

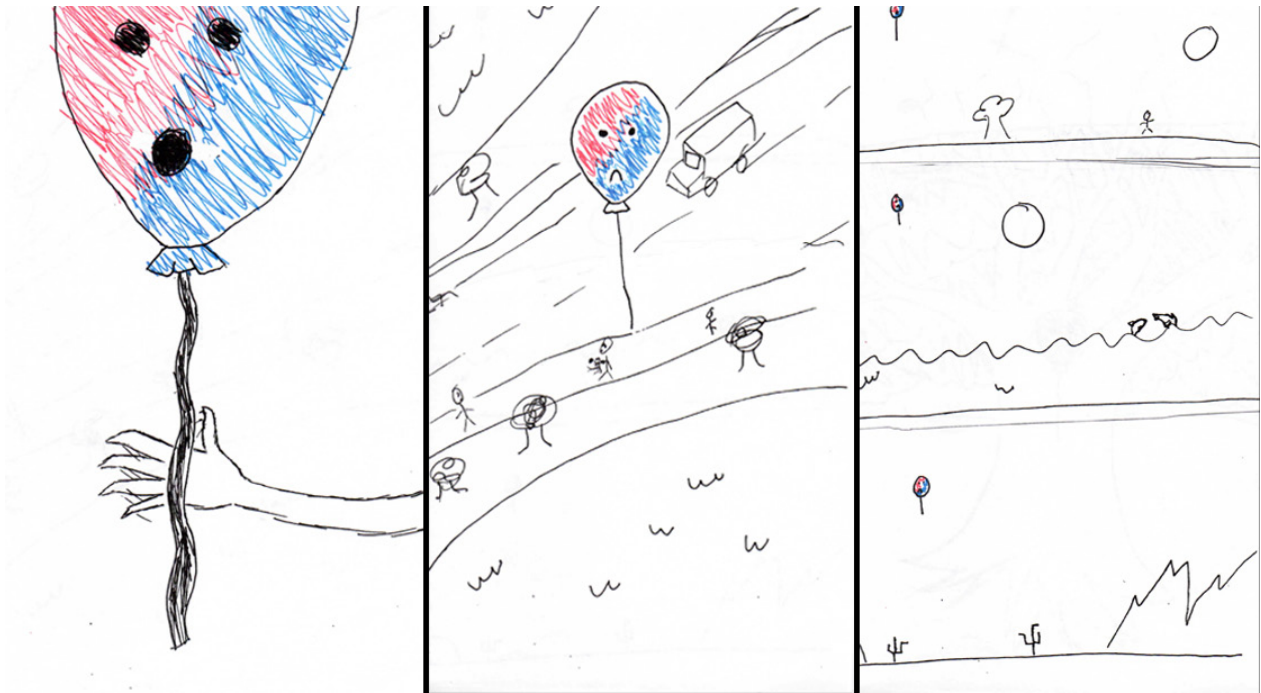
Blart: A Little Blob of Art Has Many Ideas That Can Be Expanded For Fun, Story-Building Activities



Here are some suggestions:

Writing Extensions for Blart

1. In *Blart: A Little Blob of Art*, we learn what happens inside a sketchbook after it is closed. A young friend of mine who read *Blart* was inspired to write a story about what happened to a balloon when it was accidentally released in the sky.



Images from *Unbreakable* by Ava, age 13

—Explore the idea of ‘what happens when...’ Can you think of something that could happen that no one else knows about or that no one else has ever seen?

2. When Blart gets bored with his page, he goes exploring and causes some unexpected results. Some of these results are funny, some are surprising, and some are scary.

—Can you think of a boring situation where something unexpected could happen? Here

is a sample from a friend of mine:

“It was just another Tuesday. Marla brushed her teeth and thought about what she needed for school. As she looked in the mirror to comb her hair, something large and black flew from behind the window curtain. Marla dropped her comb and. . .”

3. Blart’s adventure introduces him to new situations and characters. Some of this new stuff is pretty frightening for Blart, so he runs away.

—Can you think of a new place, situation, or person that frightened you? Write about that feeling and what you did both inside your head and outside in reality. Were they the same? Or did you want to do something on the inside that you knew you couldn’t do on the outside?



Drawing Extensions for Blart

1. At the end of the story, Blart realizes that he can control some things—like the pencil that is left in the pages of the sketchbook.

—Imagine you found a magic pencil that would make anything you draw come to life. Draw something you would like to have or something you would like to do.

2. As he explores the sketchbook, Blart finds another blob of art, a pencil and an eraser.

—Draw something else that Blart might find on another page of the sketchbook.

3. One of the best ways to make a story is through a combination of pictures and words!

—Take several sheets of blank paper (maybe around 4 or 5). Stack them and fold them in half making a book. You can staple the center spine of the book to keep it together, but you don’t have to. Now take one of your stories from the writing prompts above (or another story you wrote at another time) and put that story into your book. Think about what parts of the story would make good pictures, and draw those pictures to go with the story you have written. This exercise will require spreading your story out across the pages of your book, so let your pictures help you decide how much of your story belongs on each page.