Here are the directions to help your students draw a penguin. I have the children draw it first with a fine tip black marker, and then go back and color the rest of it in later. Enjoy!

1. Draw a large oval shape. This will be for both the body and the head.
2. Make a circle for each eye, and color it in black with the marker. Then draw a circle around it.
3. Make a letter V for the beak, and then put a lid on it.
4. For the tummy, draw a large oval that starts at the beak. It goes down and then back up again, and ends back up at the beak. (That way, it looks like the beak is hanging down over the white tummy.)
5. To make the wings, make a slide down and then back up again. (Or, describe it as a "smile out, and smile back in again.") I demonstrated this on a white board several times with the children just watching—no drawing yet! Watching only a few times until they understand what you are doing. Sometimes, describing it "as though you are making the hair on a lady" also works for some kids. I also invited the kids to make a second penguin and pose him or her with the wings positioned differently, as if it is dancing, etc.
6. For the feet, draw a capital A, but don’t put the line in the middle. The line goes on the bottom. If you think your kids can handle it, tell them to make lower case M’s on the bottom of the feet so that they will look like the feet are webbed.
7. A bow tie is a bow for boys! To make a bow tie, make a circle on the white tummy underneath the beak, and fill it in black. Draw a wide X right through the circle, and then put a lid on both ends. (Demonstrate what you mean about a "wide X before having the children do this. You could also describe it as two triangles, but since the the triangles are "pointing sideways," this is usually pretty challenging for the children.
8. To make bows on the head of a girl penguin, have the children draw a circle, and then make a number eight on its side. Add two lines going down for the ends of the bow.

© Heidi Butkus 2011  www.heidisongs.com