

Year 5 Merlins Computing Autumn 2

Vector Drawings



What are vector drawings?

Vector drawings are computer graphic images that are made using 2-D shapes. The drawings are connected by lines and curves to form polygons and other shapes, forming a complete picture.

There are lots of different apps and programs that can help us to complete vector drawings, including Google Drawings and Adobe Illustrator. Many techniques, e.g., zooming, rotating, resizing & duplicating, can help to create accurate images.



Key Vocabulary	Definition
alignment	Arrangement in a straight line, either horizontally or vertically.
duplicate	To copy something exactly so you have two identical versions.
enlarge	To make something bigger.
function	The particular job an item or object is designed to do.
gradient (colour)	When a particular colour or tone fades from dark to light.
graphics	Digital visual images.
grouping	To group multiple objects or layers so that they act as one object on a single layer.
layering	Arranging objects on top of each other.
object	Each individual point, shape, curve or line.
order	To arrange objects based on certain characteristics.
reduce	To make something smaller.
vector drawing	A digital drawing made up of vector graphics (points, lines, curves and shapes)
weight	The thickness of vector lines.
zoom	To change from a far away shot to a close-up, or vice versa.

Creating Simple Vector Drawings:

Vector drawings use lines and shapes to create bigger and more detailed images.

<p>Plan your drawing by thinking about what shapes it is made up of. Each shape is called an object.</p>	<p>The tail is furthest away so is drawn first.</p>	<p>When vector drawing, the shapes overlap, so start with the objects that are the furthest away.</p>
<p>Copy and paste has been used to make the red spots the same size.</p>	<p>You can save a lot of time and effort doing the same thing over and over by duplicating shapes. This is done most easily by copying the object that you want to duplicate (hold ctrl + c) and pasting (hold ctrl + v) a new one.</p>	
<p>You can enlarge/reduce an object by clicking on it and dragging the handles to the desired size.</p>	<p>You can rotate an object by dragging the circular handle at the top.</p>	

Vector Drawing Techniques

Grouping:

Select all images.
Right-click.
Choose 'group.'
All of the objects can be moved and changed at the same time.



Backgrounds:

You can create a background by uploading images.
Remember to click 'send to back' after it has been inserted.



Selecting multiple objects:

This allows you to perform tasks with the whole drawing rather than individual objects.

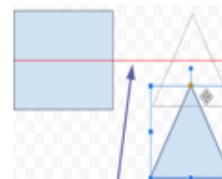
Click, drag and drop a box around all of the objects on an image. This allows you to select all of the objects.

When you perform an action (e.g., copy and paste) this will be applied to every object you have selected.

Alignment guides:

The alignment guides pop up as you move objects around.

These guides help you to line up and resize your objects.



Zoom function:

Using the zoom function can help with more precise details.

Zooming in allows you to focus on smaller areas, and zooming out allows a wider view of your whole project.

