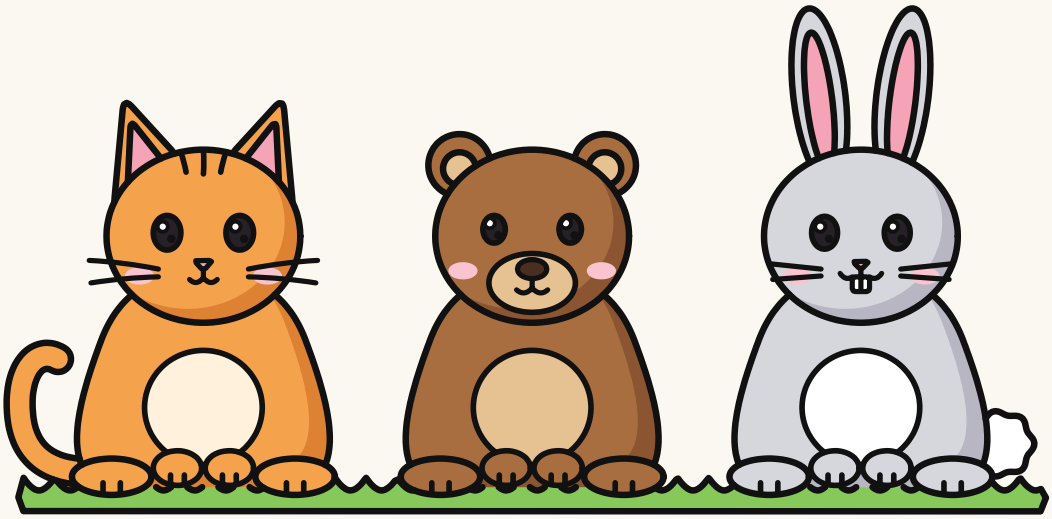
How to Draw Cute Animals

12 easy steps for beginners



What you'll need

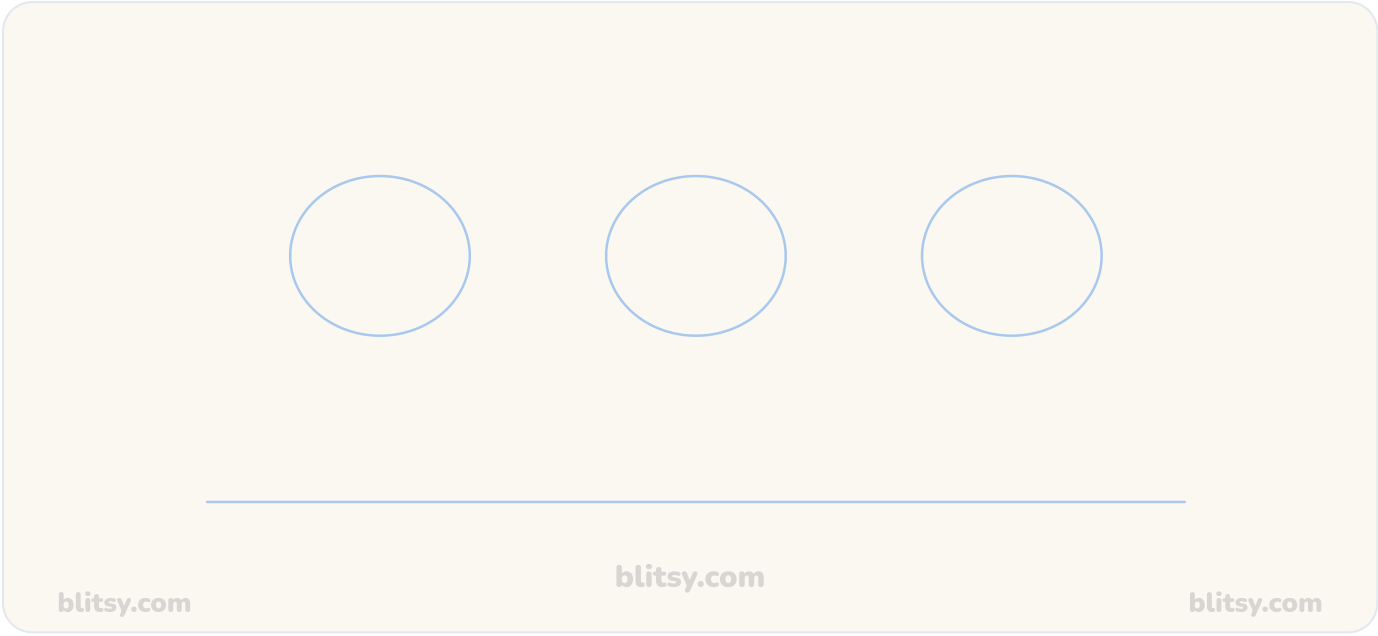
- A pencil
- An eraser
- A black fineliner
- Colored pencils
- Paper turned sideways

How to use this guide

New lines for each step are shown in **blue**; lines you already drew are gray. Draw lightly first, then ink and erase near the end.

Read the full tutorial online →

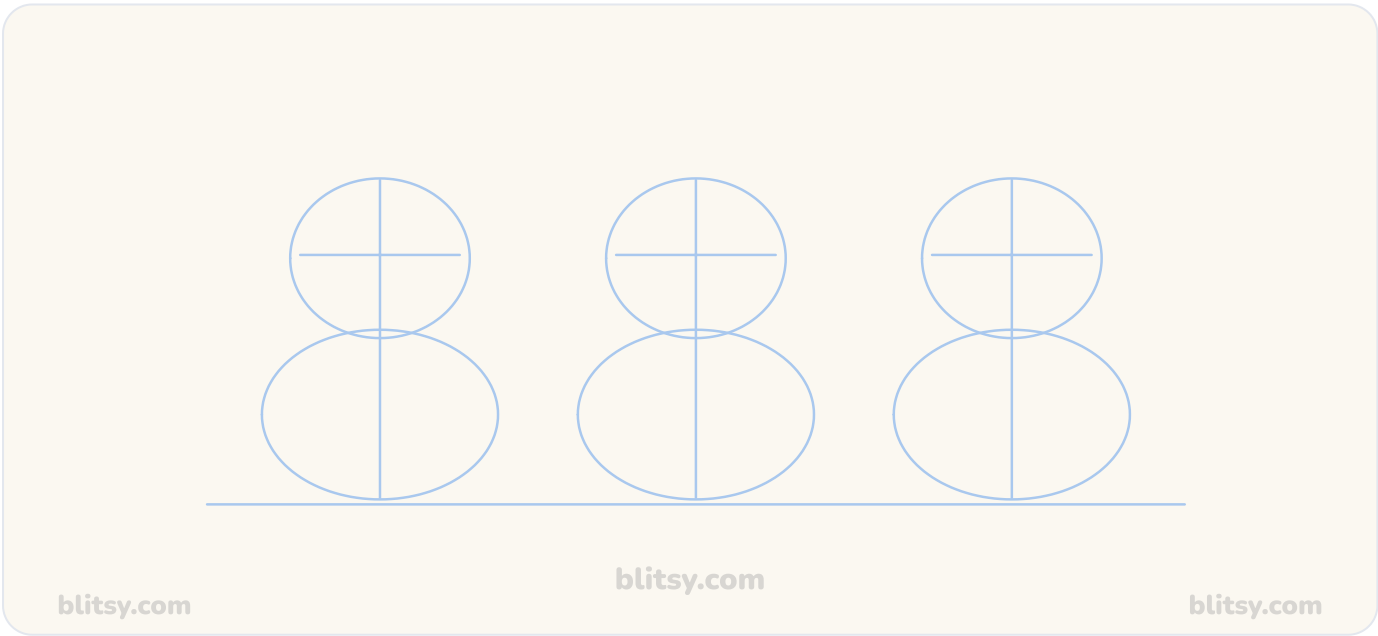
STEP 1 Draw a ground line and three head ovals



Turn your paper sideways and draw one long, light line near the bottom. All three animals will sit on it. Above it, sketch three ovals in a row, each a little wider than it is tall. Leave about one oval's width between them so the ears and tails have room later.

💡 **Tip:** Draw the middle oval first, then copy its size to the left and right. Matching heads make the trio look like a set.

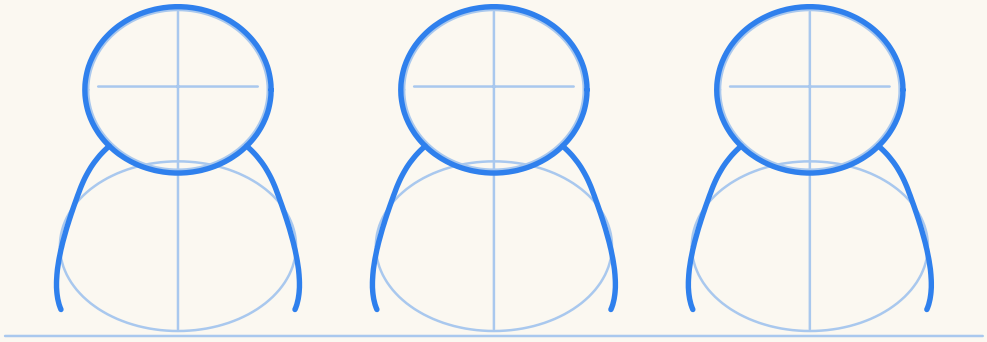
STEP 2 Add pear body guides and center lines



Under each head, draw a bigger oval that rests on the ground line and tucks up behind the chin. Then run a line down the middle of each animal and a short line across the head for the eyes. I never skip these cross lines, because they keep the face level.

💡 **Tip:** Let each body oval overlap the bottom of its head a little. A gap there makes the head look like it's floating.

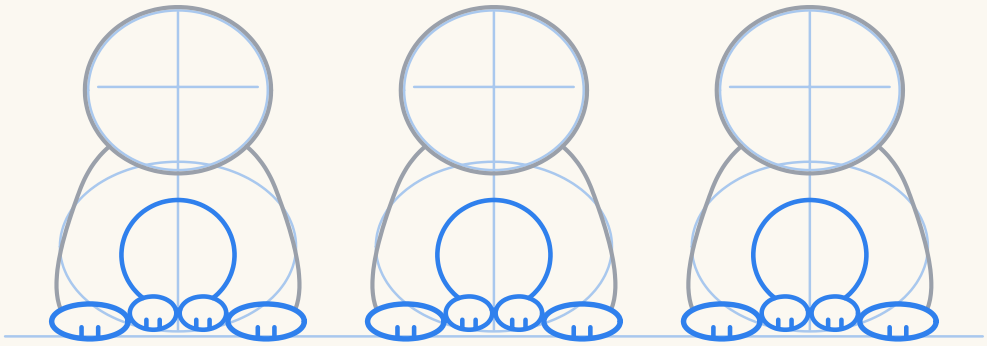
STEP 3 Outline the heads and bodies



Go over each head oval with a firmer line. For the body, start under the chin where it's narrow and curve outward as you go down, like the shape of a pear. Stop the sides just above the ground line. The bottom edge stays open for now since the paws and feet will cover it.

💡 **Tip:** Push the widest part of the pear low, near the bottom. That makes a sitting animal look heavy and settled.

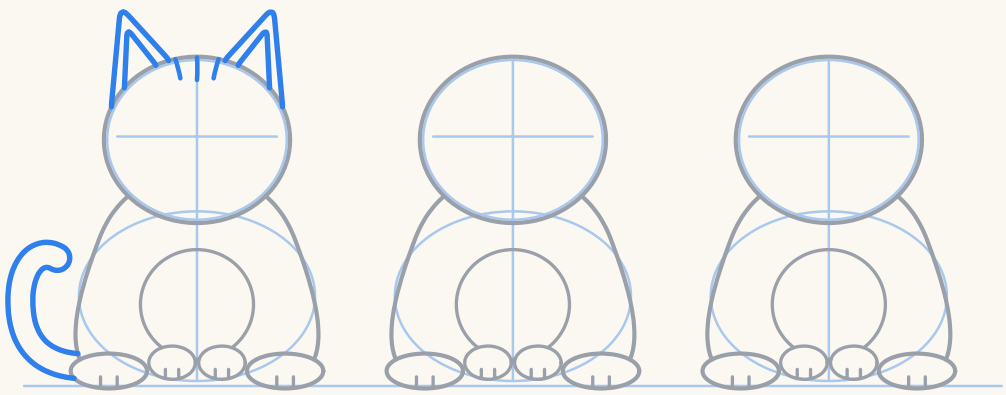
STEP 4 Draw the bellies, then paws and feet



Put a round belly patch in the middle of each body, starting just below the chin. Along the bottom, draw two small ovals side by side for the front paws, then a wider flat oval on each side for the back feet. Two short lines on every paw and foot turn them into toes.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the back feet flatter than the front paws. Flat ovals read as feet resting on the ground.

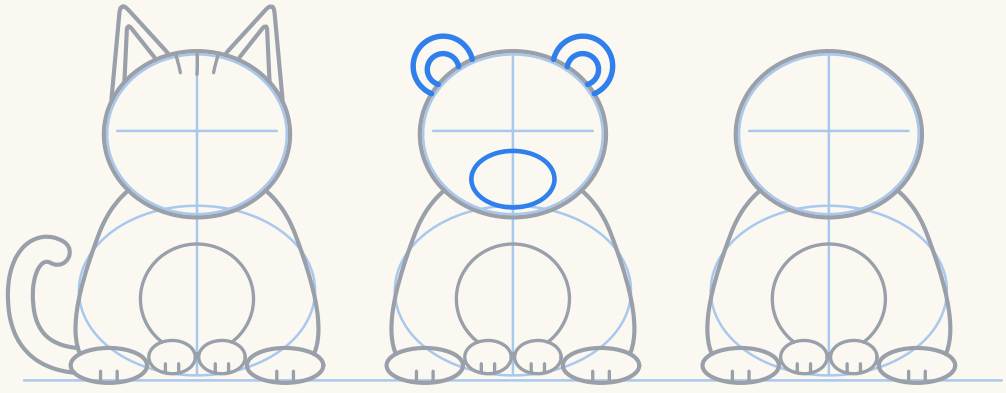
STEP 5 Give the cat pointy ears and a curly tail



On the left head, draw two triangle ears with softly rounded tips, with a smaller triangle inside each one. Out of the cat's left side, draw a thick tail that runs along the ground and curls up like a question mark. Three short stripes on the forehead make it a tabby.

💡 **Tip:** Place the ears near the outer edges of the head, not close together. Wide-set ears look friendlier.

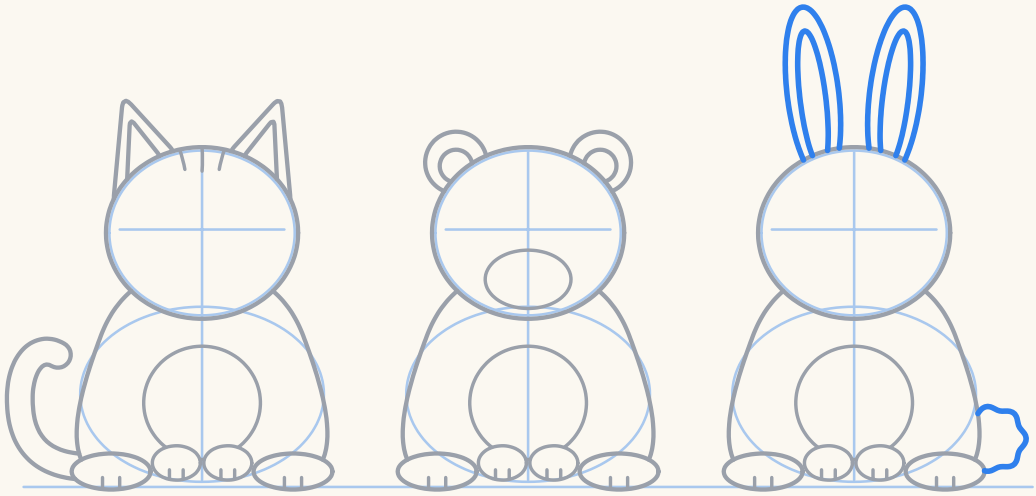
STEP 6 Add round ears and the bear's muzzle



The bear gets two round ears on top of its head, half hidden behind the oval, and a smaller circle inside each. Then draw a wide oval low on the face for the muzzle. That big muzzle does most of the work. Without it, the same head could pass for a hamster.

💡 **Tip:** Set the muzzle so its bottom almost touches the chin. Placed higher, it looks like a pig's snout.

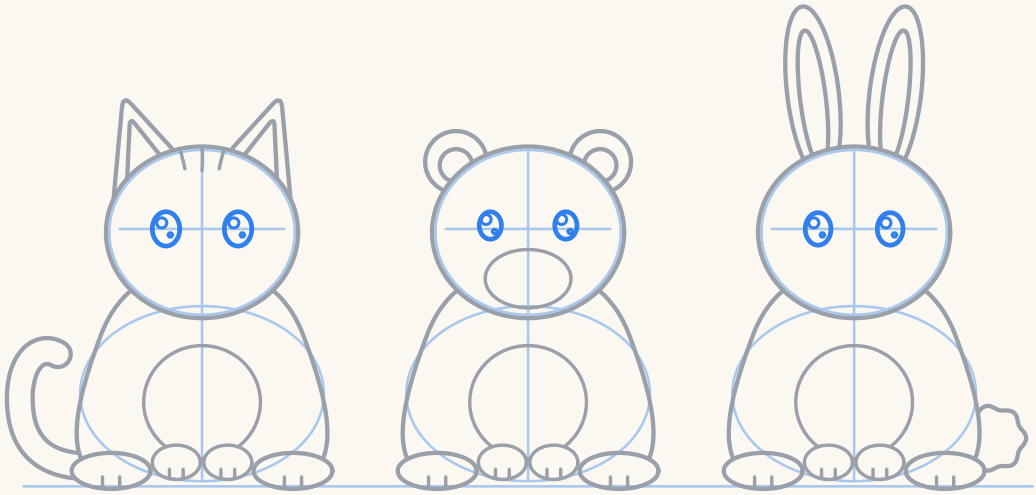
STEP 7 Draw long bunny ears and a cotton tail



On the right head, draw two long, narrow ovals pointing up, tilted slightly apart at the top. They should be nearly as tall as the head itself. Add a thinner oval inside each one. Then put a fluffy little tail on the bunny's right side, drawn with a wavy line so it looks soft.

💡 **Tip:** Tilt the bunny's ears outward just a touch. Perfectly straight ears look stiff, like two posts.

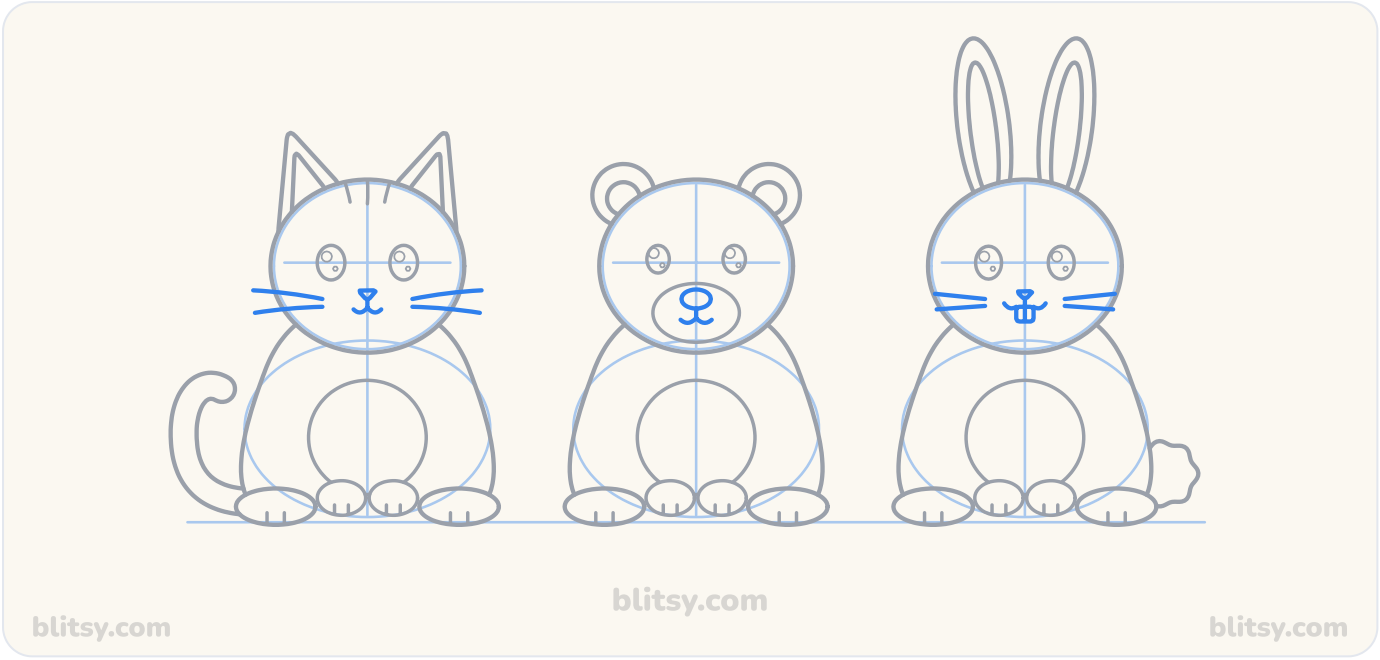
STEP 8 Place the eyes and add a shine



Each animal gets two dark ovals sitting right on that line, spaced well apart. Inside every eye, draw one small circle near the top and a tiny dot near the bottom for the shine. Eyes set too close together make a face look worried.

💡 **Tip:** Big eyes set low on the head look babyish and cute. Small eyes placed high look grown-up.

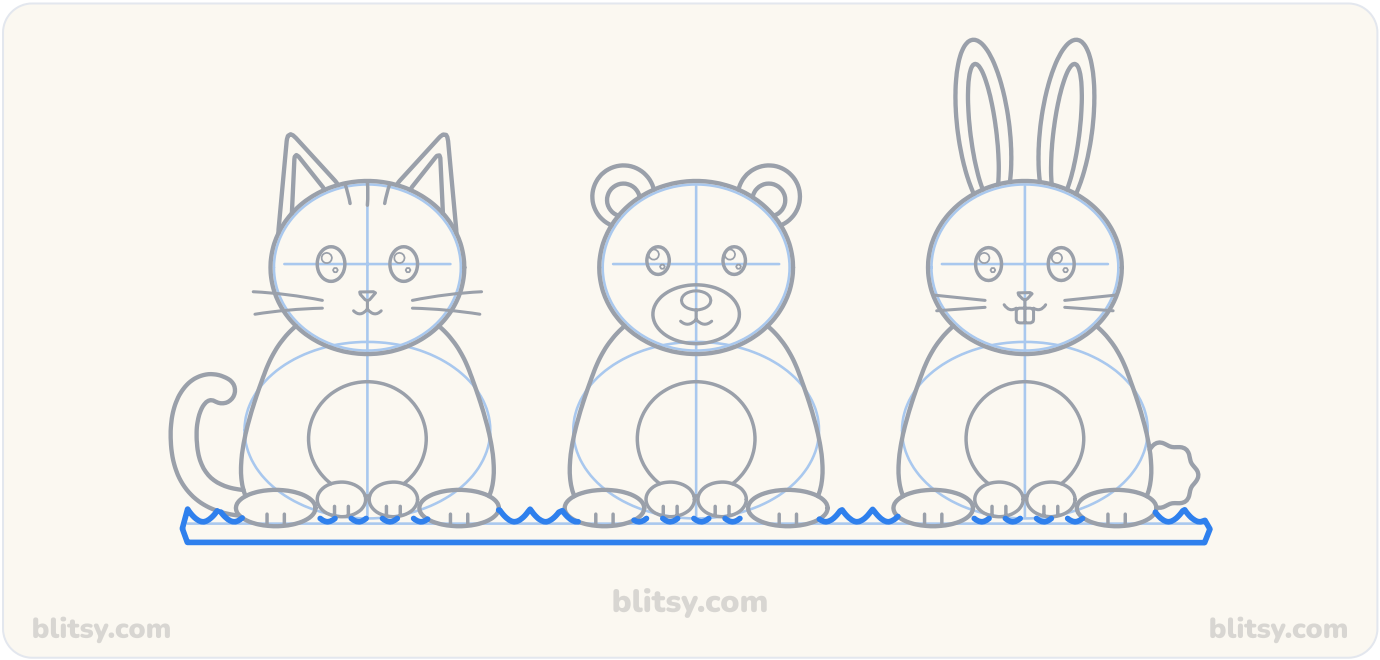
STEP 9 Add the noses, mouths and whisker lines



The cat and the bunny each get a tiny upside-down triangle nose with a mouth shaped like a sideways number 3 under it. Give the cat two long whiskers on each cheek. The bear's nose is a dark oval at the top of its muzzle. The bunny also gets two front teeth peeking out and shorter whiskers.

💡 **Tip:** Draw whiskers with a quick flick of the wrist. Slow whiskers come out wobbly.

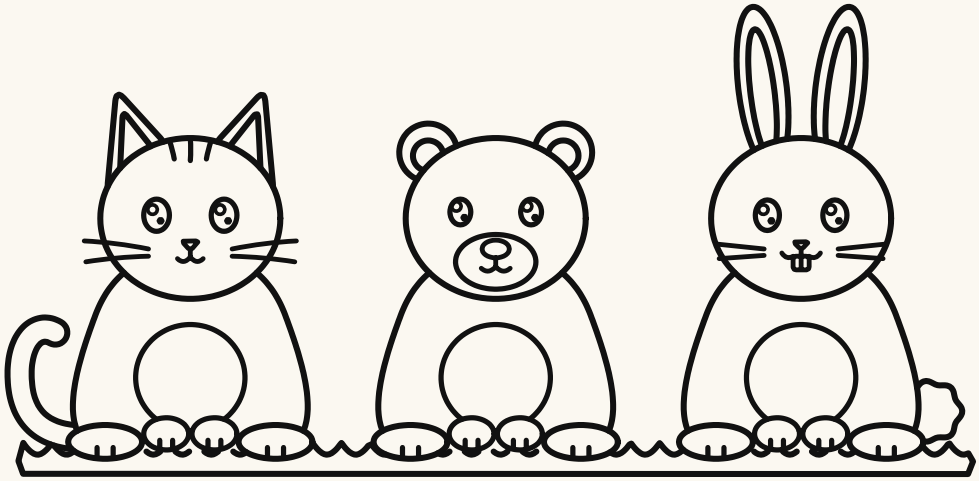
STEP 10 Sketch a strip of grass



Below the animals, draw a long strip with a zigzag top edge to make the grass. Stop the line wherever it meets a foot or a tail so the animals sit in front of it. I like this small touch because it keeps the trio from hovering on the page.

💡 **Tip:** Keep the grass blades small and even. Tall grass would hide the feet you just drew.

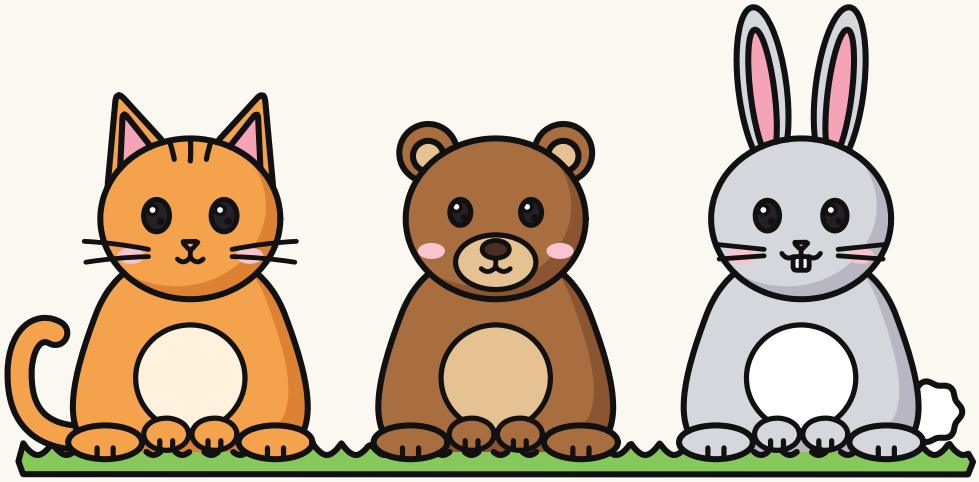
STEP 11 Ink your lines and erase the helpers



Trace every line you want to keep with the black fineliner. I slow down around the ears and paws, since those small curves show every wobble. Wait a minute for the ink to dry, then erase the ovals, the center lines and the ground line.

💡 **Tip:** Turn the paper as you ink curves. Your hand moves more smoothly when it pulls the pen toward you.

STEP 12 Color the three friends



Color the cat orange with a cream belly, the bear brown with a tan muzzle and belly, and the bunny light gray with a white belly and tail. The inner ears of the cat and bunny are pink, and the bear's are tan. A darker shade along the right side of each head and body adds roundness. Finish with green grass and pink cheeks.

💡 **Tip:** Leave the white shine dots in the eyes uncolored. Those tiny white spots make the faces come alive.