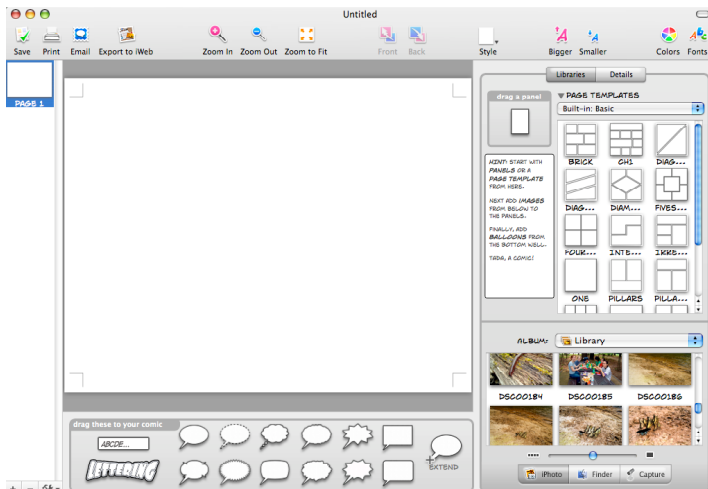


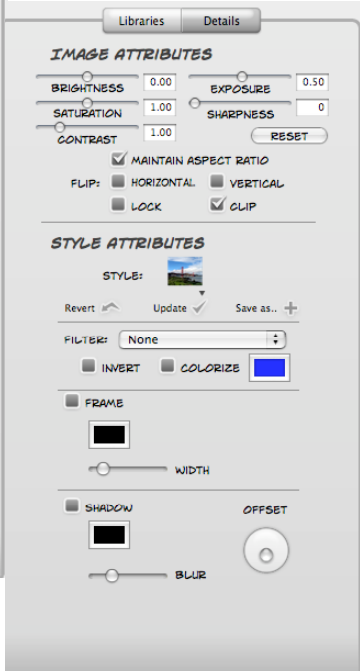
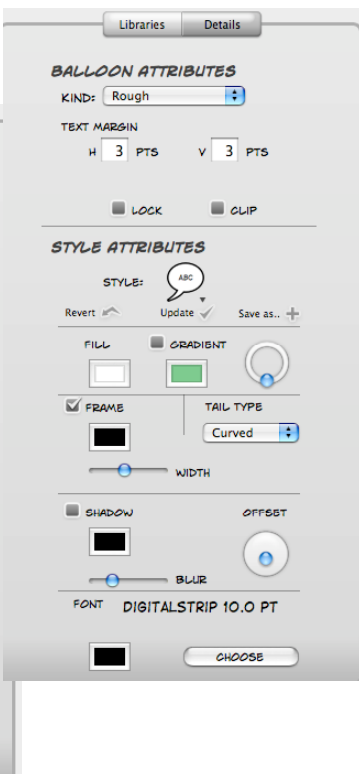
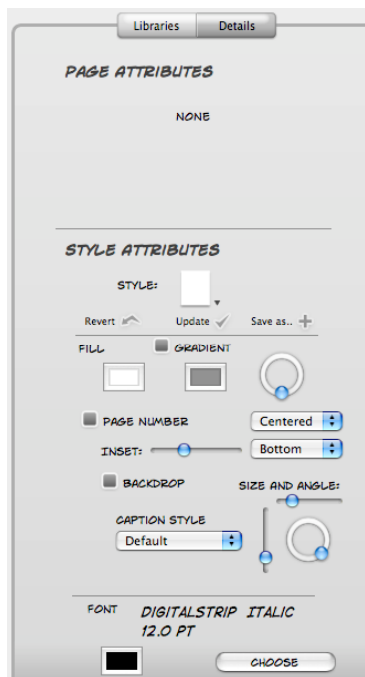


# COMIC LIFE

When you open Comic Life, this workspace shows templates for comic pages along with lettering styles, quotes and photos available in your iPhoto library.



Choose a template and then drag and drop it into the workspace. Then drag and drop a photo from your library or from a folder on your hard drive onto the template. Add features to your photo with the lettering options and word bubbles. Move and change page, lettering, balloon, and image attributes by dragging the handlebars or by using the Details options in the side panel.



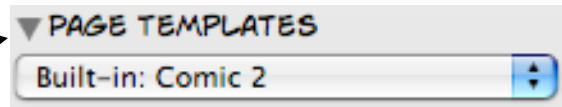
For additional features of Comic Life, including Quick Comic, refer to the Help index in the program.

# COMIC LIFE TUTORIAL!

Creating a comic page using Comic Life is a simple and fun process. It begins with an idea for your comic. Then you're ready!

## 1. Choose a template from the layout panel.

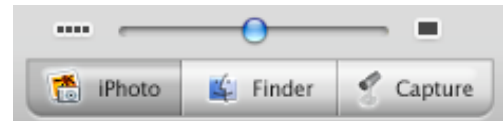
The dropdown menu in the library tab on the pane shows thumbnails of template types (comic, picture in picture, strip, conceptual, etc.). Drag and drop the template you want to use onto the workspace. Whichever template you choose will automatically adjust to fit the page.



Clicking the triangle beside "Page Templates" will collapse the template library and expand the photo library.

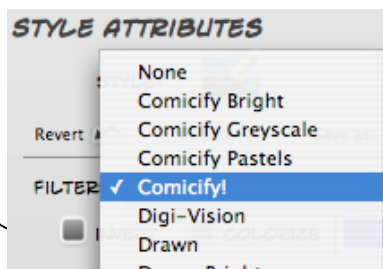
## 2. Select an image and drop it into a panel on the template.

Any pictures you have imported into the iPhoto Library will be displayed in the image pane. Use the drag bar to change the size of the thumbnail images. You can also find images on your desktop or anywhere on your hard drive by selecting the Finder tab. The Capture tab allows you to take a picture using an iSight camera.



The images you drag and drop will be displayed in the panel with a drag button, a rotate button, and handles for resizing the image. The panel and the image merge and moving the panel will move the image as well. To select only the image again, double click the image within the panel.


## 3. Alter image attributes and style attributes.



Double click on the image in the panel and then select the Details tab to edit the image. Experiment with the options until your image looks the way you like it. Remember, you can always edit -> undo if you make a change you don't like.

# 4.

## Add balloons to your pictures for dialogue text.



DRAG A BALLOON FROM THE PANE BELOW THE WORKSPACE TO THE APPROPRIATE PANEL WHERE THE DIALOGUE OCCURS.

TYPE IN THE HIGHLIGHTED TEXT AREA AND THEN SELECT TEXT TO MAKE IT BIGGER OR SMALLER.

USE THE GREEN BALLOON HANDLES TO RESIZE IT. USE THE BLUE DOT ON THE TAIL TO MOVE THE TAIL.

ADD AN EXTENSION BALLOON IF YOUR CHARACTER HAS A LOT TO SAY BY DRAGGING AND DROPPING IT INTO ANOTHER BALLOON.

A BALLOON CAN BE PLACED ANYWHERE ON THE PAGE, NOT JUST INSIDE THE IMAGE PANELS.

# 5.

## Add titles and captions to your comic for the final touch.

Drop the caption icon into your comic to add details that are not spoken but any of the characters.

Add a title or emphasis wording (like "Zap" or "Crunch") by dragging the lettering icon on the workspace. You may also open the Font palette to change the font. Use the green handles to distort your lettering and the center handles to curve it for artistic appeal. Double click the lettering to open the Detail pane for changing lettering attributes and style attributes, or use the default (gradient fill or yellow, orange, and red with a white background and black outline).

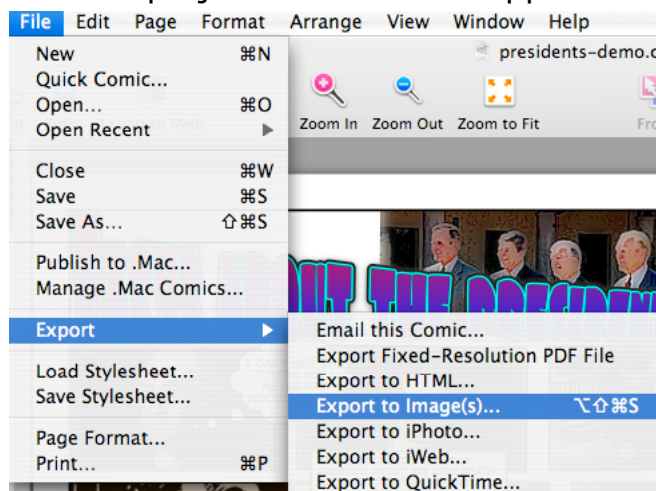


## 6.

### Finish and save the comic.

Add as many comic pages as you like by selecting Page in the menu bar and New Blank Page (or one of the other options in the dropdown menu). Save the Comic Life periodically to keep the file from being lost. When all of the pages for the comic have been created, you will need to export them into a format that is appropriate for the way you will be using it.

As you can see from the dropdown menu below, you can save your comic as a pdf, jpg or movie file, or use it in a project with another application, like iPhoto, iWeb or another web development tool. For most purposes, save it as a jpg file by selecting File -> Export -> Export to Image and choosing jpeg in the dropdown menu. Save it to your pictures folder or temporarily to your desktop. Click the file to see the display size. Experiment with various file types to see what you can do with them.



Have fun with comics in Comic Life!

**TRY IT!** For practice, use the Presidential Trivia and list of presidents in the pages that follow to create a comic that includes little known facts about the Presidents of the United States.

## Presidential Trivia

WASHINGTON: At the time of his inauguration, George Washington had only one remaining tooth. Though he did, at various times, wear dentures made of ivory, lead, and (cow, hippopotamus, and human) teeth (some of them his own), he never had wooden teeth. Nonetheless, his horses certainly learned from their master's mistakes: On Washington's orders, each of his six white steeds had its teeth brushed every morning.

TAFT: When he moved into the White House in 1909, the 325-pound William Howard Taft found many of the building's fixtures (including hundreds of doors) "inadequate" for his needs and ordered renovations. In particular, the president was prompted to order the installation of a special jumbo bathtub (large enough to accommodate four average-sized men) when, after using the original bathtub for the first time, he got stuck and required considerable assistance to get out!

TRUMAN: Harry Truman was once asked by a young student how he might get started in politics. "You've already started," Truman replied. "You're spending somebody else's money, aren't you?" (Truman's epitaph? 'The Buck Stops Here!')

LINCOLN: Late one night in 1865, Abraham Lincoln had a discomfiting dream. Walking through the silent White House toward the sound of sobbing, he entered the East Room and was confronted by the sight of a *catfalque* (a coffin platform) covered in black, surrounded by a group of mourners. Lincoln proceeded to ask the guard on duty who had died. The man's reply? "The president." [One week later, Lincoln, who had discussed the dream with several people, was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth. (Lincoln also had a dream on the eve of his election: While peering into a large mirror, he saw two distinct images of himself; one, much paler, superimposed upon the other. Lincoln's wife, told of the dream, interpreted it to mean that he would be elected to a second term but would not live through it.) It may have interested Abraham Lincoln to learn that his son Todd was among the last people to visit each of the three presidents who were shot during his lifetime.]

KENNEDY: JFK's assassination spawned conspiracy theories ranging from the plausible (for example, that he had been done in by military contractors, who stood to lose tens of billions of dollars if he kept his vow to pull out of the Vietnam War) to the laughable. For example, according to one theory, Kennedy, who rarely wore hats, was murdered by hat makers (milliners) who hoped that Lyndon B. Johnson's habitual hat-wearing would start a

trend and boost their sales. [Sales of hats indeed increased, just as sales of undershirts plummeted after Clark Gable boldly appeared without one in the 1934 romantic comedy *It Happened One Night*.]

JOHNSON: Lyndon Johnson often insisted on being interviewed while he sat on the toilet.

NIXON: The Richard Nixon mask was the best-selling political item among American costumers between 1997 and 2002.

CARTER: During the 1976 presidential election campaign, Jimmy Carter told reporters that, one day in October 1969, he had spotted a UFO. "It was the darnedest thing I've ever seen," he claimed. "It was big, it was very bright, it changed colors, and it was about the size of the moon... We watched it for ten minutes, but none of us could figure out what it was. One thing's for sure, I'll never make fun of people who say they've seen unidentified objects in the sky. If I become President, I'll make every piece of information this country has about UFO sightings available to the public and the scientists."

REAGAN: Secretary of State James Baker once gave Ronald Reagan a briefing book to study before the next day's World Economic Summit in Williamsburg, Virginia. In the morning, Baker was dismayed to learn that the president had not even bothered to open it and frankly asked him why. "Well, Jim," Reagan replied, "*The Sound of Music* was on..."

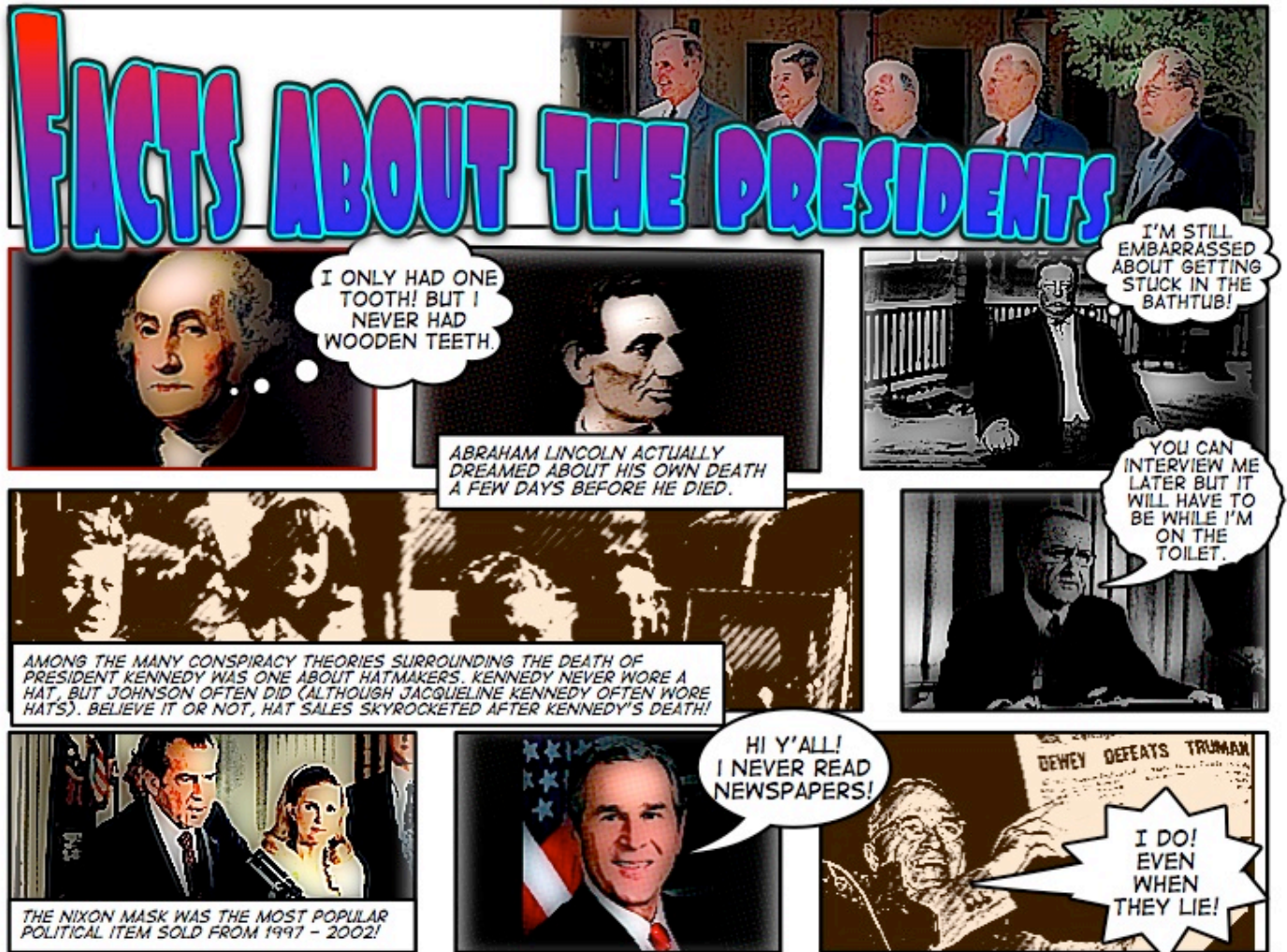
BUSH (GW): "During his recent trip to Asia," *The Economist* reported in November 2003, "George [W.] Bush was said to be shocked to discover that moderate Muslim nations had become more anti-American. His surprise is itself shocking. How can he possibly not have known that? It is in every newspaper, every day. The explanation is obvious: Mr. Bush does not read the newspapers..."

WHITEHOUSE PETS: The White House has seen its share of memorable pets. Nixon's dog inspired his famous "Checkers" speech. Bill Clinton's cat (Socks) inspired many jokes on late night television. John Quincy Adams kept an alligator in the East Room. Teddy Roosevelt had a lion and two bear cubs. Woodrow Wilson had a tobacco-chewing ram named Ike ... And Andrew Jackson? He had a parrot, Polly, who was taught to curse in English and Spanish - and had to be removed during Jackson's funeral in 1845 when it wouldn't stop 'practicing'!

- For additional anecdotes: <http://www.anecdotage.com/>
- For presidential portraits: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/history/presidents/>

Order	Name	Term
01	<b>Washington, George</b>	(1789-1797)
02	<b>Adams, John</b>	(1797-1801)
03	<b>Jefferson, Thomas</b>	(1801-1809)
04	<b>Madison, James</b>	(1809-1817)
05	<b>Monroe, James</b>	(1817-1825)
06	<b>Adams, John Quincy</b>	(1825-1829)
07	<b>Jackson, Andrew</b>	(1829-1837)
08	<b>Van Buren, Martin</b>	(1837-1841)
09	<b>Harrison, William Henry</b>	(1841)
10	<b>Tyler, John</b>	(1841-1845)
11	<b>Polk, James Knox</b>	(1845-1849)
12	<b>Taylor, Zachary</b>	(1849-1850)
13	<b>Fillmore, Millard</b>	(1850-1853)
14	<b>Pierce, Franklin</b>	(1853-1857)
15	<b>Buchanan, James</b>	(1857-1861)
16	<b>Lincoln, Abraham</b>	(1861-1865)
17	<b>Johnson, Andrew</b>	(1865-1869)
18	<b>Grant, Ulysses S.</b>	(1869-1877)
19	<b>Hayes, Rutherford Birchard</b>	(1877-1881)
20	<b>Garfield, James Abram</b>	(1881)
21	<b>Arthur, Chester Alan</b>	(1881-1885)
22	<b>Cleveland, Grover</b>	(1885-1889)
23	<b>Harrison, Benjamin</b>	(1889-1893)
24	<b>Cleveland, Grover</b>	(1893-1897)
25	<b>McKinley, William</b>	(1897-1901)
26	<b>Roosevelt, Theodore</b>	(1901-1909)
27	<b>Taft, William Howard</b>	(1909-1913)
28	<b>Wilson, Woodrow</b>	(1913-1921)
29	<b>Harding, Warren Gamaliel</b>	(1921-1923)
30	<b>Coolidge, Calvin</b>	(1923-1929)
31	<b>Hoover, Herbert Clark</b>	(1929-1933)
32	<b>Roosevelt, Franklin Delano</b>	(1933-1945)
33	<b>Truman, Harry</b>	(1945-1953)
34	<b>Eisenhower, Dwight David</b>	(1953-1961)
35	<b>Kennedy, John Fitzgerald</b>	(1961-1963)
36	<b>Johnson, Lyndon Baines</b>	(1963-1969)
37	<b>Nixon, Richard Milhous</b>	(1969-1974)
38	<b>Ford, Gerald Rudolph</b>	(1974-1977)
39	<b>Carter, James Earl Jr.</b>	(1977-1981)
40	<b>Reagan, Ronald Wilson</b>	(1981-1989)
41	<b>Bush, George Herbert Walker</b>	(1989-1993)
42	<b>Clinton, William Jefferson</b>	(1993-2001)
43	<b>Bush, George Walker</b>	(2001-present)

This is just one example of hundreds of comics you could make using Comic Life! Below are a few other ideas. Remember, you are limited only by your own time, resources, curriculum, and imagination!



- Have students create a comic of a recent field trip for a newsletter.
- Create directions for a science project or other student assignment.
- Students can write a book report or history project through a comic.
- Assign students a comic for illustrating a sequence of events, like a plant sprouting from a seed, the election process, or a folk tale.
- Have students show what they learned in a specific unit of study.
- Make a take-home scrapbook or comic movie of the school year for students and/or teachers.
- Create comics to use in powerpoints, posters, or slideshows.
- Give students a test with a comic where they fill in the bubbles with appropriate dates, quotes, or other details.