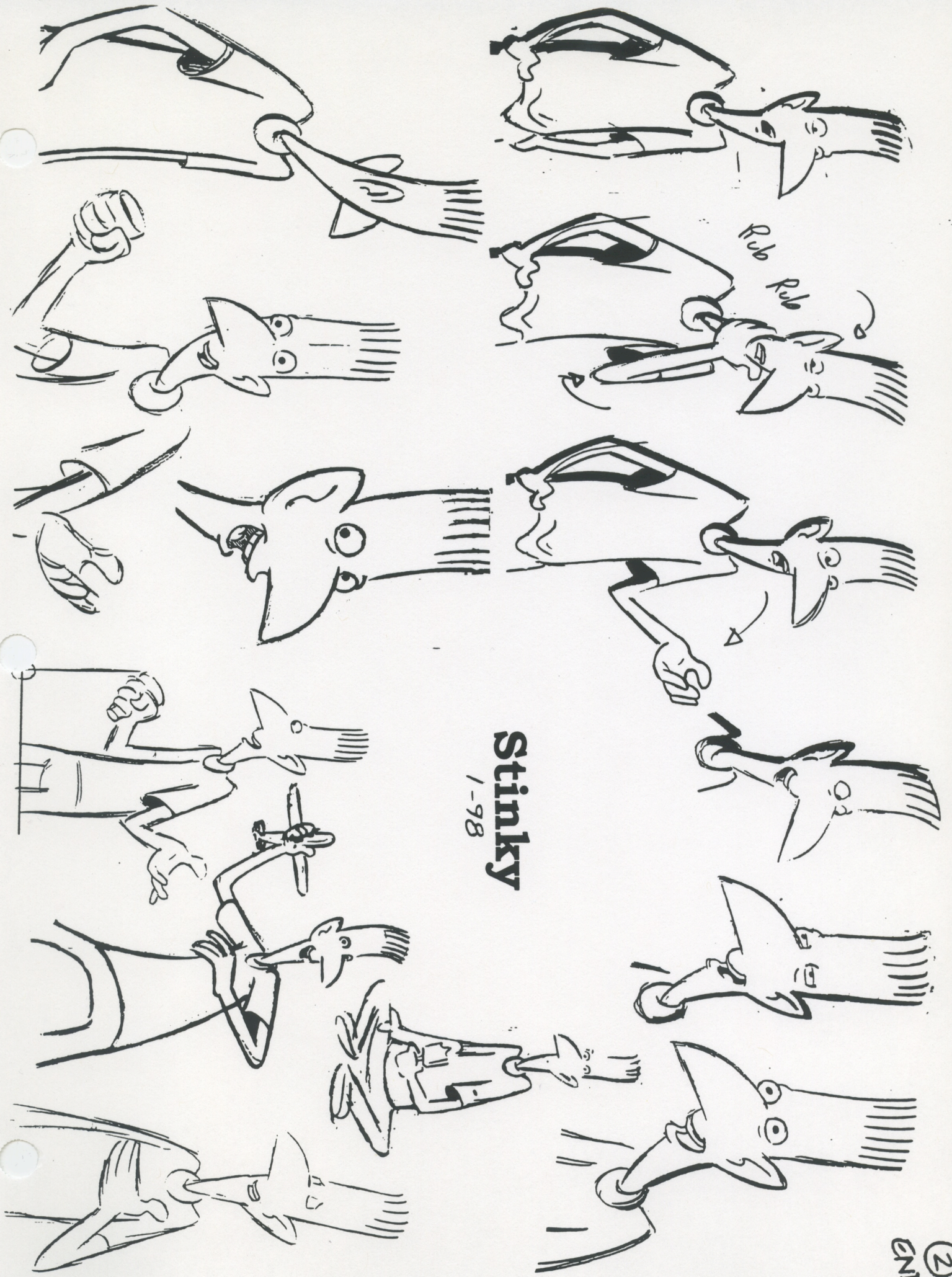
Favorite saying: "This really bites."

Weakness: Lemon pudding.

Stinky episodes: "Helga's Boyfriend," "Stinky Goes Hollywood," "Stinky's Pumpkin."

Stinky
1-98





Stinky
1-98

SID

A lovably ratty little twerp, Sid hangs out in Arnold's inner circle, half of the Sid and Stinky greek chorus. Like a lot of twerps, Sid has no scruples, no backbone, and runs screaming from any danger. He's obsessive - hangs onto an idea till it



drives him and everyone else crazy. Or he gets caught in a lie that grows and grows till he has a huge, blubbering breakdown. That's why we like him - Sid is kind of pathetic. The two or three times he's taken off his hat and revealed the greasy pelt of hair on top of his head, we've wanted him to put the hat right back on. And what's with that nose? Good God!

Special talents: The Gatekeeper of Urban Legends, Sid introduces Gerald, The Teller of Urban Legends.

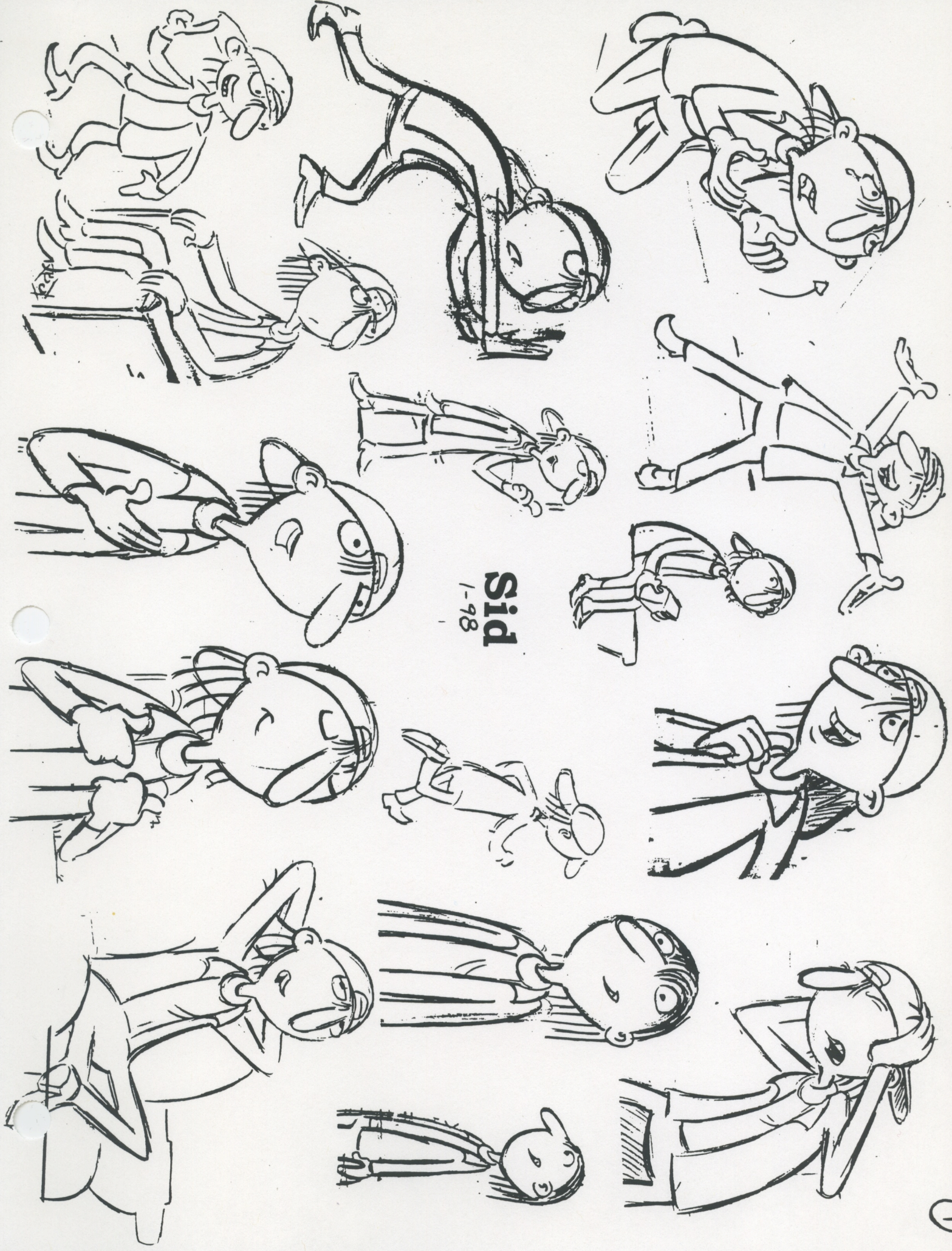
Saying: "Boy howdy!"

Weakness: he's afraid of just about everything.

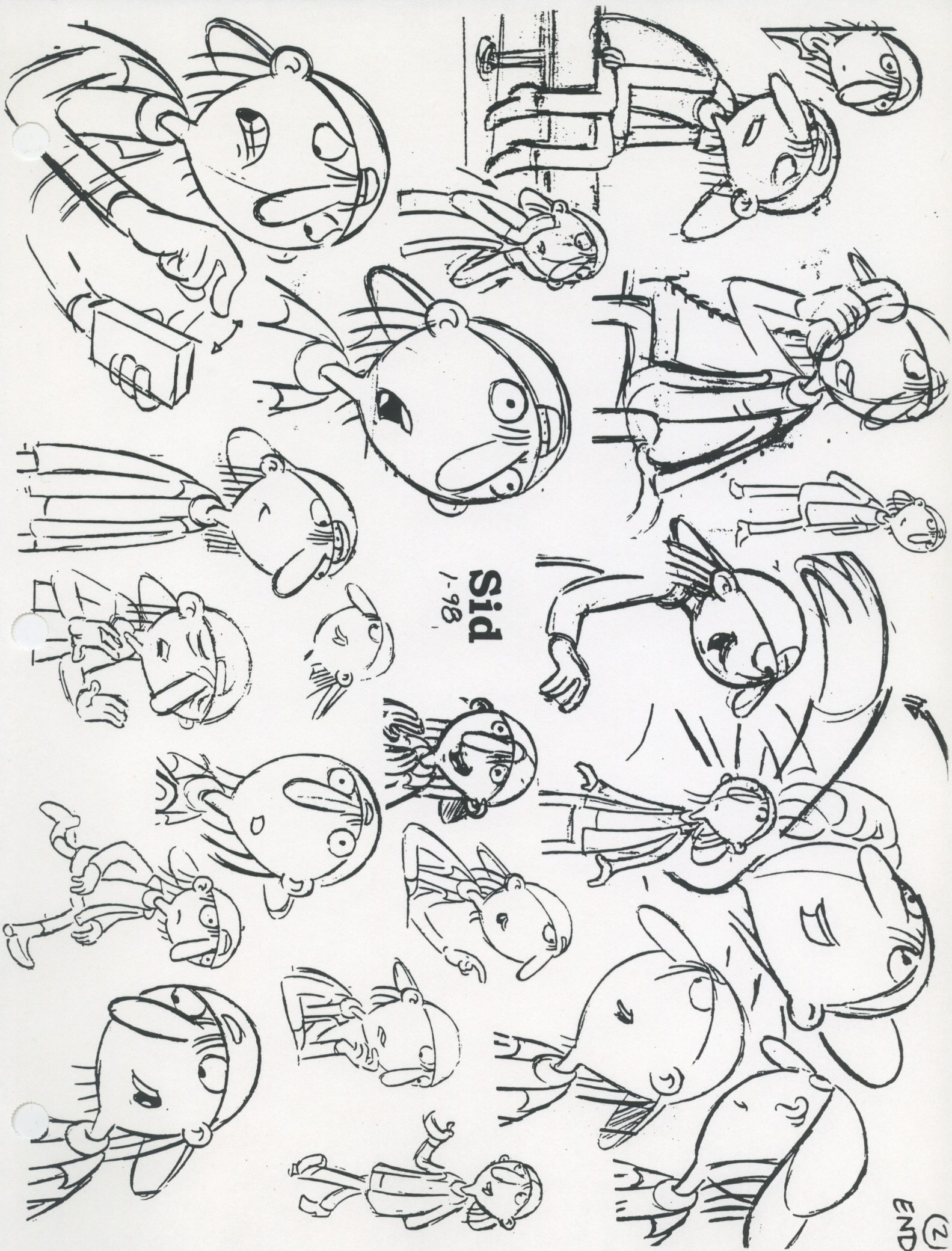
Favorite things: his white patent-leather Beatle boots

Sid episodes: "Arnold Saves Sid," "Arnold's Room,"

"Sid's Revenge."



Sid
1-98



Sid
1-98

RHONDA

Rhonda Wellington Lloyd is the cool, haughty self-designated fashion queen of the fourth grade – a title that no one challenges except Helga, who's above

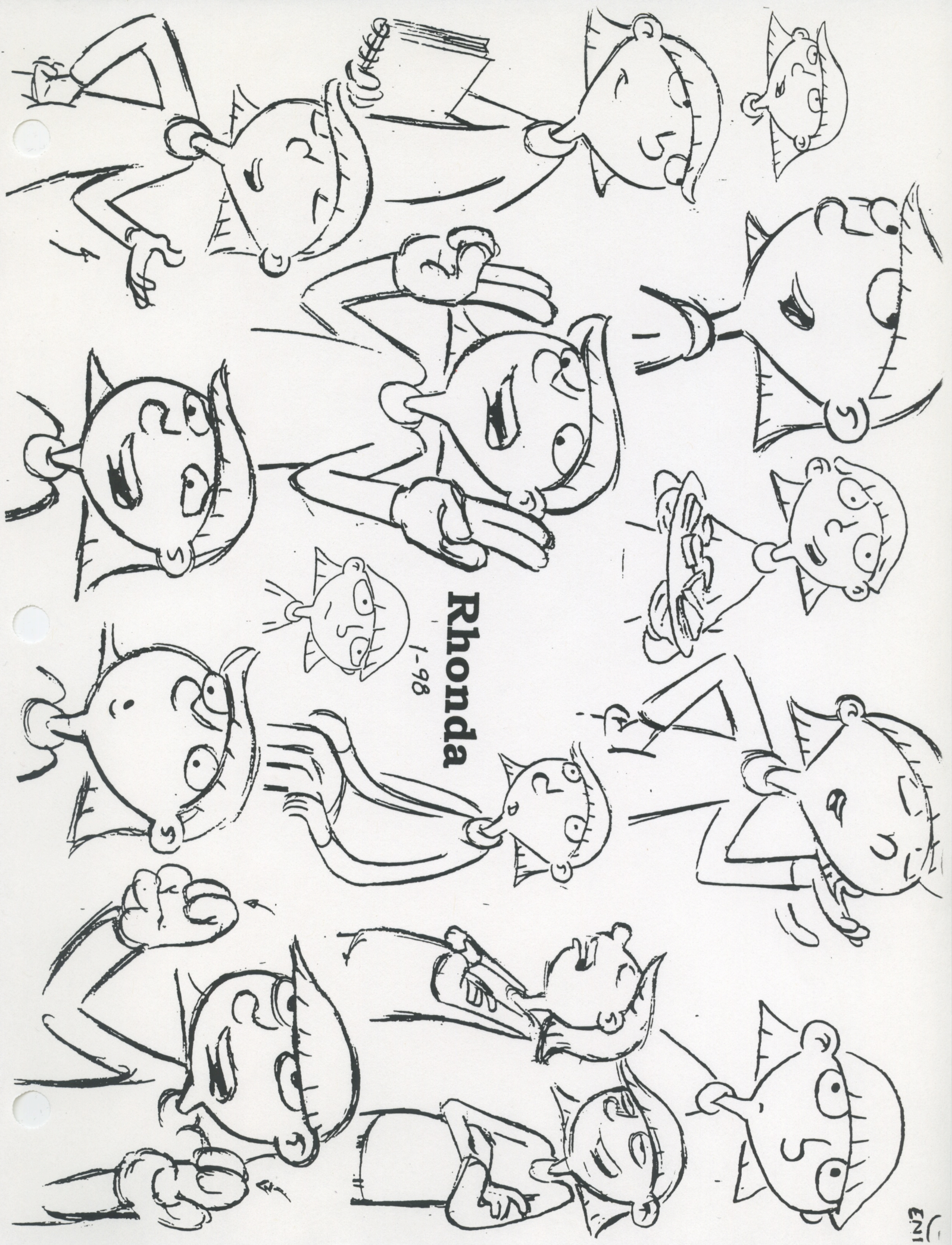


Rhonda's rules. The two of them struggle for control of the other kids, Rhonda with her superior breeding, Helga with brute force. No wonder they don't get along. Rhonda's best friend is Nadine, only because they've been next-door neighbors since kindergarten. Otherwise they have little in common. But Rhonda needs Nadine just like Helga needs Phoebe – too bad Nadine won't put up with as much guff. Rhonda's one of the wealthiest kids in class. Her mom, Brooke, is a cell-phone wielding, class-conscious yuppie, and her dad, Buckley, is never seen but heard offering Rhonda a pony over the phone to

stop her from crying. No wonder Rhonda's such a snot. She leads a small posse that can include Nadine, Sheena, Katrinka and Lila. Special Talents: a natural-born leader, an unerring fashion sense. Weakness: needs glasses. Rhonda episodes: "Helga's Makeover," "Best Friends," "Rhonda's Glasses," "Cool Party."



Rhonda
1-98



Rhonda

1-98

NADINE

An avid bug collector, Nadine is Rhonda's easy-going sidekick and best friend, if only out of convenience. (they're next-door neighbors). Each has little patience for the other's hobbies. They had their



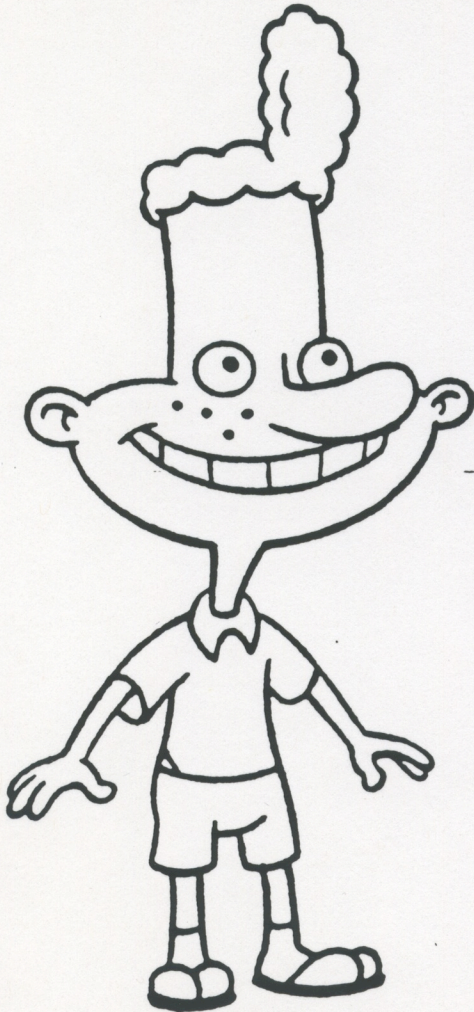
worst falling out in "Best Friends" (Arnold was forced to get them back together, of course). Nadine stands out in crowd scenes with her distinctive blond dreadlocks (her mom is black and her dad is white). Count on Nadine to be on board for environmental causes. You might find her racking up "Big Help" hours with fellow child-of-hippie-parents Sheena.

Special Talent:
entomology.

Weakness: Bob Marley.

EUGENE

A jinx with an unsinkable optimism, Eugene Horowitz is capable of looking at the bright side of just about anything. Good thing, because he regularly falls down manholes, crashes his bike into car doors, and generally gets into one horrible accident after



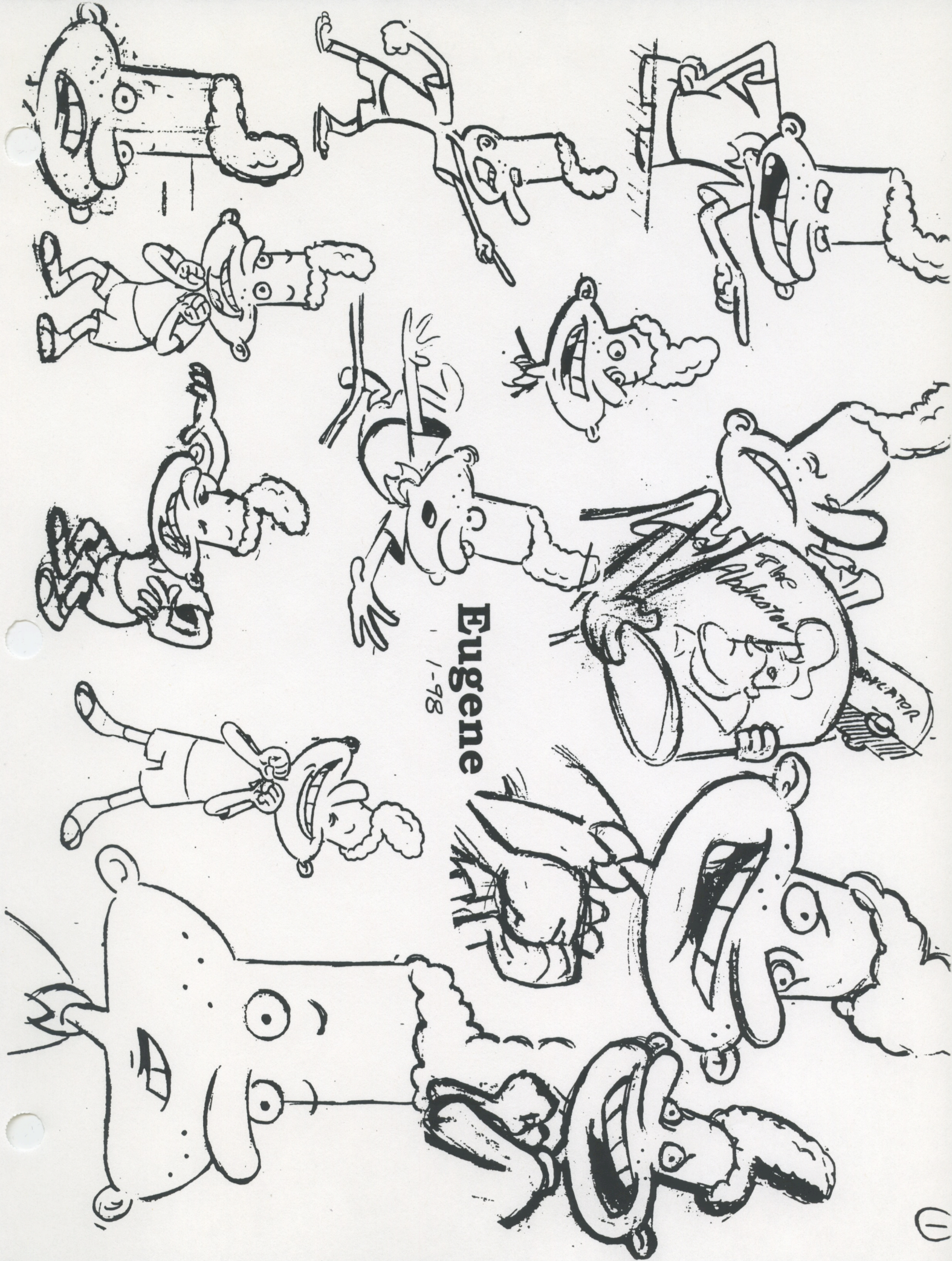
another for our amusement. Ever since episode 1B "Eugene's Bike," Eugene has been a great foil for Arnold's do-gooding instincts — try as he might, Arnold can't save this kid. But leave it to Eugene to notice what a great guy Arnold is for trying. Eugene somehow always triumphs because he sees the good in everything. He dreams of someday becoming a great choreographer, and probably will.

Special Talent: jinx
Weakness: Broadway
musicals, roller
coasters, high places,

pets with short life spans

Saying: (after any accident) "I'm okay!"

Eugene episodes: "Eugene's Bike," "Eugene's Pet,"
"Eugene Goes Bad," "Eugene's Birthday."

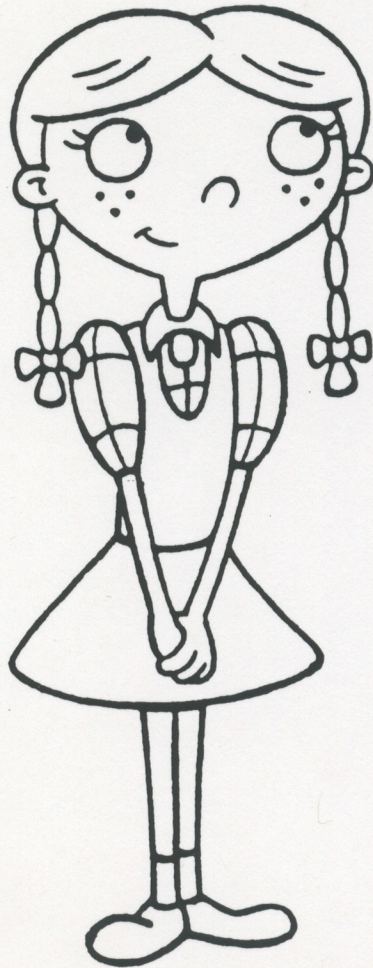


Eugene

1-98

LILA

Lila arrived in Arnold's classroom late in the second season in the aptly titled "Ms. Perfect." She's practically perfect in every way: pretty, smart, and



tells a good joke. She's also painfully innocent and naive, but from her first episode on, Lila always wins, because in her case, good triumphs over evil.

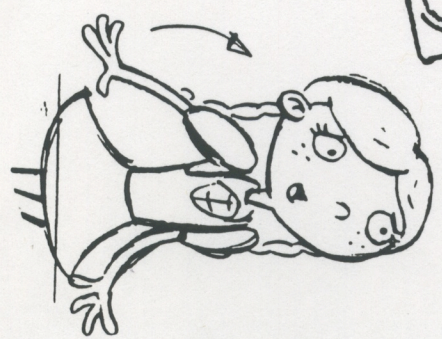
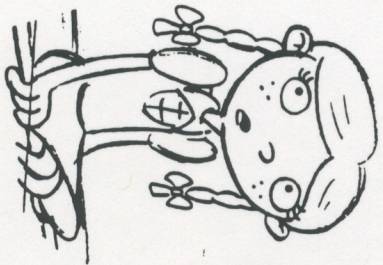
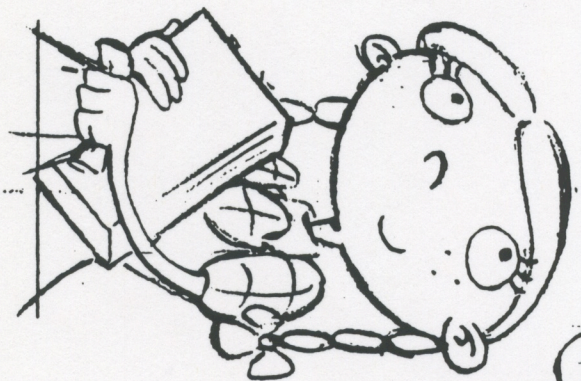
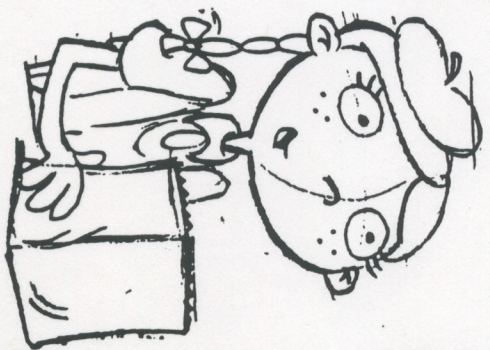
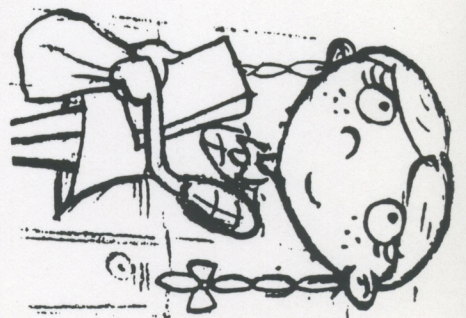
Arnold really likes her – so naturally Helga hates her. She's got good reason – indeed Lila has replaced Ruth McDougal as the object of Arnold's unrequited love in the third and fourth seasons. Arnold has even asked Lila to the Cheese Festival in an "Operation: Ruthless" sequel.

For now, Arnold's on his best behavior. And so are all the other boys.

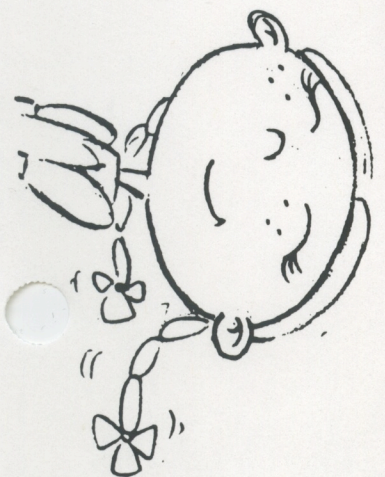
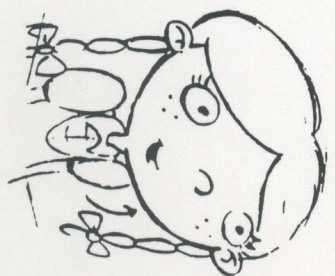
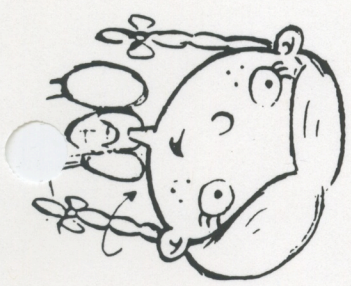
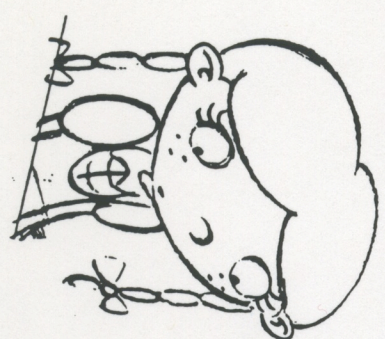
Special talent:
wonderfulness.

Weakness: gullible as they come.

Special secret: Helga was forced to tell Lila her awful secret in "School Play." Lila is so amazingly nice, she's keeping the secret. Helga now owes her one, big. Lila episodes: "Ms. Perfect," "Arnold loves Lila," "School Play."

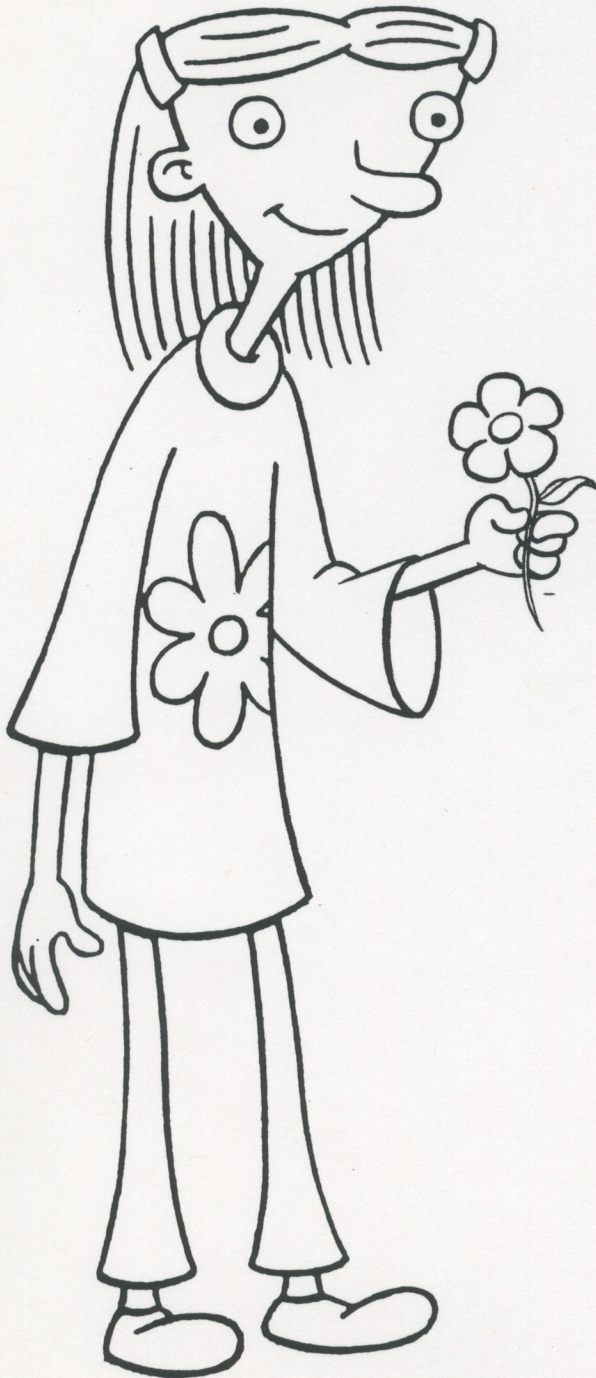


Lila
1-98



SHEENA

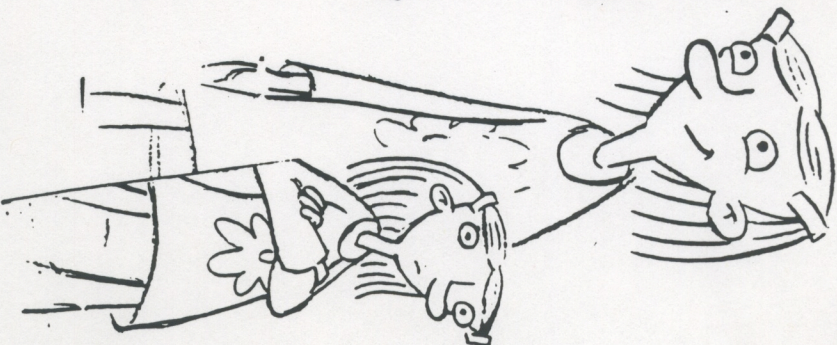
A true product of the Aquarian Age, Sheena's the daughter of hippie parents, carrying on flower-power



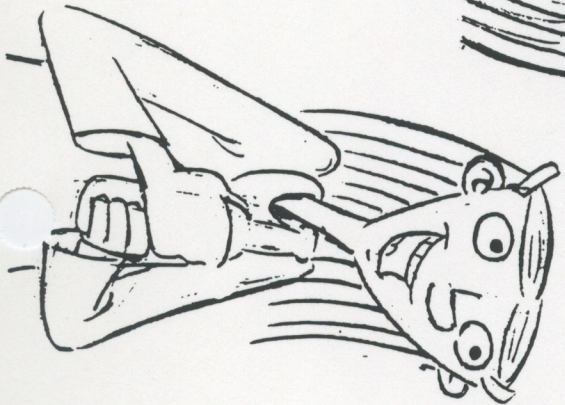
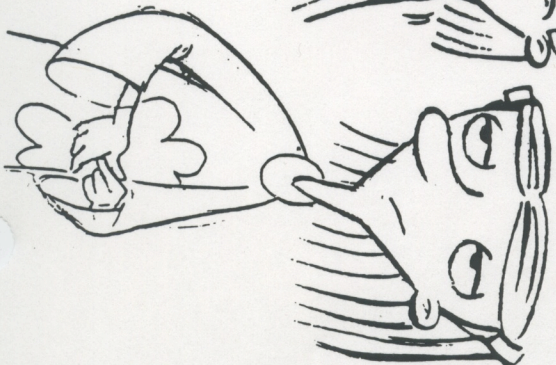
tradition to the annoyance of cynical classmates Helga and Rhonda. Both girls often take advantage of Sheena's gentle nature to get her to help with their schemes. Sheena has been known to participate in cruelty (she helped humiliate Lila in "Ms. Perfect") but most often can be counted on to spout vegan, pacifist philosophy. Charter member of the "dork parade" since "Eugene's Bike." We haven't done a Sheena episode yet (her squeaky voice is doubled by Helga's Frannie Smith — a whole episode might sound too Helga-like).

Special talent: knows 57 tofu recipes.

Weakness: abhors violence — it makes her faint.



Sheena



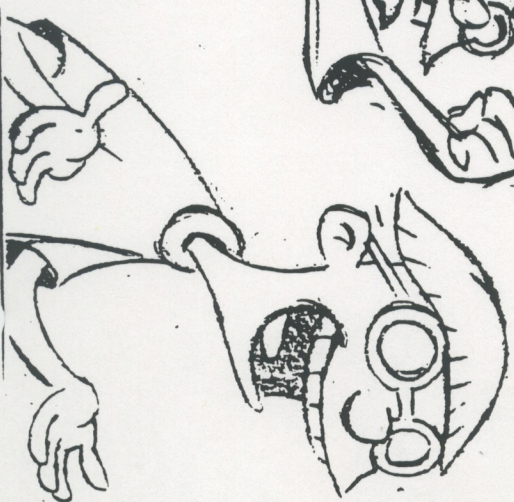
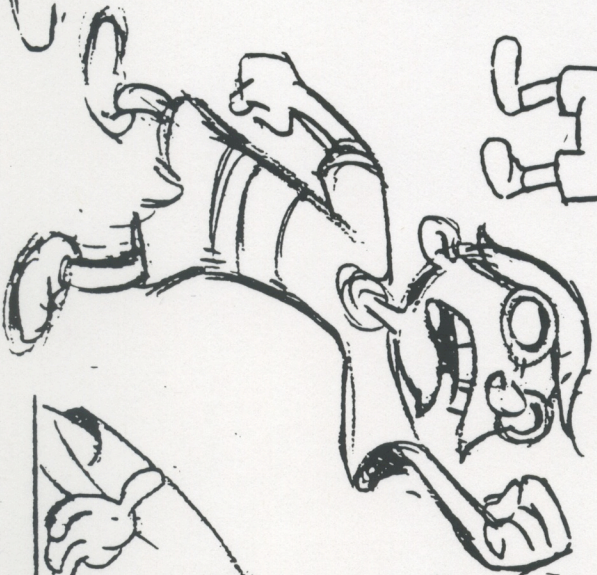
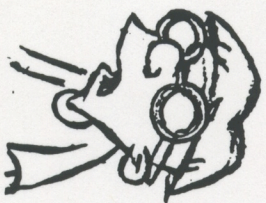
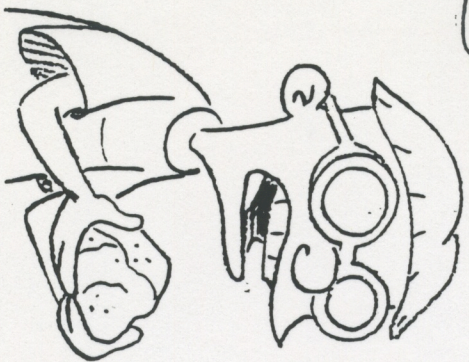
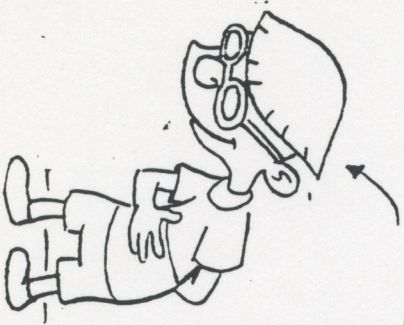
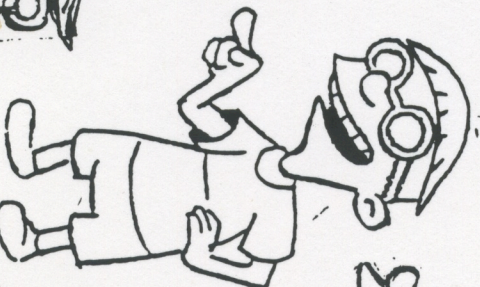
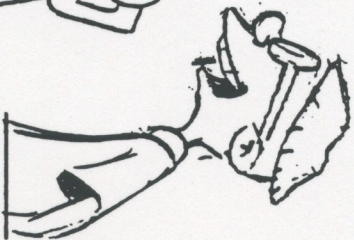
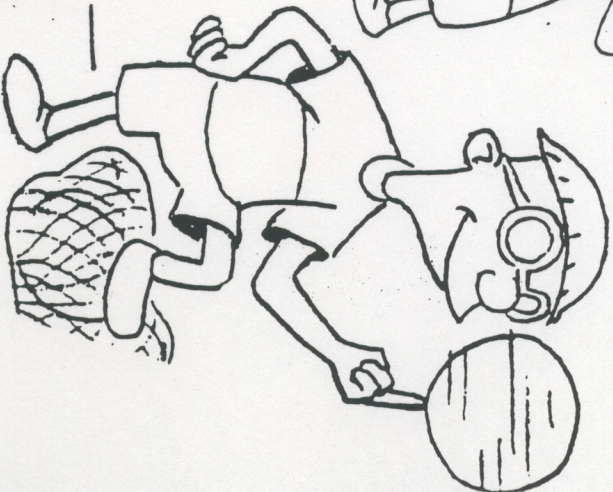
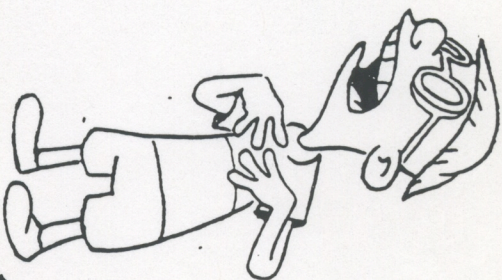
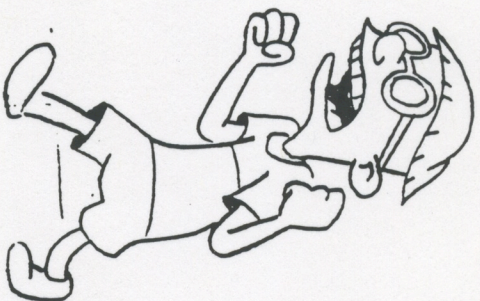
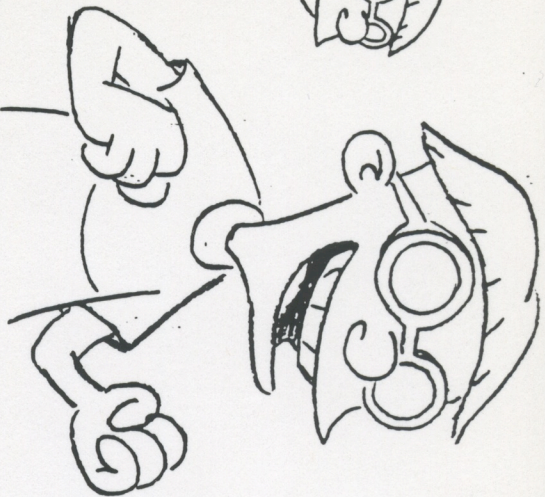
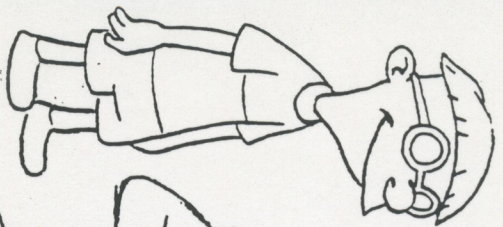
CURLY

Helga put it best, at the end of "Curly Snaps":
"Never trust the quiet ones. They'll go bonkers on you and hole up in the principal's office with the school's kickballs." That's the kind of guy Thaddeus "Curly" Gammelthorp is - he just sits there quietly



till something pushes him over the edge, and then goes stark raving mad. Curly has only spoken in a few shows, but they've been memorable: in "False Alarm" he pulls the school's fire alarm to frame Eugene, all because of a misunderstanding over a borrowed pencil, in "Cool Party" he paints himself with tiger stripes and frees all the animals from the zoo, in "What's Opera, Arnold?" he appears in a dream as the singing, bullfighting Curlamillo. The kid most likely to grow up to be a Unabomber.

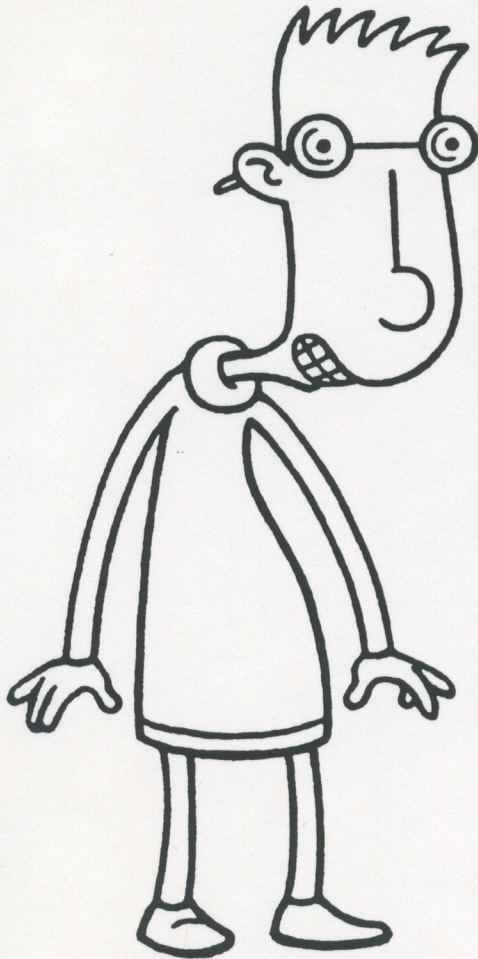
Special talents: ballet, bullfighting, randomly singing TV theme songs at the top of his lungs
Weakness: can't handle any imagined injustice against himself.



Curly
1-98

BRAINY

A pale-faced, mouth-breathing little spook who hangs around the edge of Arnold's class, Brainy's special gift is the ability to be right behind Helga at the moment when she's most vulnerable — the moment when she ducks around a corner and confesses her



passionate, unrequited love for Arnold. Brainy always betrays his presence by the sound of his breathing, then gets socked for it. He shows up and scares everyone in "Haunted Train" and "Wheezin' Ed." A kid of few words, Brainy only speaks up to three syllables at a time, as in "I don't know," or "Uh... something." How is it that Brainy is always there when Helga least wants him to be? It's almost as if he's an apparition, a product of Helga's fevered, forbidden longing and guilt. But if so, how come everybody else can

see him? If you check, you can see Brainy in the background nearly all the time, yet no one knows anything about him. He'll probably end up working for the CIA.

Special talent: appearing behind Helga when she most wants to be alone. Weakness: wants to marry Helga

GRANDPA

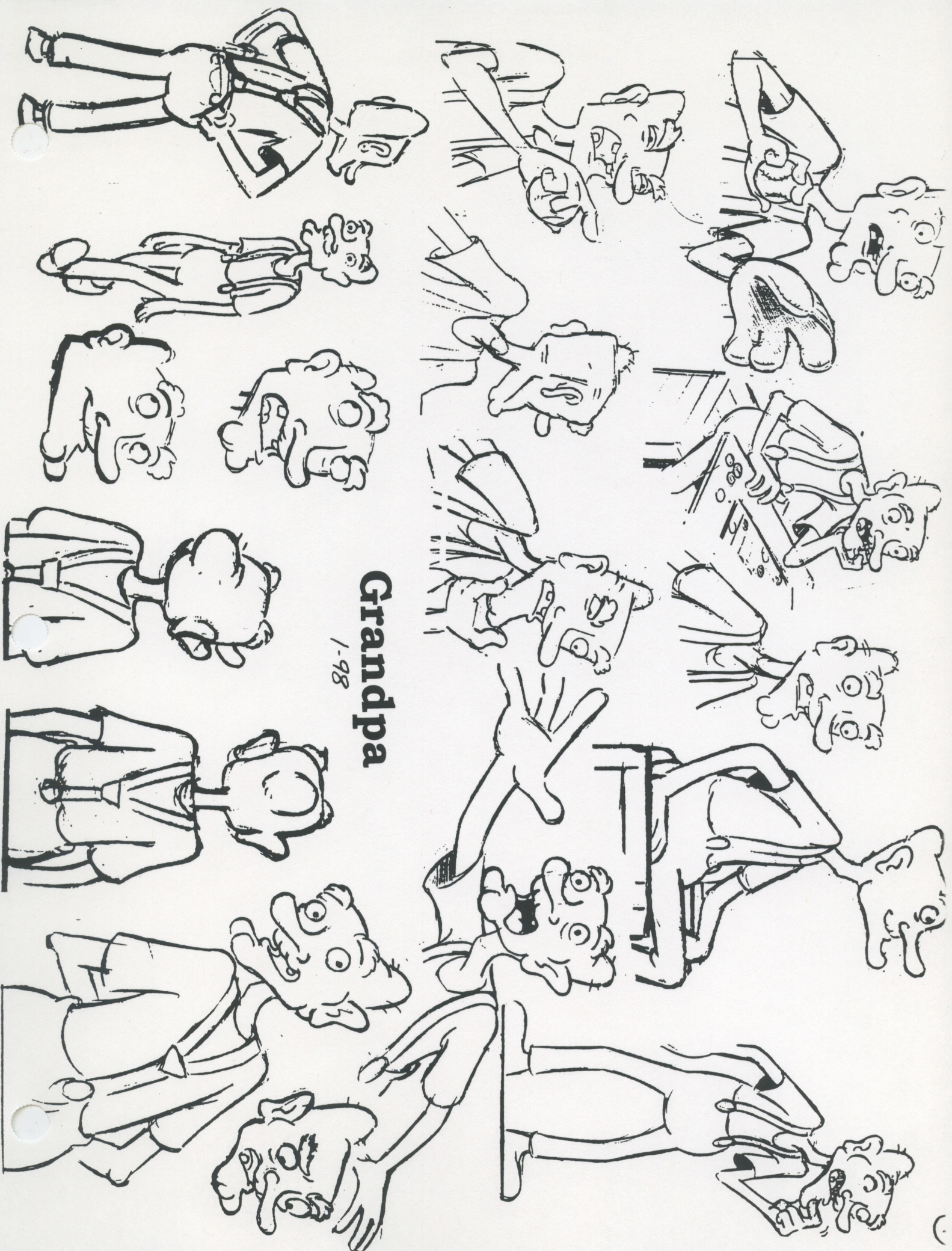


Grandpa is the voice of reason, the emotional anchor in Arnold's life. If Arnold has a problem, he always goes to Grandpa for advice, even if it's only "never eat raspberries." Grandpa would really like to be a better surrogate dad to Arnold, only he's too darn old. But he tries. Even at the ripe old age of 81, Grandpa's a doer, not a complainer. He delights in scaring the heck out of Arnold and his friends with his crazy urban folklore, and sends the kids on wild goose chases, but it's all in good fun. If there's one thing he can't stand, it's bored kids!

Nicknames: Slim, Steely Phil

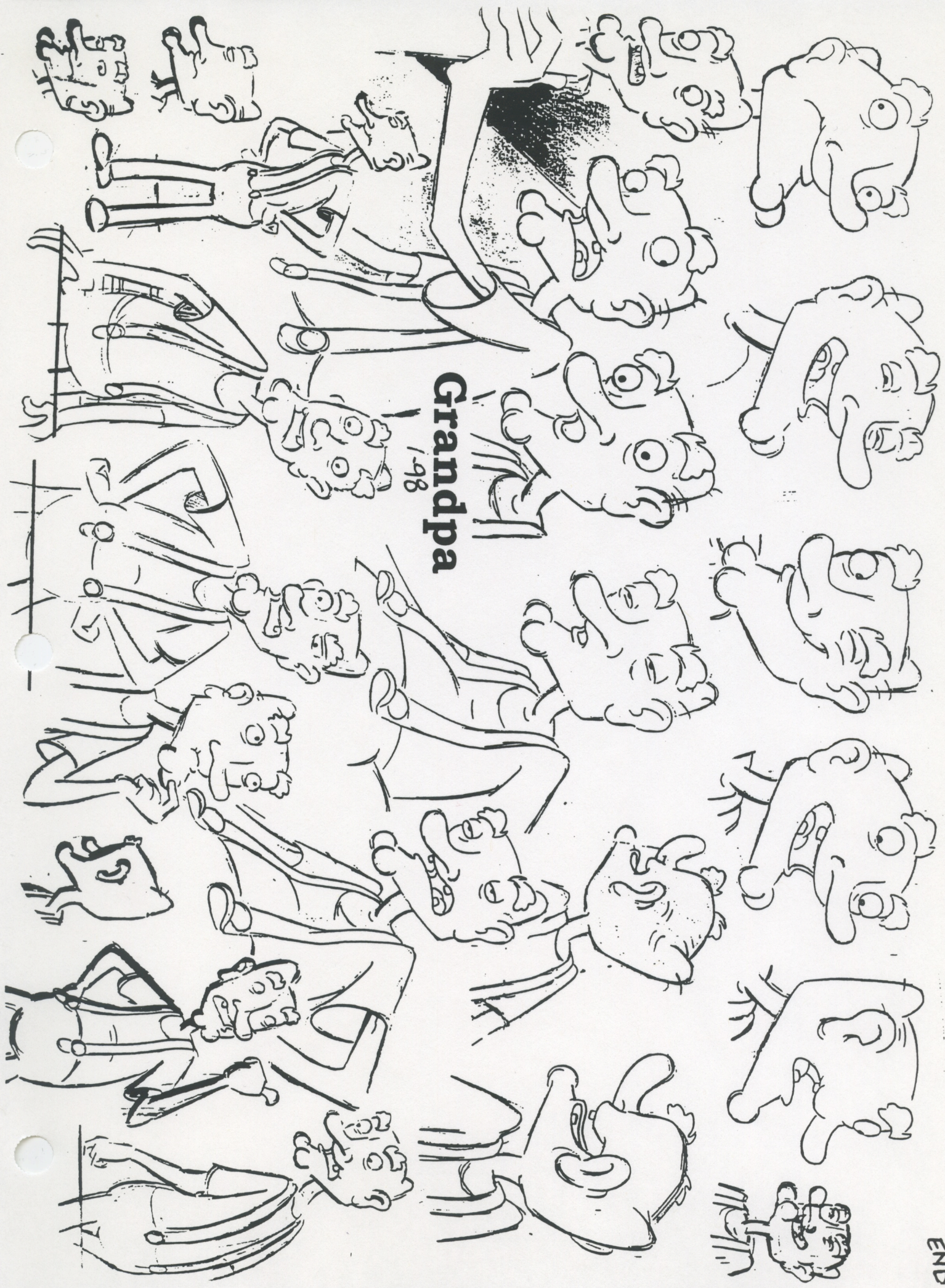
Special talents:
Citywide Chinese
Checkers co-champion,
fisherman

Prized possessions: the
Packard, the secret
bathroom



Grandpa

1-98



Grandpa
1-98

GRANDMA



Grandma was a librarian in her youth, and has always loved stories. She's the source of Arnold's active imagination — when he was very small, Grandma kept him happy in an endless series of play-acting games. In fact, Grandma can't seem to stop play-acting, randomly appearing as a cowboy or a Roman centurian, embarrassing Arnold. But every once in a while she will say something amazingly perceptive and wise, tipping us that there's a lot more there than meets the eye. Grandma is the social conscience of the show, saving historic buildings, trees, even an abused tortoise from the City Aquarium. She'll do anything for a good cause, even dress up as Tarzan. Nickname: Pookie. Grandma episodes: "Field Trip," "Mugged," "Save the Tree," "Thanksgiving"

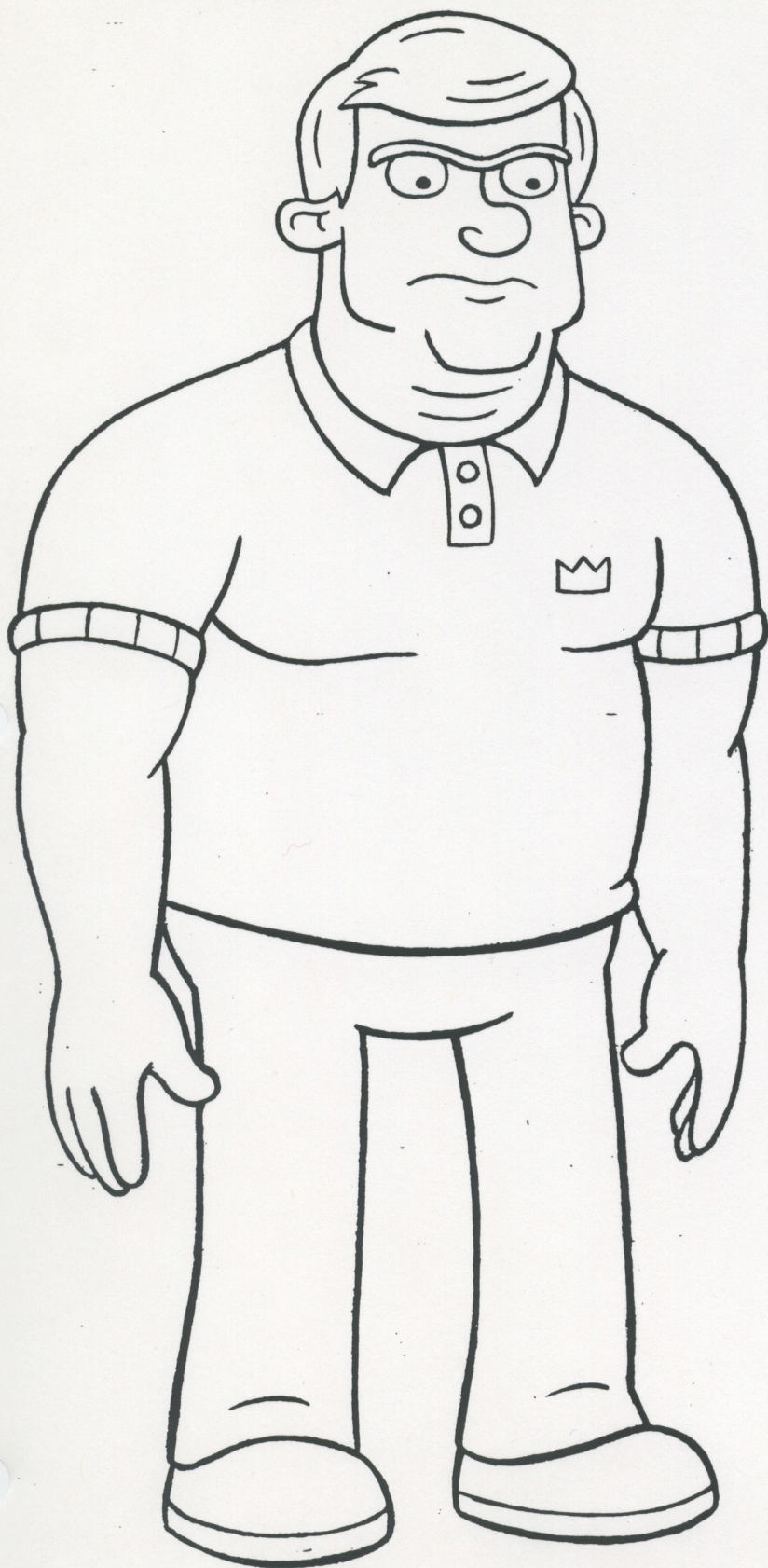


Grandma

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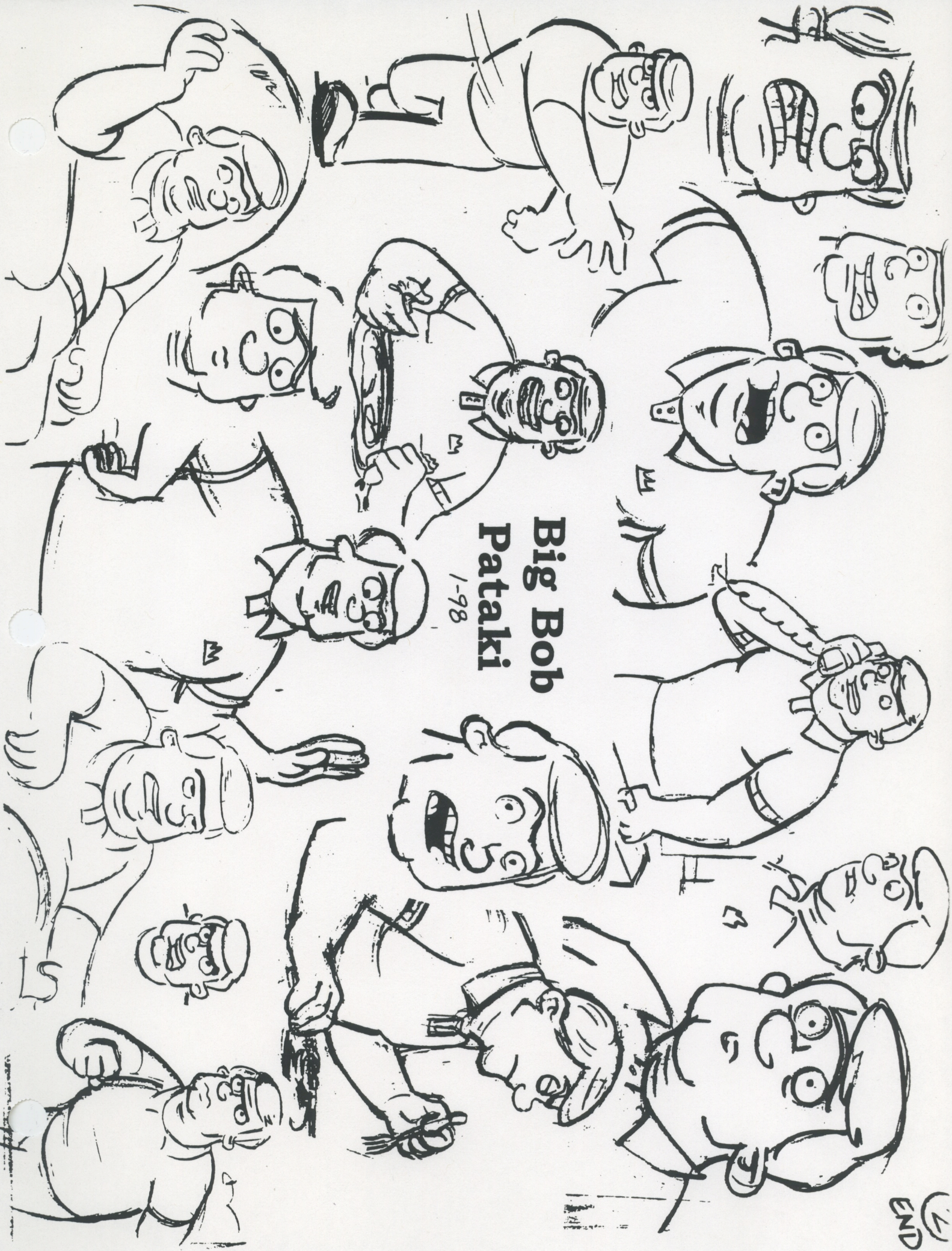
BIG BOB



Helga gets her loud, pushy, selfish, blowhard traits from her dad, Big Bob Pataki, the "Beeper King." The ultimate obnoxious salesman, Bob's often seen ending a sale on his cell phone, yelling "That ink dried, that ship has sailed," snapping it off and chuckling "Sucker!" to himself. Helga's chief complaint about Big Bob is that he hardly notices she's there, and when he does, it's to compare her unfavorably to older sister Olga. But Bob's on the road to redemption — he has a sensitive side, which first aired in "Quantity Time." Mostly he's still an asshole, obsessed with money, power, and winning. Special talent: sales Favorite possessions: his Lucky Belt, his Humvee, Olga's enormous trophy collection. Big Bob episodes: "Spelling Bee," "Roughin' It," "Arnold's Halloween."



**Big Bob
Pataki**
1-98



Big Bob Pataki

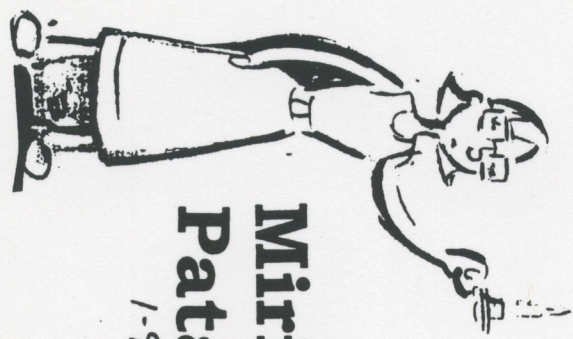
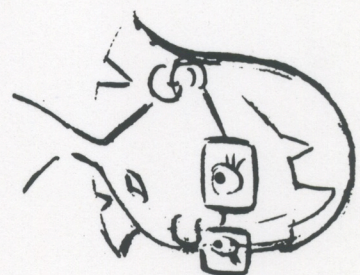
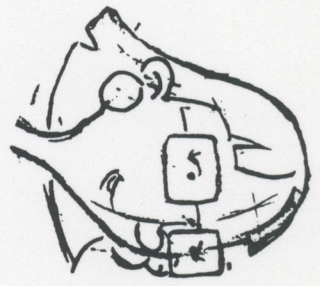
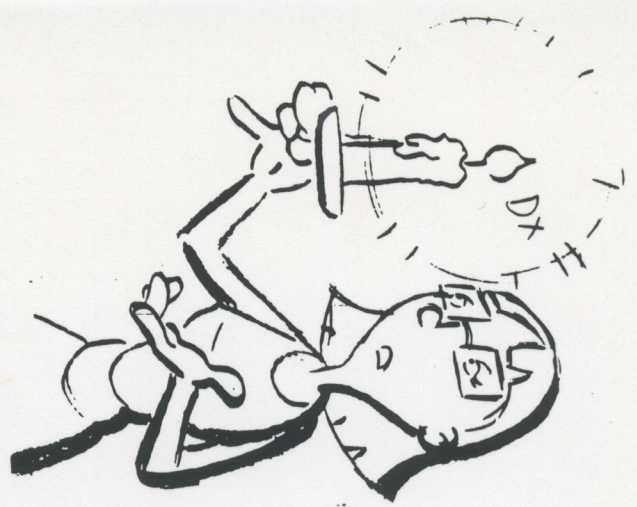
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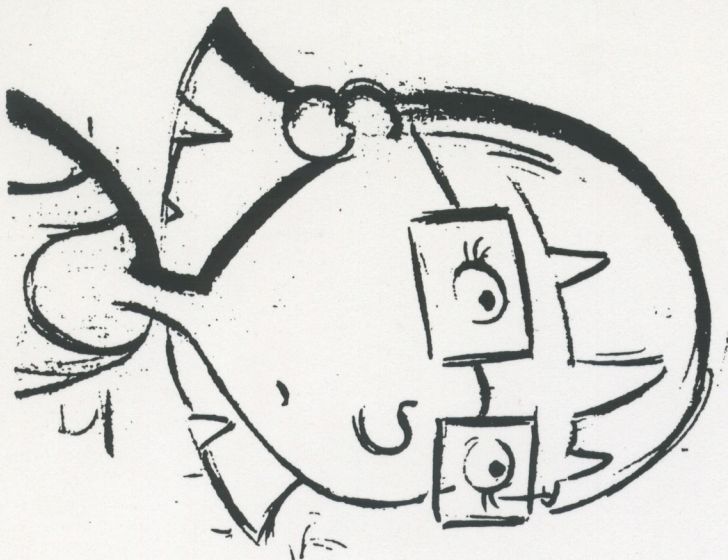
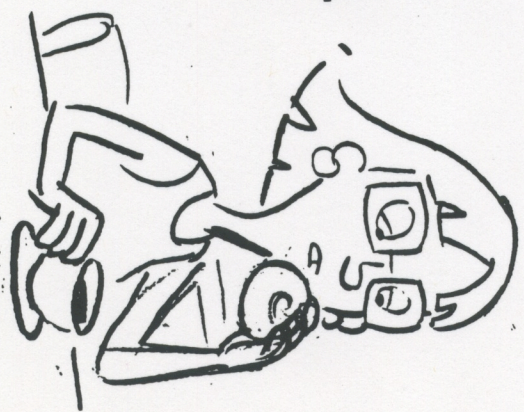
MIRIAM

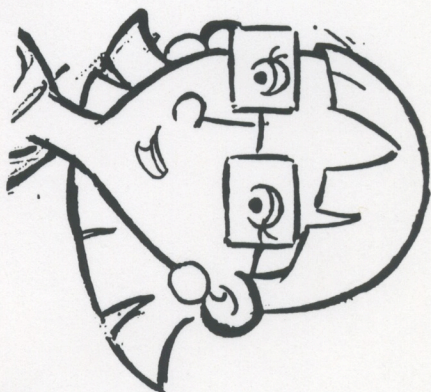
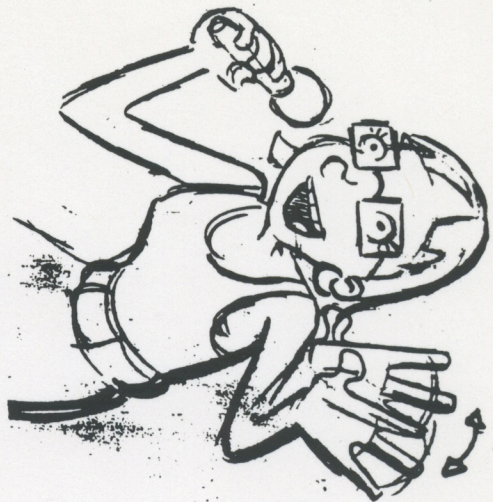


The other, not much better half of Helga's dysfunctional parents is her mom, Miriam Pataki. Miriam is a tragic character — she's unrealized potential personified. Miriam used to be an Olympic class diver and champion horseback rider until she met Big Bob in college, got pregnant, had kids, and took to moping around the house and making smoothies. Big Bob is such a blowhard, Miriam has lost the will to assert herself, and sets a "why bother?" example for Helga, who rebels, Bob-like, against both of them. Though she's a pretty sad example of a mom (takes naps behind the couch, forgets to make Helga's lunch, throws out Helga's Arnold Shrines) Miriam truly loves Helga and from time to time makes an effort to connect with her. Weakness: smoothies. Miriam episodes: "Road Trip," "The Beeper Queen."

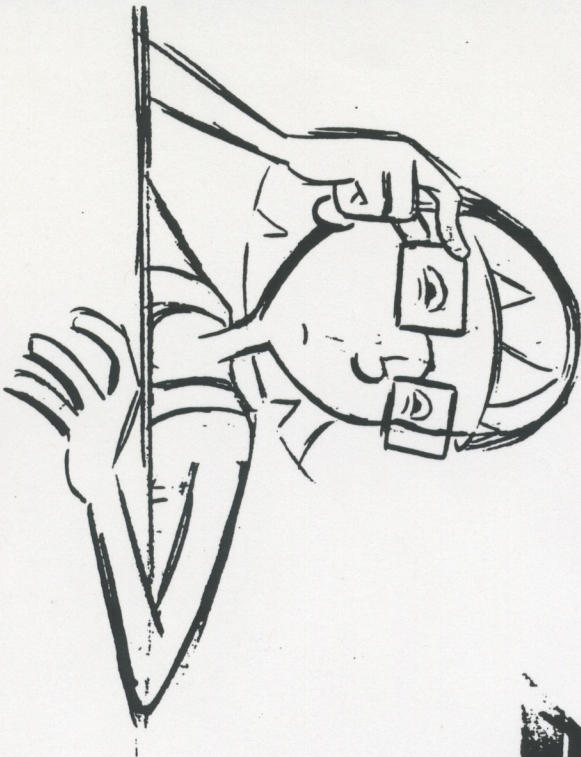


Miriam
Pataki
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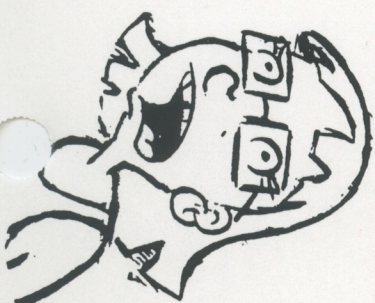




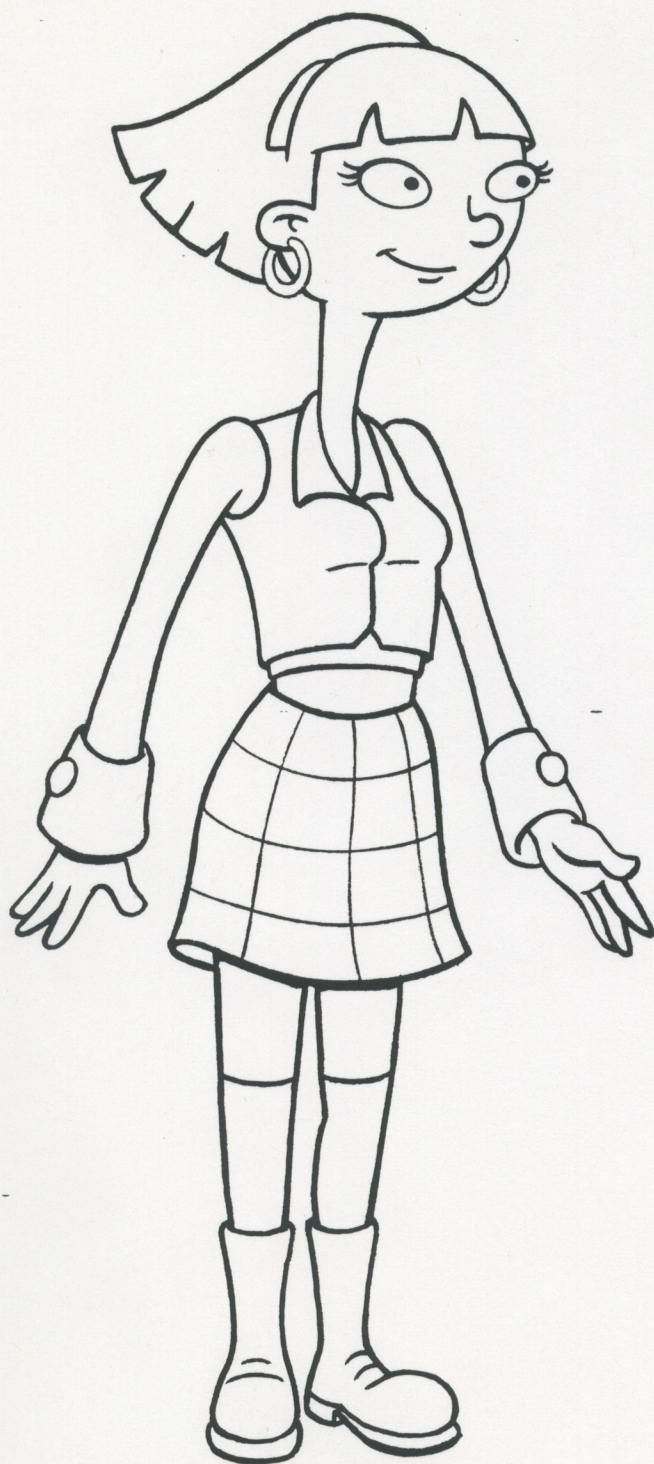
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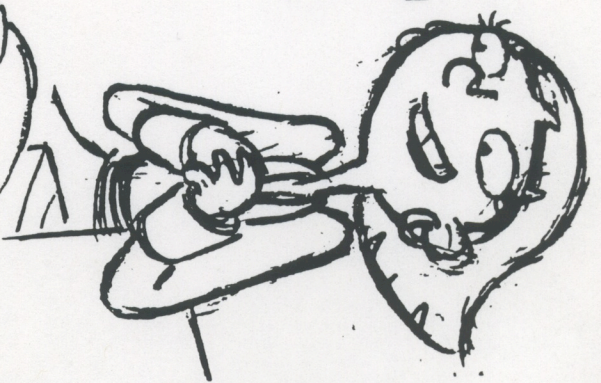
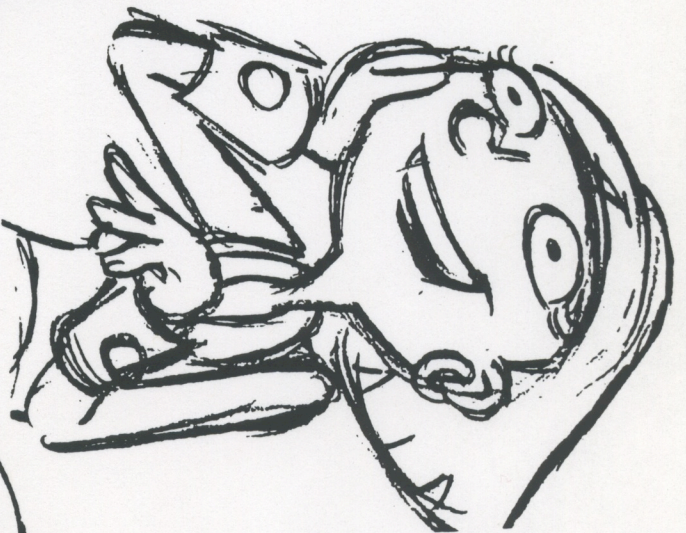
Miriam
Pataki
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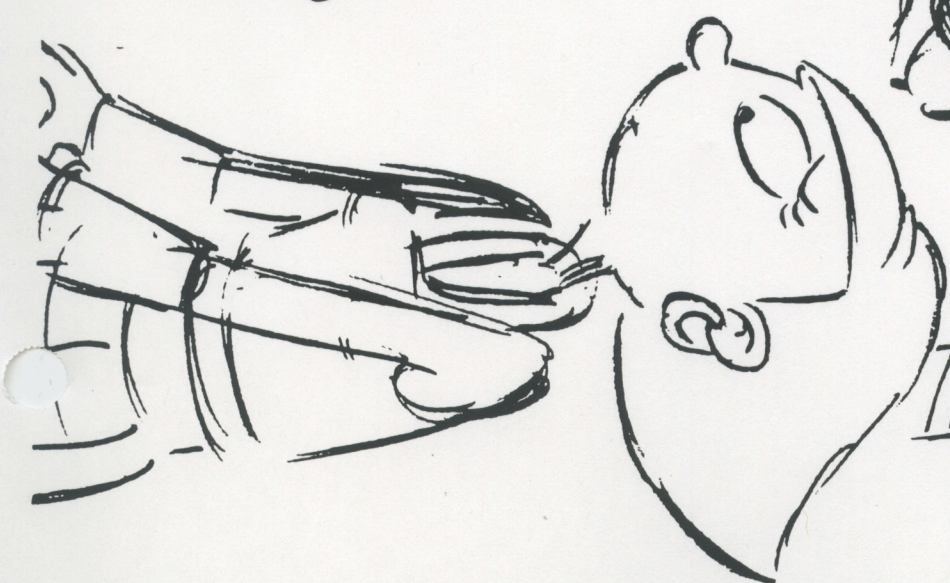
OLGA

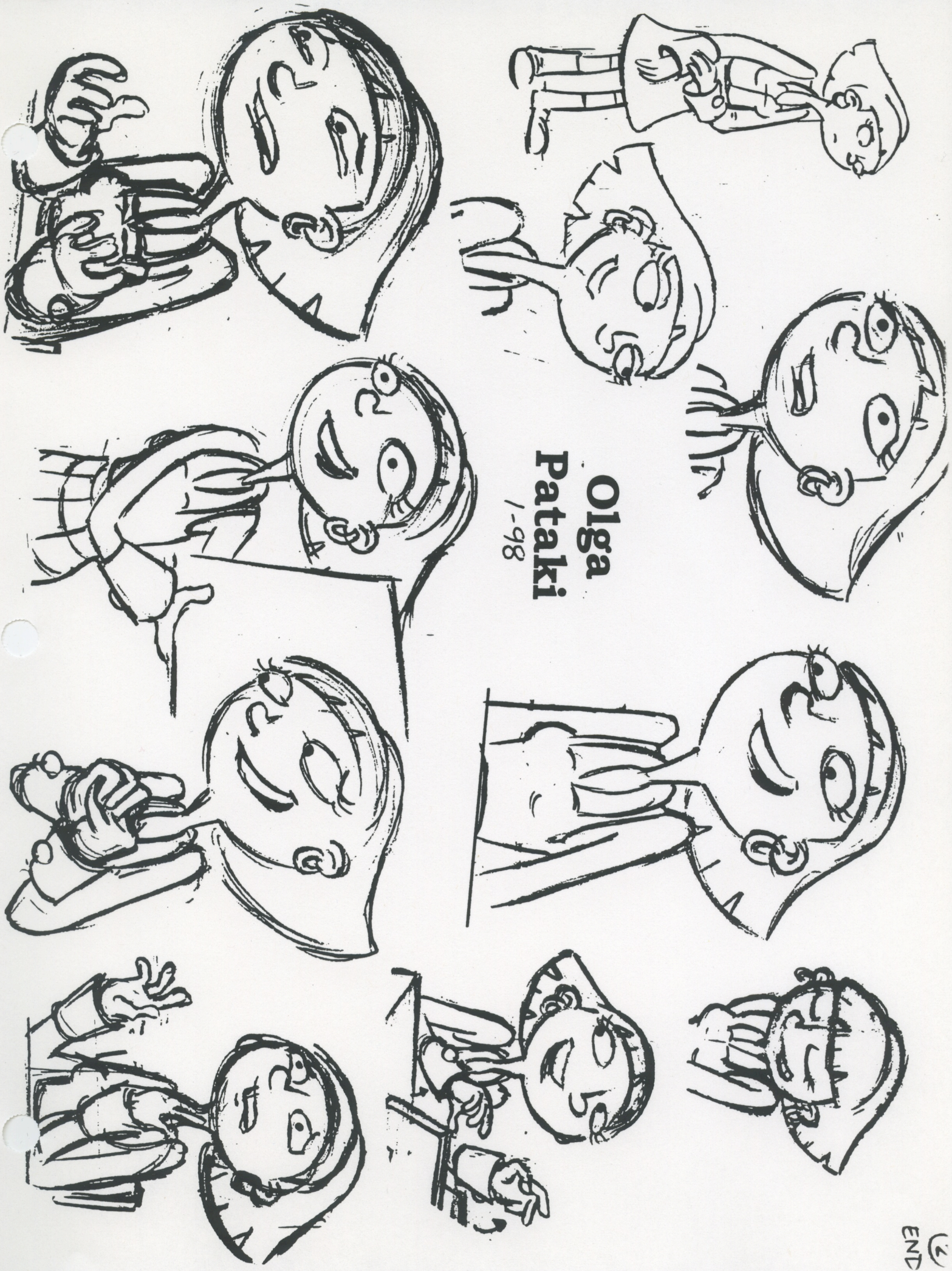


In "Olga Gets Engaged," Rhonda tells Helga in the hall at school: "I heard your sister Olga's home from college this week. She's so great. She's pretty, and popular, and a fabulous dresser, not to mention an award winning scholar. She's probably the most perfect person I've ever met. You must love having her as a sister." The glowering, hate-filled look Helga gives as her answer tells it all — Olga Pataki is one of the reasons Helga is so pissed off. Helga grew up in her shadow and dreads her visits home from college, which usually consist of Olga's litany of achievements followed by a rousing piano concerto. Big Bob and Miriam sit among her trophies, applauding like idiots. We have to forgive Olga, because she's so self-absorbed she doesn't even realize how much Helga hates it. Special talents: excels at everything. Weakness: gullible as hell. Olga episodes: "Olga Comes Home," "Student Teacher"



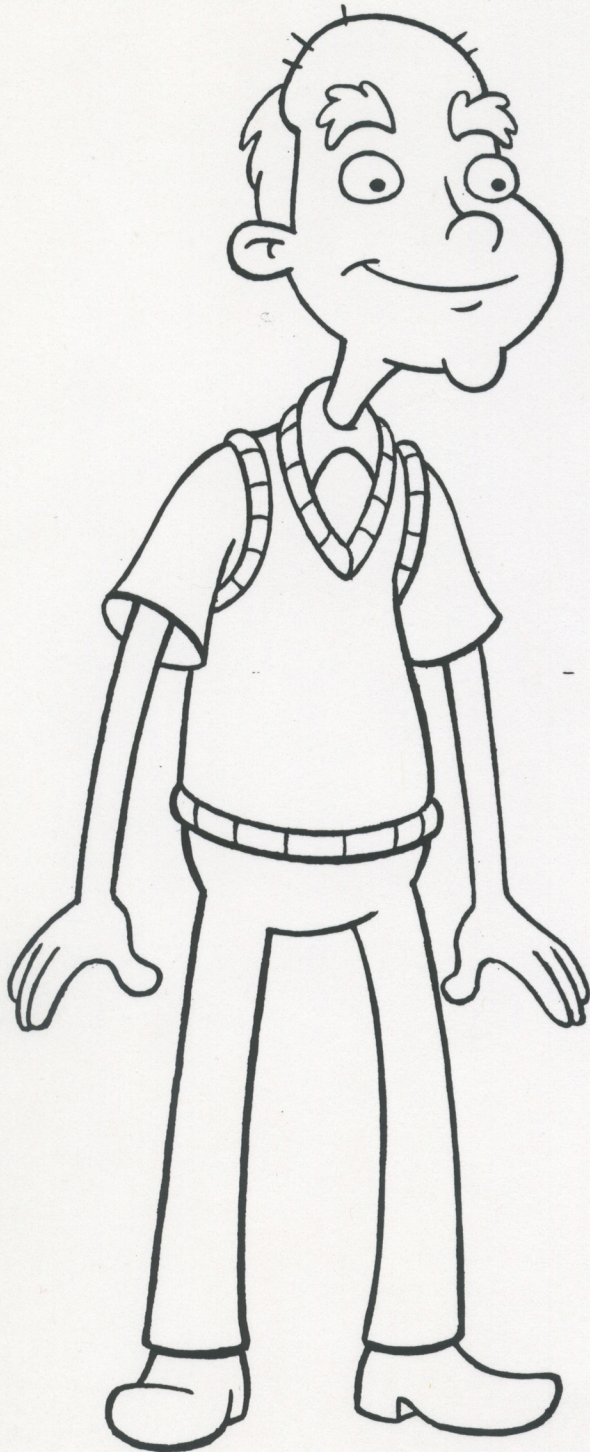
Olga
Pataki
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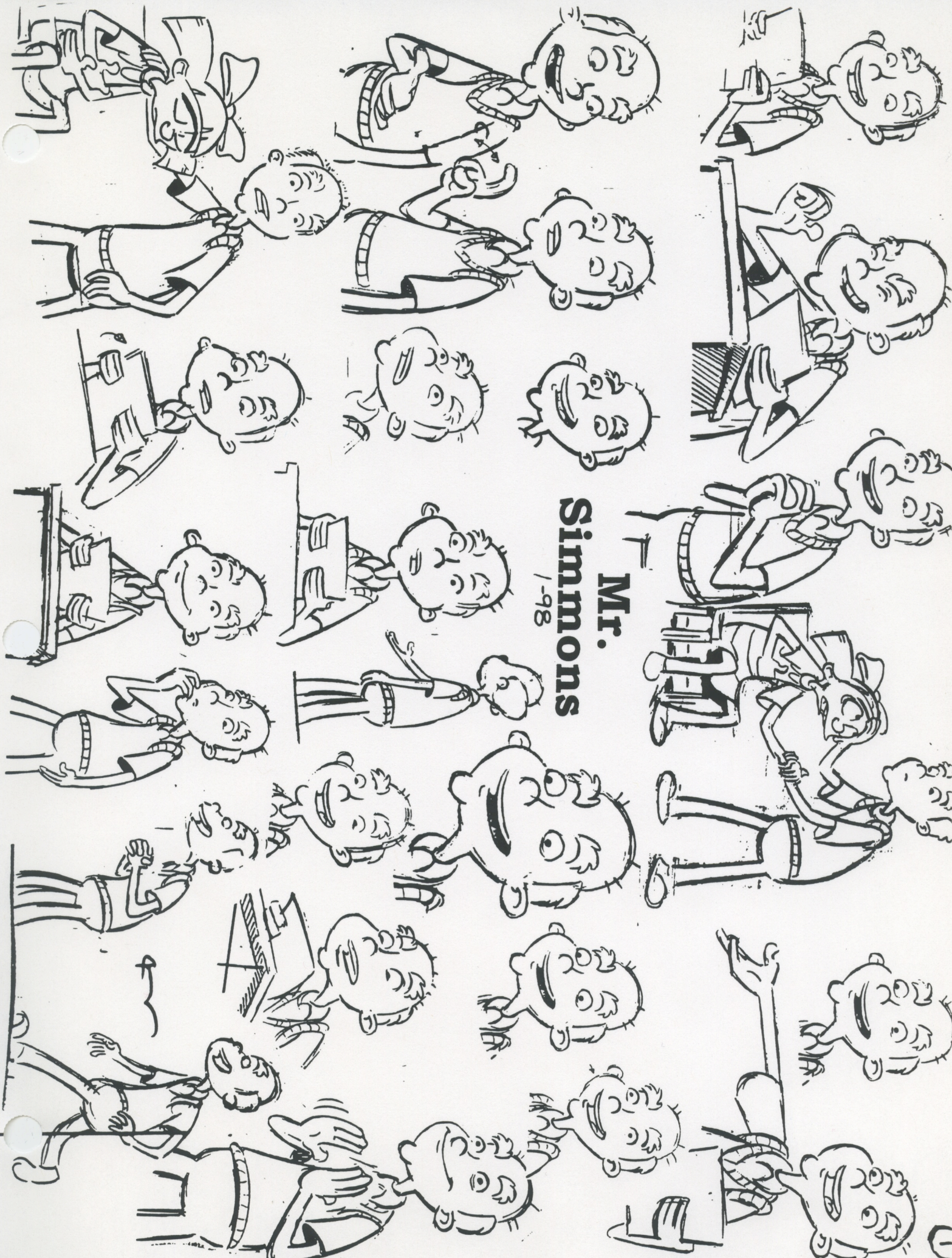


Olga
Pataki
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MR. SIMMONS



Introduced in "New Teacher" in second season, replacing the one-note, insincere, mercenary Ms. Slovak. We wanted a change: a teacher who cared too much as opposed to caring too little. The result is Mr. Simmons — enthusiastic, sensitive, full of the fire to teach. Simmons believes in each kid's unique, "special" gift, and won't settle for less. He brings history alive, supports the arts, puts on plays — he's everybody's favorite teacher. Of course they make fun of him, but he's able to take a joke, and often is so naive he doesn't realize when the kids are having him on. Simmons episodes: "New Teacher," "Phoebe Cheats," "School Play."



Mr. Simons
1-98

PRINCIPAL WARTZ



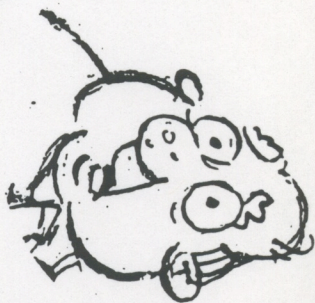
Principal Wartz is a weasel, a pompous ass, and a coward, but otherwise he's a pretty dependable sort, a put-upon public servant. Mostly he has no idea what's going on.

His old-school-style of running things contrasts nicely with Mr. Simmons' new-age touchy-feely methods. (they face off in "Curly Snaps.")

Special Talents: can play guitar and sing "La Cucaracha."

Weaknesses: Snickerdoodles, Pistachio ice cream.

Wartz episodes: "Teachers' Strike," "Sid's Revenge," Arnold's Halloween."



Mr. Wartz
1-98

