

**digger
dan's**



HEAVY HAULERS
CREATED BY CLARK JAMES™

about

“We love real dirt!”



he tiny little town of Middle Fork sits directly between the left and right forks of the Shoosh Woosh river. The river often floods and the little town is under constant assault by the elements.

Digger Dan™ and his friends at the Heavy Haulers Construction Company stay hard at work to keep the earth from slipping, sliding and washing away. Whatever the job, Digger Dan™ and his friends live for dirt!

These rigs love their job and live for pushing back landslides, filling precarious sink holes, digging foundations, doing road repairs, or simply moving dirt from here to there.

Leading the group of brawny characters is Marge, the sophisticated front loader with more attachments than a Swiss army knife.

Marge is joined by Big D, the sweet and tough old D-10 bulldozer with the strength of 1000 horses.

Then there's Lil' B, or LB for short. LB is an agile little skid steer loader who aspires to be an inventor. She also looks out for her old friend Tipper, the rather grumpy and timid, but soft in the middle, dump truck.

Last but not least, we have Dan - Digger Dan™ to his friends - an energetic excavator with a million things to learn and the ambition of an industrious beaver.

Working as a team, the Heavy Haulers serve and protect their small, mountainside community with great pride.

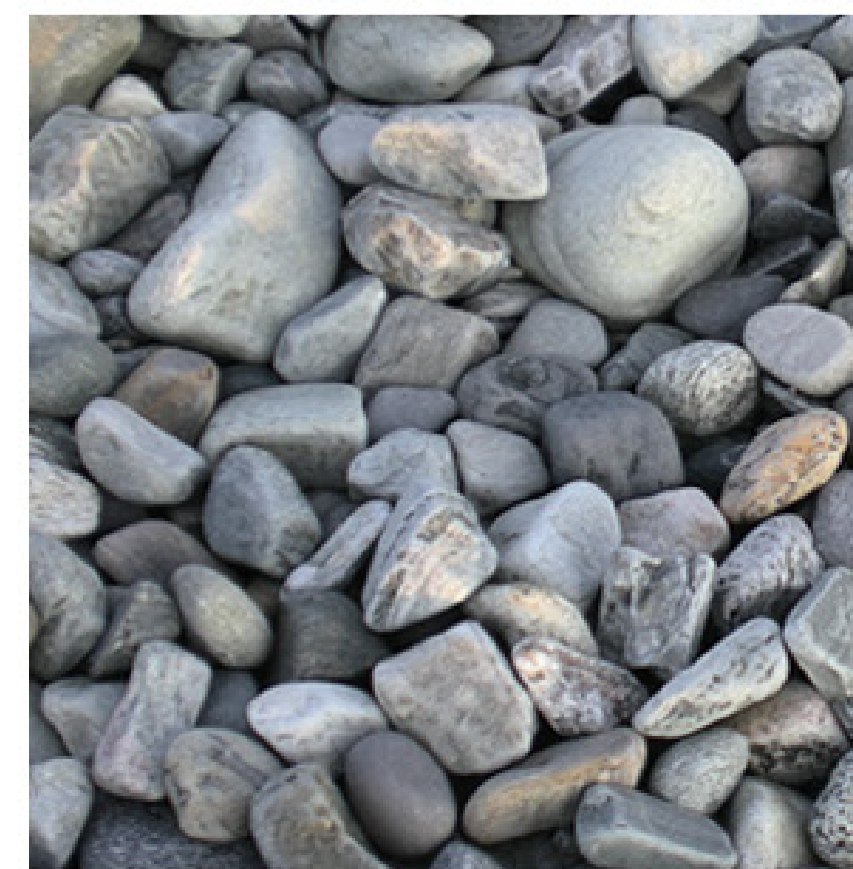
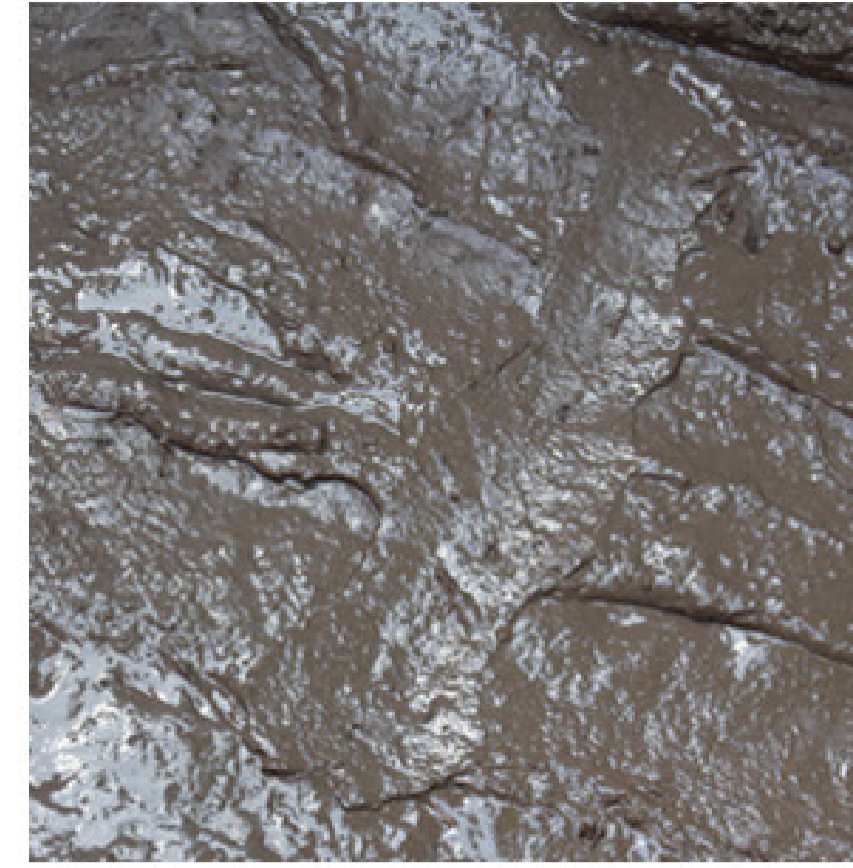




The television program Digger Dan's Heavy Haulers™ is a unique, high-concept children's program intended for a young audience ages 2-5. The style of the program is a real, imaginative miniature world with engaging, charismatic live-action performances by the program's main characters. The 5 primary construction vehicles work together to solve problems, function as a team, and of course, learn great life lessons along the way. The show is set in a timeless world, irrelevant to technology, and loaded with charm!

What sets Digger Dan™ apart from any other program is the visual execution of the storytelling - the characters and world of Digger Dan's Heavy Haulers™ are REAL! That means REAL articulated models filmed on REAL miniature sets. To engage the audience and give the characters a life of their own, digital faces: eyes, brows, and mouths are composited onto the live action footage in post production, giving the characters a unique voice, demeanor and personality to set them apart from each other.

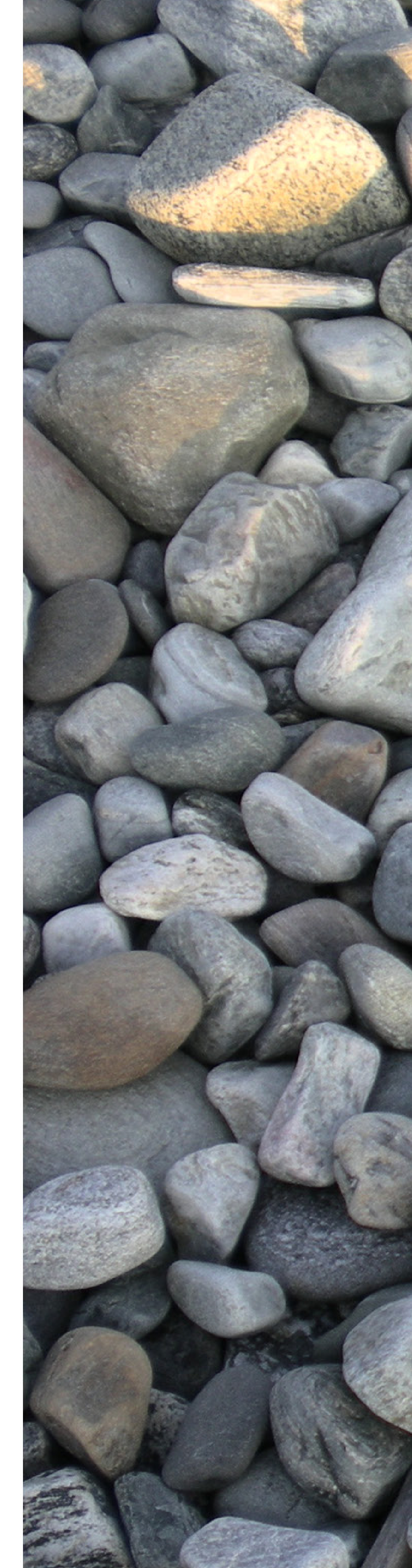
The exciting result of executing Digger Dan™ in an authentic live-action+animated style is the high degree of reality captured in beautiful, carefully designed miniature sets unlike any other. Nowhere else can children see scale construction vehicles come alive and move. Better yet, Digger Dan™ and his pals actually get to move REAL dirt, REAL rocks, REAL logs, dig REAL holes and crawl through REAL mud. Imagine the world of Digger Dan™ through a child's eyes where every boy and girl will experience the joy of a miniature world alongside Dan and his friends.



Beyond the television program, the cast of Digger Dan's Heavy Haulers™ will be reproduced as fun model toys that match the actual characters to an exact degree. And we won't stop there! The licensing potential for Digger Dan™ is unlimited for application to clothing, books, stickers and whatever the talented marketing and licensing folks can dream up.

Digger Dan™ is not just another children's program, Digger Dan™ is a whole new world created by Clark James to appeal to the child in all of us, whether 4 or 44. The world of Digger Dan™ is modeled in the image of what our mind sees and desires when we are children.

Digger Dan™ is the idyllic miniature world every child wants to live in, drawn from a palette of rich colors that taste like candy, packed with fun and imagination that no child or adult should ever lose touch with!



characters

"Who's your BFF?"

Dan

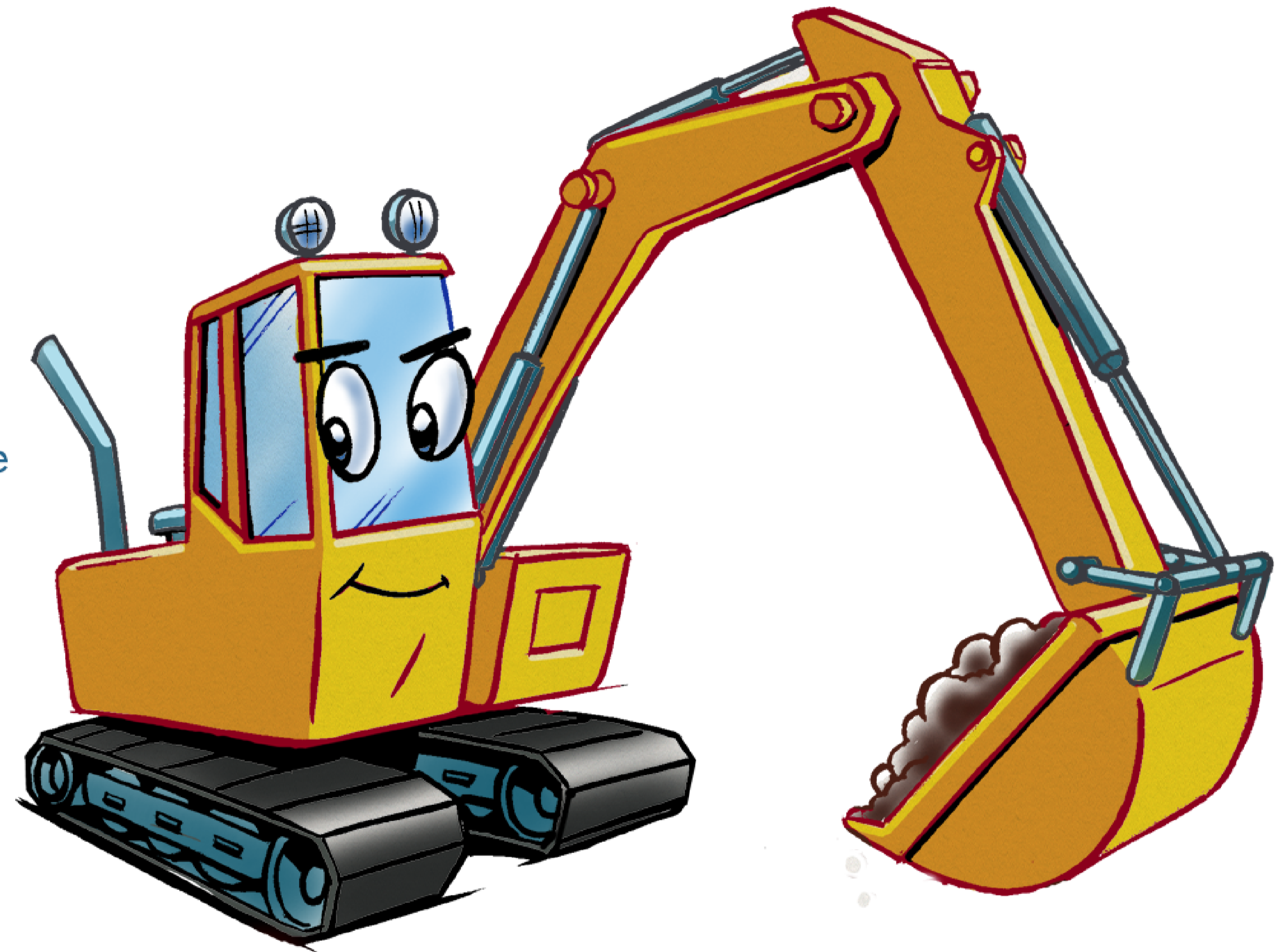
“Hey! I can do that!”

We all know a youngster like Dan - high energy and ready to jump in at a moments notice to “help”.

Dan often gets in over his head and tries to take on more than his experience, but he’s full of passion and very likable. Excitement is Dan’s fuel to learn valuable lessons in teamwork, sharing, giving and soo much more. His friends are forever patient and loving with him, because they see the best in Dan and they want to see the young vehicle grow up to be a wise and respected member of the Heavy Haulers family.

Dan’s favorite activities are digging in the mud and playing constuction site soccer, but his greatest joy comes from helping people and animals. Dan’s best pal is Lil’ B the skid steer loader, and he’s usually the ring leader when it comes to getting LB and himself in hot water.

Dan can get into trouble like any precocious kid, but his heart is enormous and he’s always willing to stop, listen and learn from his elders and peers. Dan is the primary character we follow and learn from in the program. He represents the emotional, social and developmental process of a child.



Marge

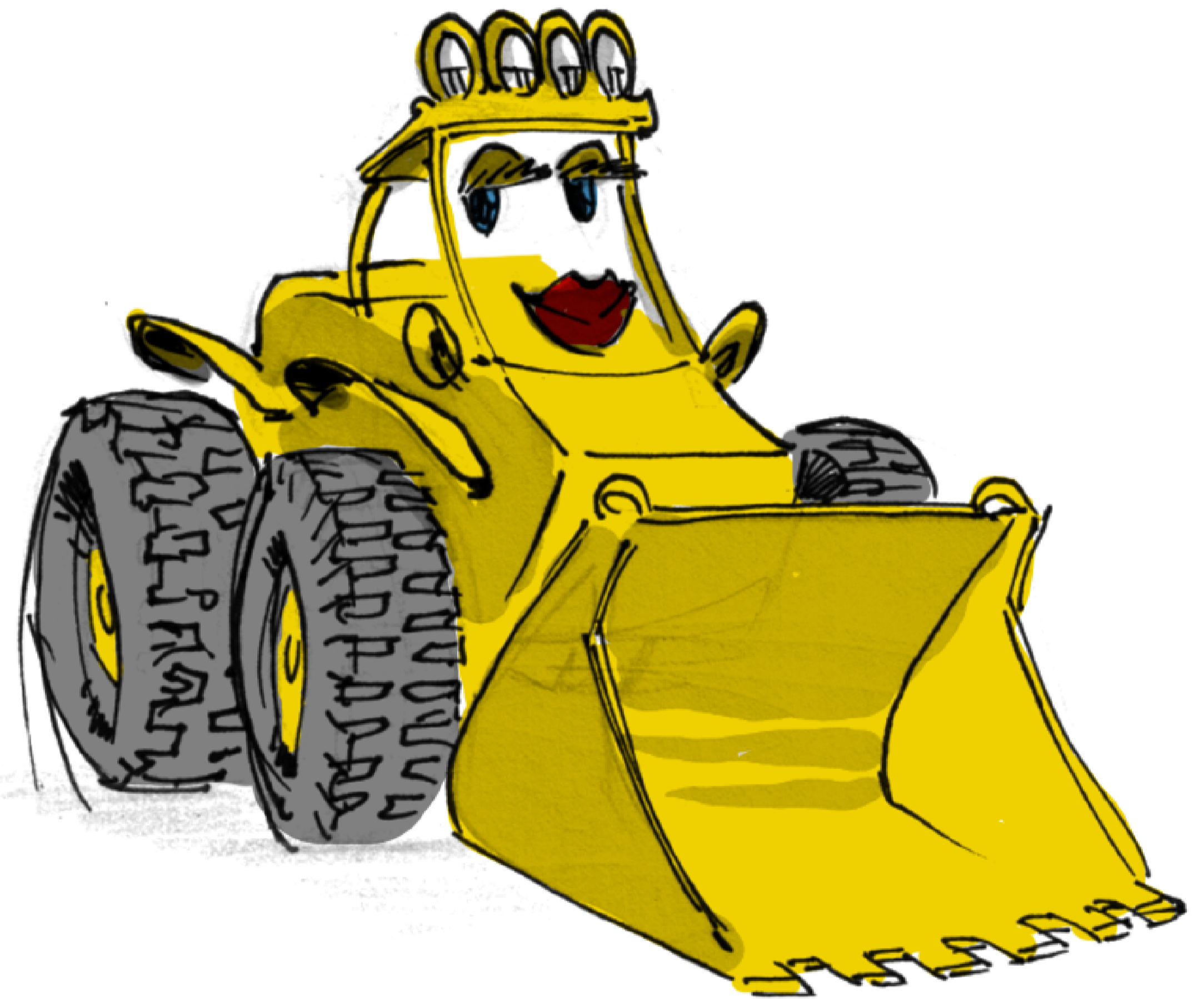
“You kids get to work!”

Marge is one tough front loader, but nobody would ever doubt her loyalty and motherly protection of her friends, especially Dan. Marge is generally the voice of reason, but she can experience frustration when Dan and the Heavy Haulers act irresponsibly.

Marge has a dry sense of humor and she loves to poke fun at old Tipper when he complains about everything! She often reminds Tipper and the others about gratitude and kindness. Marge is the female role model in the show.

Marge grew up with Big D and they go way back to the Flood of '88 that almost wiped out the town of Middle Fork. Marge lost her closest friend Dustin the backhoe in the flood when he was swept away while saving the earthen dam that protects the town from flood waters.

Marge often reflects about Dustin's great kindness and generosity and she pays homage to his love for all living things. Dustin represents a tie to the past and Marge is the conduit to share stories of old and provide family history to the others.



Lil' B

"Who're are you calling a girl?!?"

Little B, the skid steer loader, can be shy, except when she's trying to keep her best buddy Dan out of trouble. Her friends call her LB and when there's a challenge to be had, LB is the innovative, idea girl who always finds a brilliant way to solve the problem and save the day with her Swiss army style attachments.

LB's role model is Big D, the monster dozer, and she wants to be just like him. LB is a team player and prefers to stay out of trouble, yet often finds herself up to her seat when she goes along with Dan's silly schemes.

Little B was built with a flawed cylinder, which makes her a tendency to tire-out in strenuous situations. Sometimes she is forced to take it easy and rest, but her awesome friends always step in and give her a push when she needs it, because they know the LB would never give up if she had the choice. She may be lack endurance sometimes, but LB has the courage of 10 bulldozers twice her size!

BTW, Little B stands for Little Bug. It's the name Big D gave her when she first arrived in the yard, because she's as small as a bug next to him. :)



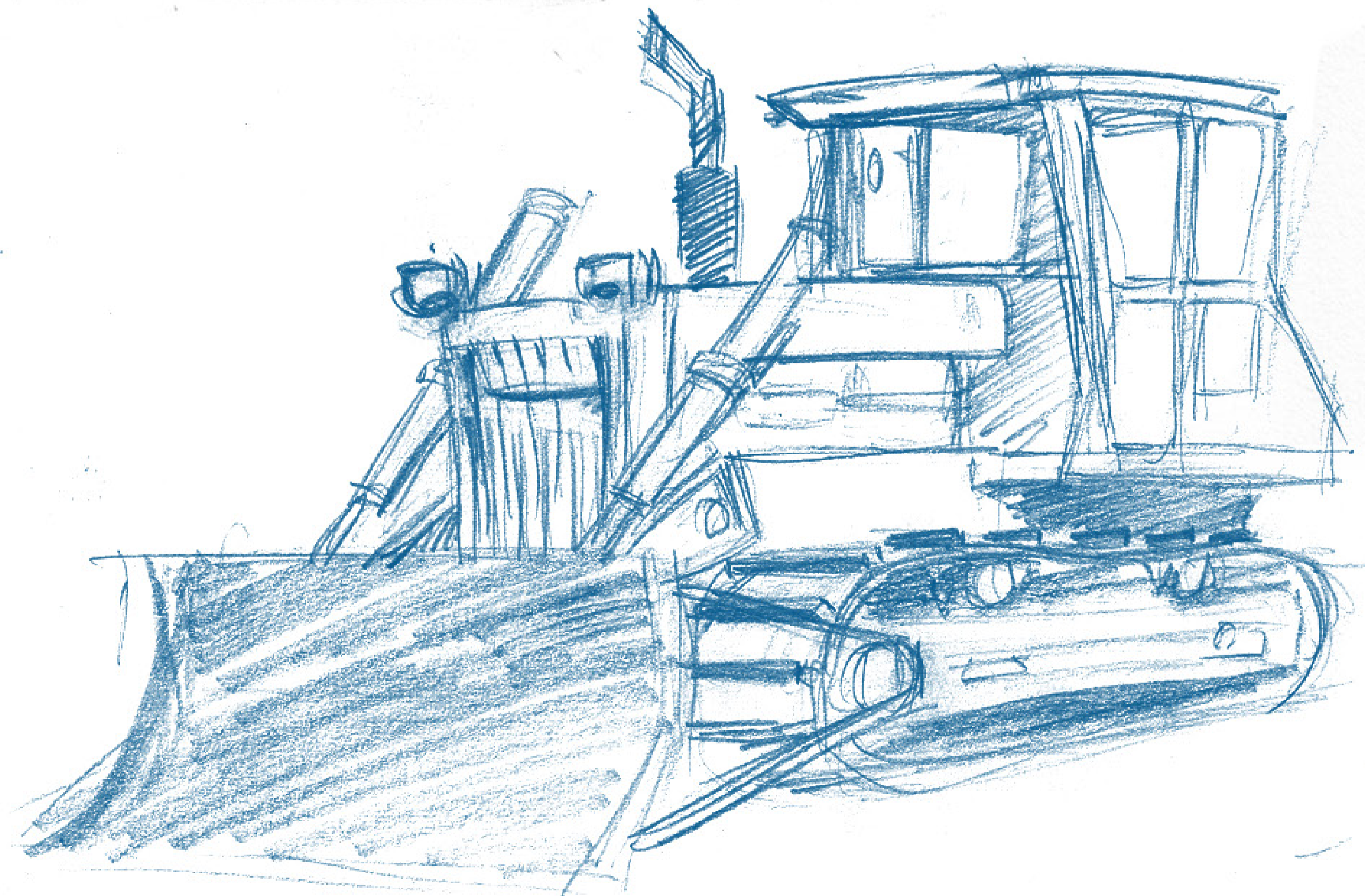
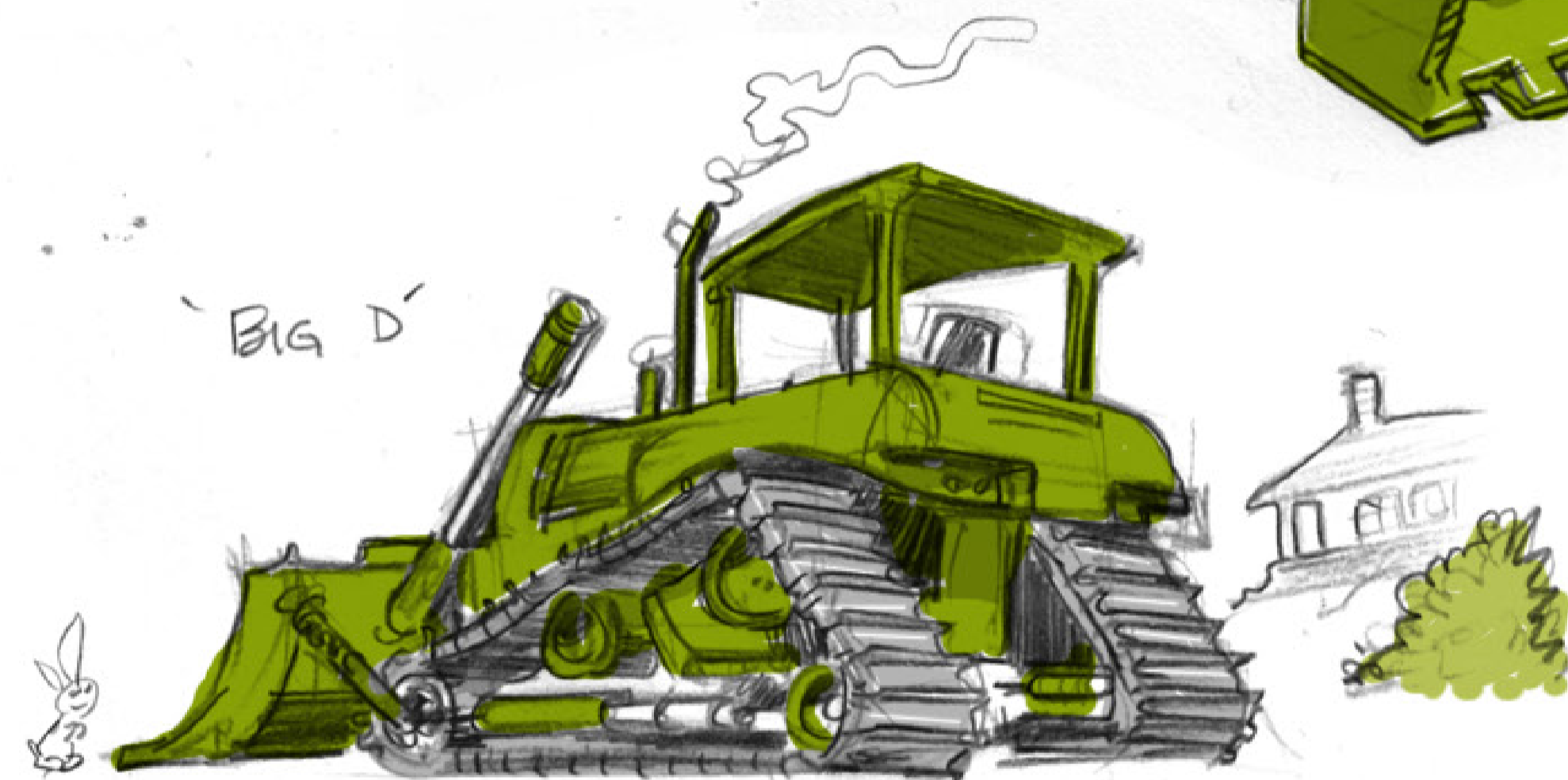
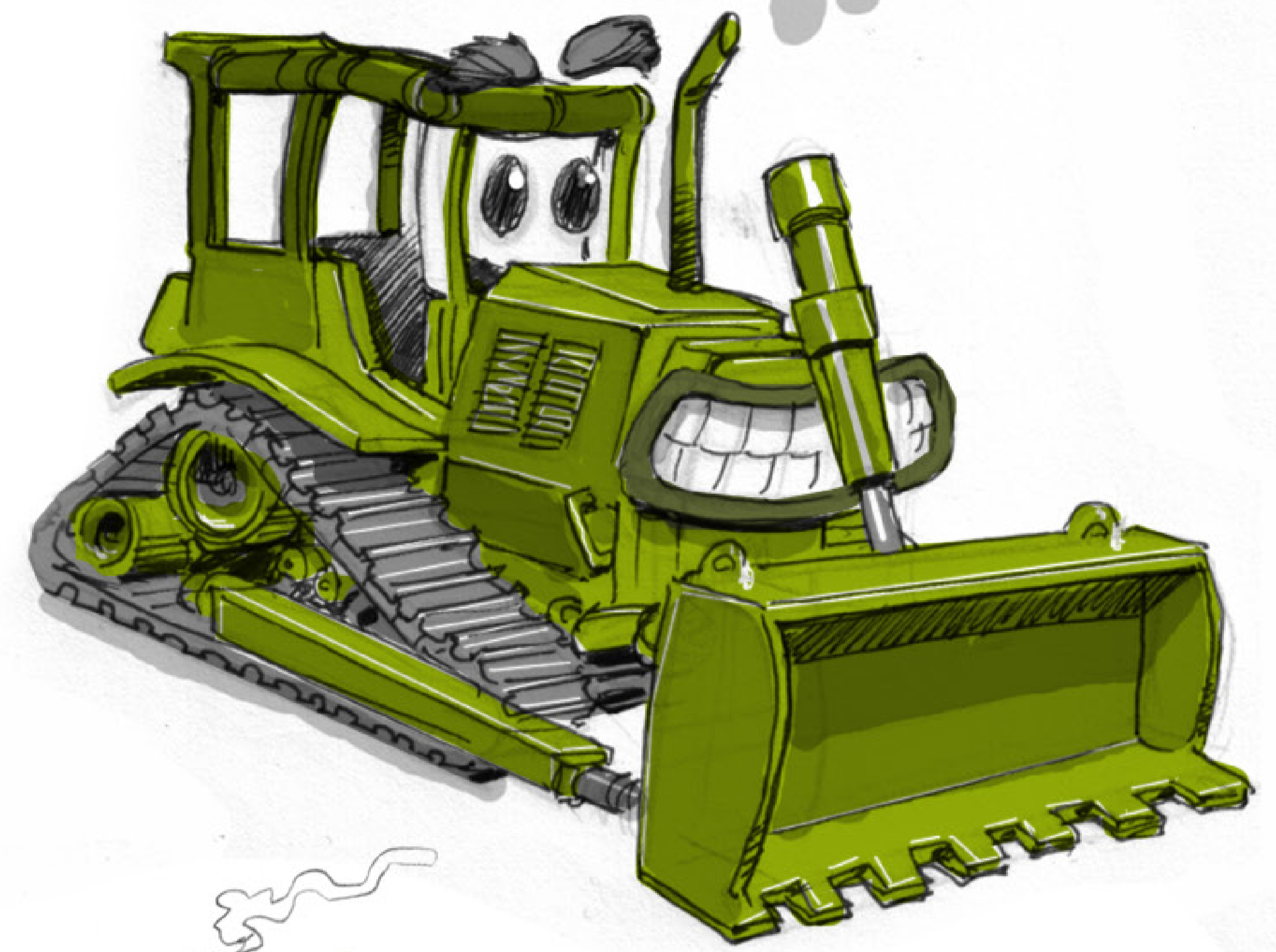
Big "D"

"We can do it if we try!"

Big "D" is a big, sweet old guy with a tendency to doze off at random. Years ago, a massive tree fell on Big D's hood and knocked him senseless. Since then, Big D has suffered from short term memory issues and he'll often forget what happened just 5 minutes ago. This creates a huge sense of wonder and naivete in Big D, because everything appears to be new and fresh to him, and resentments fade quickly. He will do anything to help his friends out of trouble and Big D frequently reminds them just how important and special they are.

Big D is a softie inside and a brut on the outside. He can push more dirt than any vehicle in the valley and he's won three community awards for bravery and strength from the local fire department.

Big D is a wonderful example of a male figure with great gentleness and strength. Once a bulldozer for the forest service, Big D is full of stories about protecting nature and houses threatened by wildfire. He'll even show you the deep scratch he received when he was trapped beneath a burning tree and barely escaped! He just can't remember when it happened... :)



Tipper

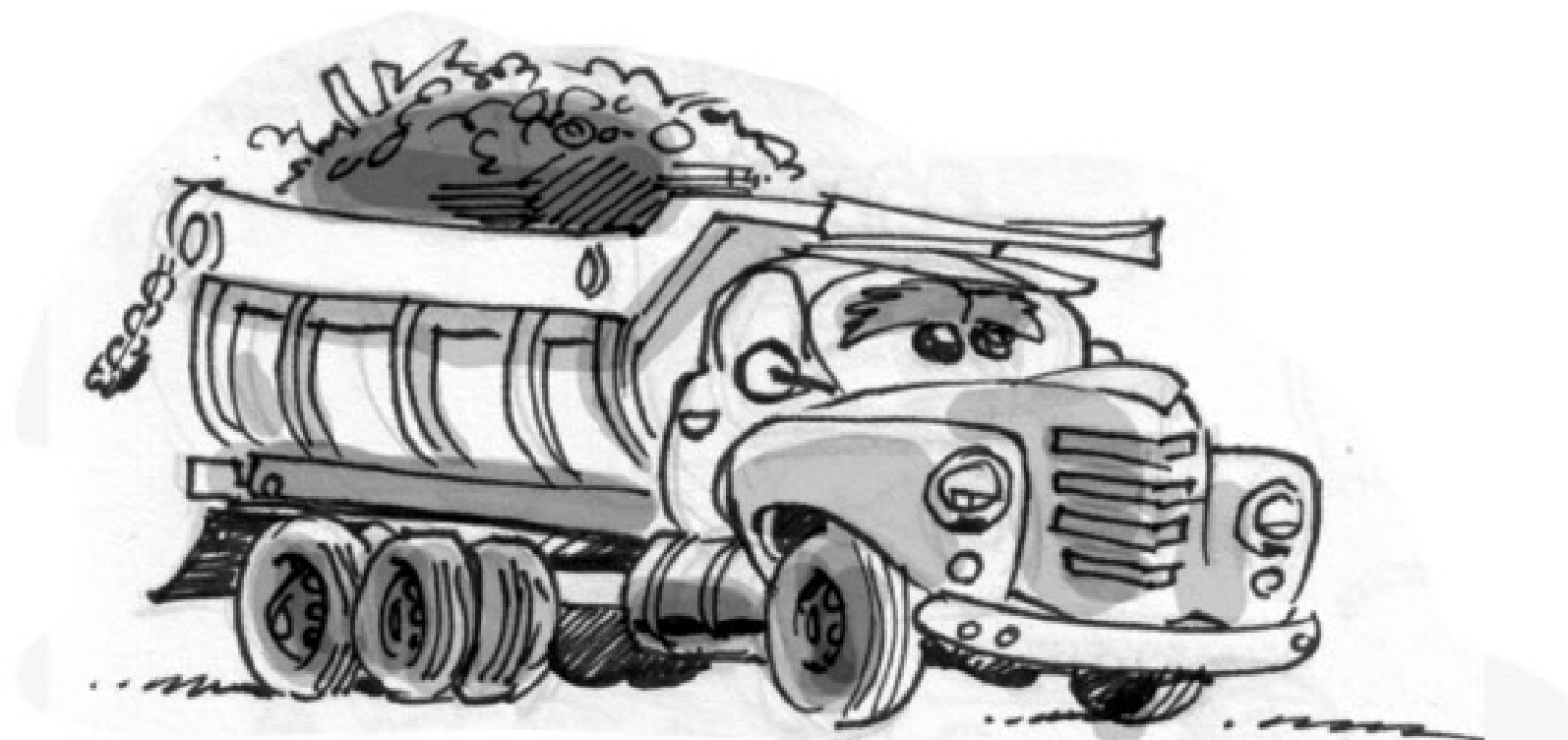
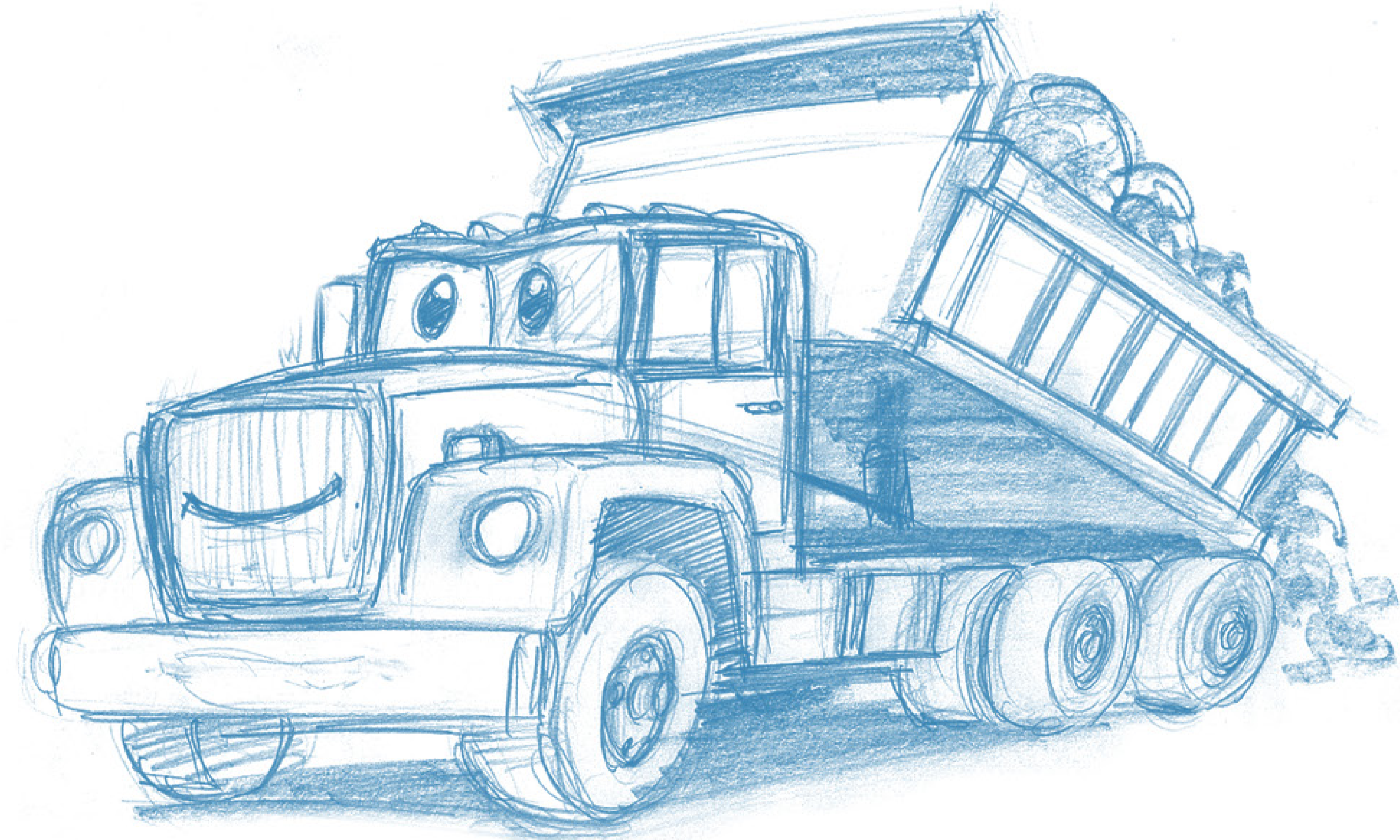
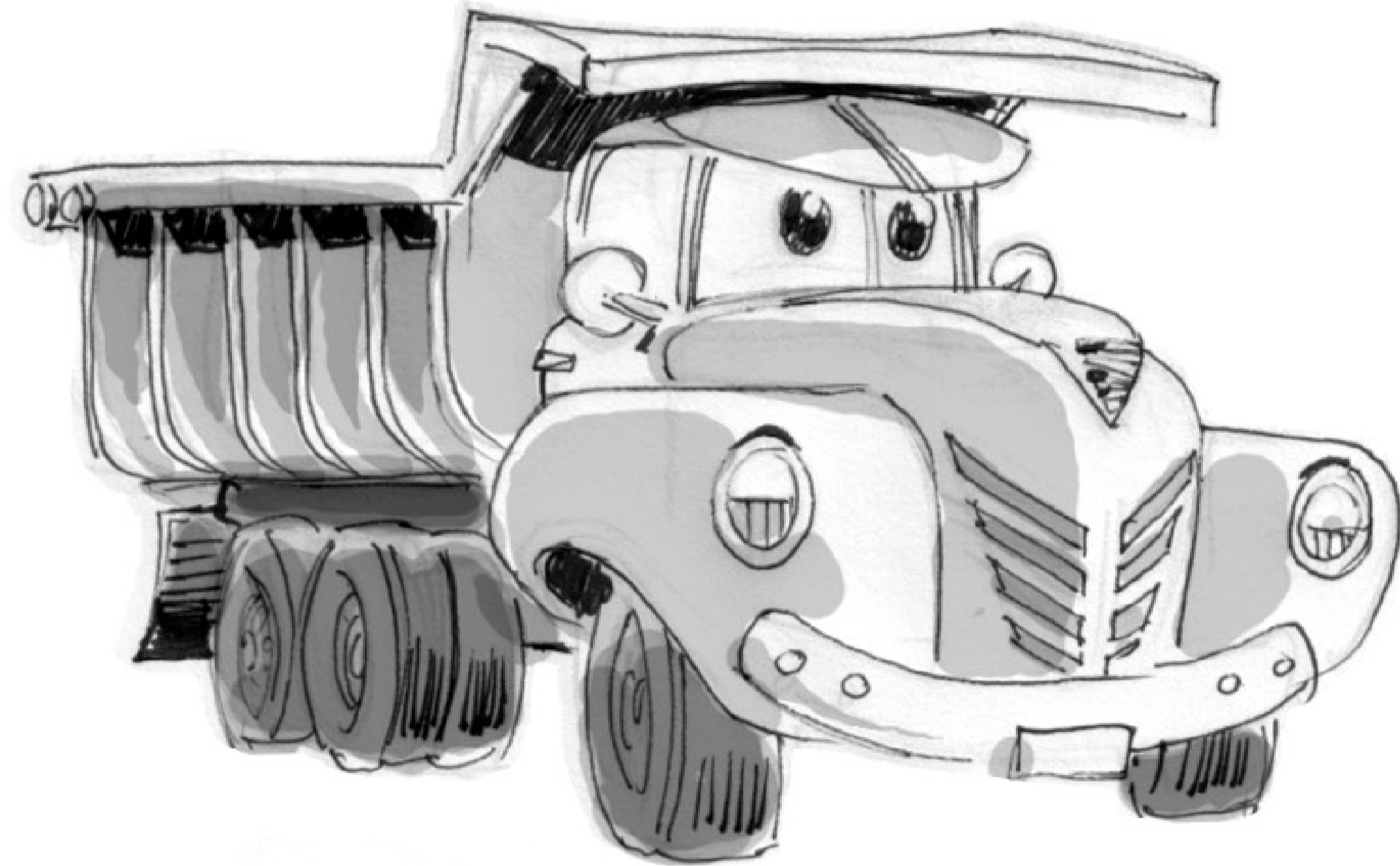
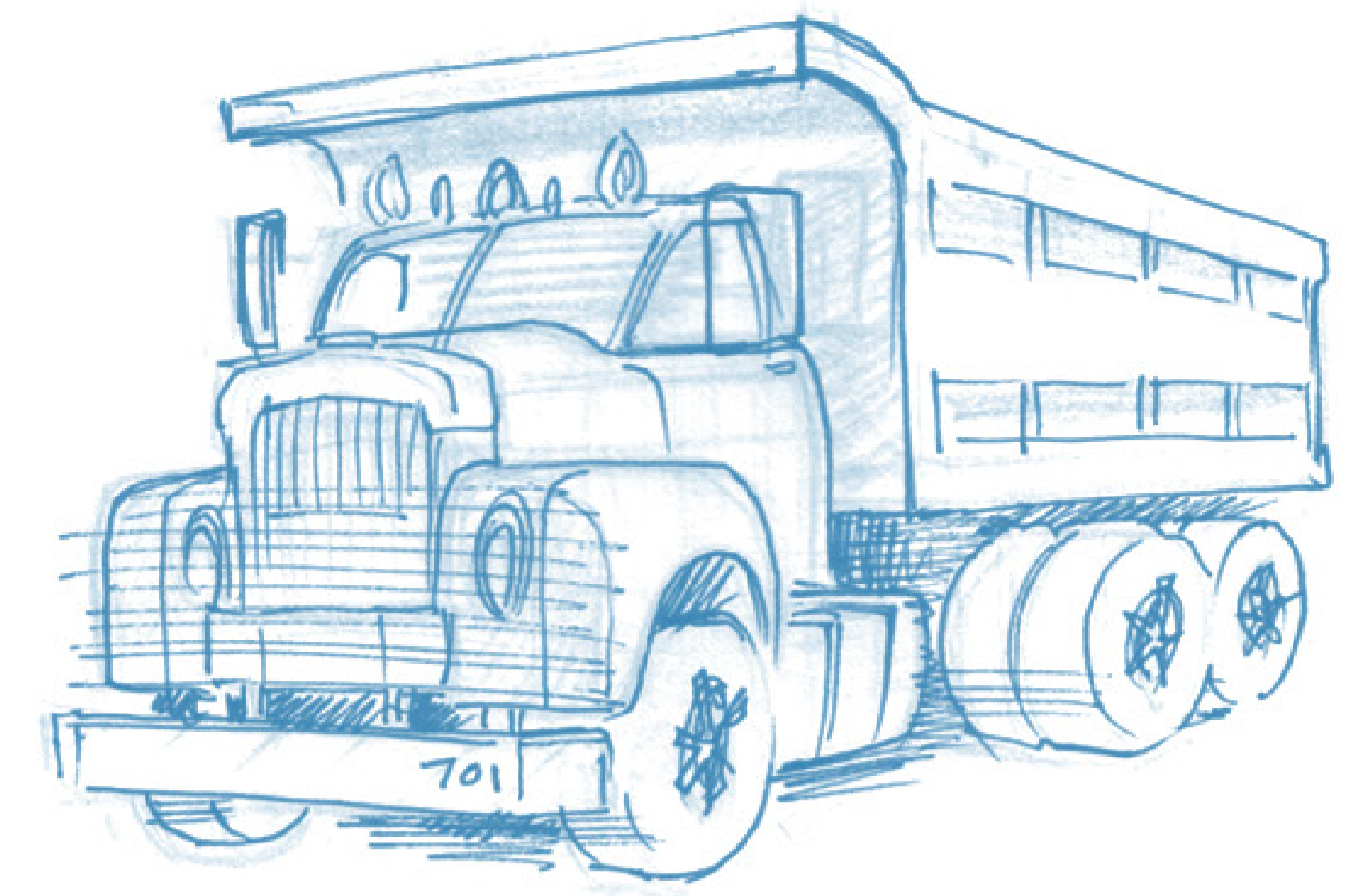
“Let me think a bit...”

Tipper isn't the most positive character in town and he'll tell you how something may fail, but he'll always come through and prove himself wrong.

Tipper represents the pessimism and anxiety many people possess and his role is important in the group - he forces the others to look beyond their limitations and grow. Tipper always admits he's too cautious, once he succeeds, and he shows us that we can “do it” if we let go of fear.

Tipper has good reason for caution. When he was just a young truck, he overfilled his dumper and nearly fell off a steep mountain road. The experience shook him to his axles and Tipper has never overcome that fear.

His perceived grumpiness always gives way to realization. Vulnerability and the ability to laugh at himself makes Tipper a very likable, albeit annoying, character we have to love for his self reflection and silliness.



episodes

“What will happen next?”

EP101

Integrity+Bravery (pilot) “I Think I Can!”

On the day of the town’s 100th birthday parade, Digger Dan is set to lead the big event, but he might not get the opportunity when he defies Marge’s instructions to report back after scouting the old earthen dam that keeps the town safe from flooding.

Dan’s over-confidence inspires him to repair the failing dam without help, but his misguided efforts threaten him and the town’s safety. Dan finds himself stuck between two major leaks and he needs help fast!

Marge arrives just in time with Tipper, who must overcome an old fear of heights to help Dan to safety, save the town from the impending disaster, and make it back in time to attend the parade.



EP102

Sharing + Gambling

“No Bet is the Best Bet”

Dan acts irresponsibly and loses his allowance to Big D when he makes a bet that he can move the more dirt.

Dan must then borrow money from his friend Marge to attend an outdoor movie, but when he fails to repay her, he learns that Marge needs the money to buy flowers for her ill sister.

Dan must choose between his own self interest and doing the right thing for his friend by returning the borrowed money, and quick!

Big D takes the opportunity to teach Dan a valuable lesson about friendship by letting him earn back the bet winnings, giving Dan the opportunity to repay Marge.



EP103

Blame + Honesty

“Gopher Broke”

The Elegant Old Car show is passing through town and Dan is responsible for patching a giant pothole in the street to protect the delicate tires of the old cars.

Dan mismanages his time, cuts a few corners and his hasty repair backfires. His poor choices cause the last of the old cars to crack a rim and blow a tire in the pothole.

Dan covers his tracks by telling a fib and blaming the town gopher for the poorly repaired hole.

Dan must choose to make amends and use his allowance to put the beautiful old car back on the road and regain the trust of his friends, the town and the innocent gopher.



EP104

Honesty+Jealousy

“No Bones About it!”

Dan finds himself feeling jealous about Big D’s amazing stories of adventure, so when Dan digs up a mysterious object at a home construction site, he convinces everyone he’s found an ancient dinosaur bone.

Dan’s incredible tale brings him a lot of desired attention, including the cover of the local newspaper. The Mayor even announces that Dan will receive an award for science and discovery.

Dan must choose to eventually come clean and tell the truth, because his great discovery is really nothing more than an old cow bone buried by Pete the dog.



EP105

Confidence+Self Worth

“The Good, The Bad and the Muddy”

LB's flawed third cylinder forces her to sit out of a big road cut and miss out on the action. With her self confidence diminished, LB decides to run away.

When Dan and the others discover LB is gone, they set out on a frantic search, only to find themselves knee-deep in mud and it's up to LB to find the courage and strength to pull her friends to safety.

LB must choose to accept her great strengths and weaknesses as equally important.



EP106

Vulnerability+Secrets

“Stacked Against Him”

Dan injures himself by tearing a small hole in a critical hydraulic hose on his front loader, but pretends to appear strong and brave in the eyes of his friends.

Dan's secret is slowly revealed to the others when he leaves small pools and drops of hydraulic fluid around the Heavy Haulers yard.

Dan's secret is exposed when he loses strength when lifting a heavy stack of lumber on a roof repair job that puts his friends in harm's way.

Marge arrives just in time as Dan's bucket gives out and the precarious stack of wood comes crashing down.

Dan learns a valuable lesson that it's more important to be honest, vulnerable and sincere than to be foolish and pretend to be invincible.



EP107

Capability + Patience

“Between a Rock and a Hard Place”

Dan is assigned the simple task of monitoring the dirt roads that lead into the forested mountains above town, but when he chooses to lift a heavy rock by himself, he gets pinned-down in the rising creek with the massive boulder.

The Heavy Hauler team comes to Dan’s rescue and he learns a valuable lesson that it’s okay to believe in yourself, but he must be careful not to take on more than his training, knowledge and experience. These skills comes with time and experience.



EP108

Collaboration+Sacrifice

“My Way or the Highway!”

Dan and the Heavy Haulers are assigned the job of loading and hauling dirt away from a new road cut to widen the highway over the mountain pass and straighten the curves to create a safer drive.

Dan decides to take LB on a secret short cut, but they find themselves caught in a sudden blizzard and nobody knows where they've disappeared to.

Dan and LB must work together to stay warm and idle out the storm at the great risk of running out of fuel and freezing their radiators off!



EP109

Self Worth+Illness+Friendship

“Old Dogs Can Learn New Tricks”

Old Tipper the dump truck finds himself in need of a major overhaul after discovering that his 50 year old frame is about to rust in half. Tipper believes his days are numbered and he chooses to ignore his pending demise by giving up.

Tipper's friends encourage him to get the repairs done because they need him, but he's already thrown in the towel and believes he has no more value to his team.

When Tipper's frame finally snaps, it causes him to crash into a tree and he's left unconscious. Tipper's friends are terribly worried about his recovery.

Tipper's structural repairs are made and he eventually wakes to discover his loyal, loving friends at his side, and a new truck frame that's strong and good for another 50 years of hauling dirt! :)



team

“Who we are!”

CClark James is the co-owner of HIVE-FX and a director with a flair for the childish imagination, which he diligently ushers into the childlike worlds he creates. His background in animation spans over 20 years on projects such as the infamous M&M Commercials, NBC's Grimm, Nike, SNL, many feature films and TV series, as well as the successful WB children's television program *Firehouse Tales, which Clark directed, co-produced, and production designed.

Gretchen Miller has a gift for producing with a special knack for negotiating tight schedules, managing large teams, wrangling big budgets and tackling complex clients. Her career spans nearly 17 years as a professional animation and VFX producer on hundreds of projects ranging from SNL, Intel, HP, NIKE, and more than 100 episodes of GRIMM for NBC. Gretchen is also responsible for producing the pilot episodes of the Children's television program Firehouse Tales and she's the co-owner of HIVE-FX.

*Firehouse Tales was purchased by Warner Brothers in the summer of 2003 and released worldwide as 26 (72x7) half hour episodes. The show first aired on Cartoon Network in Spring 2005. Subsequent book and toy lines were released by Bandai, Simon & Schuster and Hallmark.