

HANA KINOSHITA THOMSON

Illustration & Design
CV & Portfolio 2022

education

Bachelor of Design 2019 – present
High Distinction Average
UNSW Art Design & Architecture

Bachelor of Psychology 2014
First Class Honours
UNSW

hard skills

Adobe Photoshop* intermediate
Adobe InDesign* intermediate
Adobe Illustrator* beginner
Procreate* intermediate

Fluent in Japanese N1 of Japanese
Language
Proficiency
Test (JLPT)

**Open and committed to further developing skills*

work experience

Sub Designer 2022 – present
Tharunka (UNSW Student Magazine)
illustrations & design to accompany pieces of writing by students

Freelance Illustrator & Designer 2019 – present
see portfolio

Coordinator 2020 Mar – Dec
VisionScope Coaching (Life Coaching Business)
graphic design, content curation & copy writing for social media & website

Sketch Artist 2019
Insurance Australia Group
illustrated sketches of ideas created during Ideation Week

Assistant Language Teacher 2016 – 2019
Toyjoshi Senior High School, Japan
planned & taught English classes, and designed teaching resources

Assistant Program Coordinator 2016 Jan – Aug
Japan Foundation, Sydney
curated monthly newsletter, designed badges, helped run events, & more

soft skills

communication
collaboration
empathy
emotional intelligence
enthusiasm & optimism!

awards

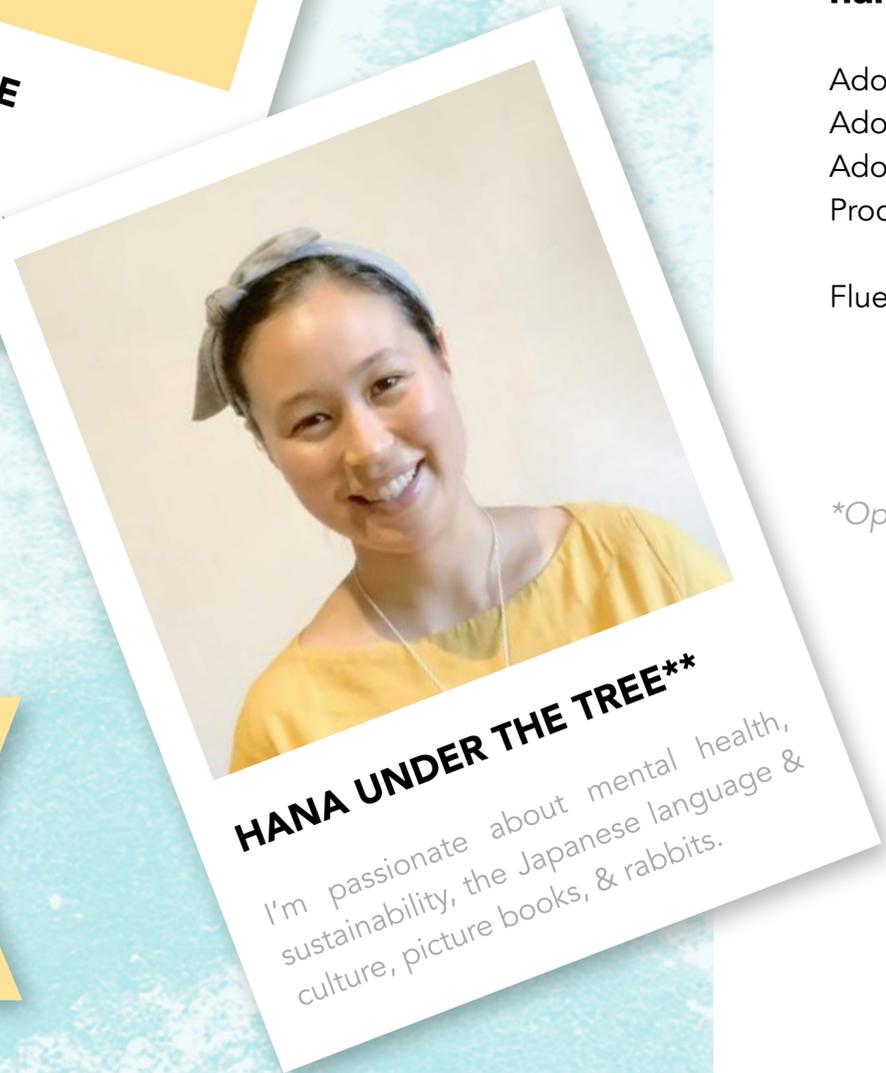
UNSW Art & Design Dean's List 2020 & 2021
for outstanding academic achievement

Wellbeing Guide 2020
my design was one of four chosen & featured on mental wellbeing guides distributed freely across university campus



WELLBEING GUIDE

2020
design featured on mental
guides distributed across



HANA UNDER THE TREE**

I'm passionate about mental health, sustainability, the Japanese language & culture, picture books, & rabbits.



**KINOSHITA
木下(きのした)
means
under the tree
in Japanese

GIRL & RABBIT *illustration*



Girl and Rabbit are my original characters, who feature in much of the work I create. They love carrots and chocolate chip cookies, going on adventures, and they are the best of friends.

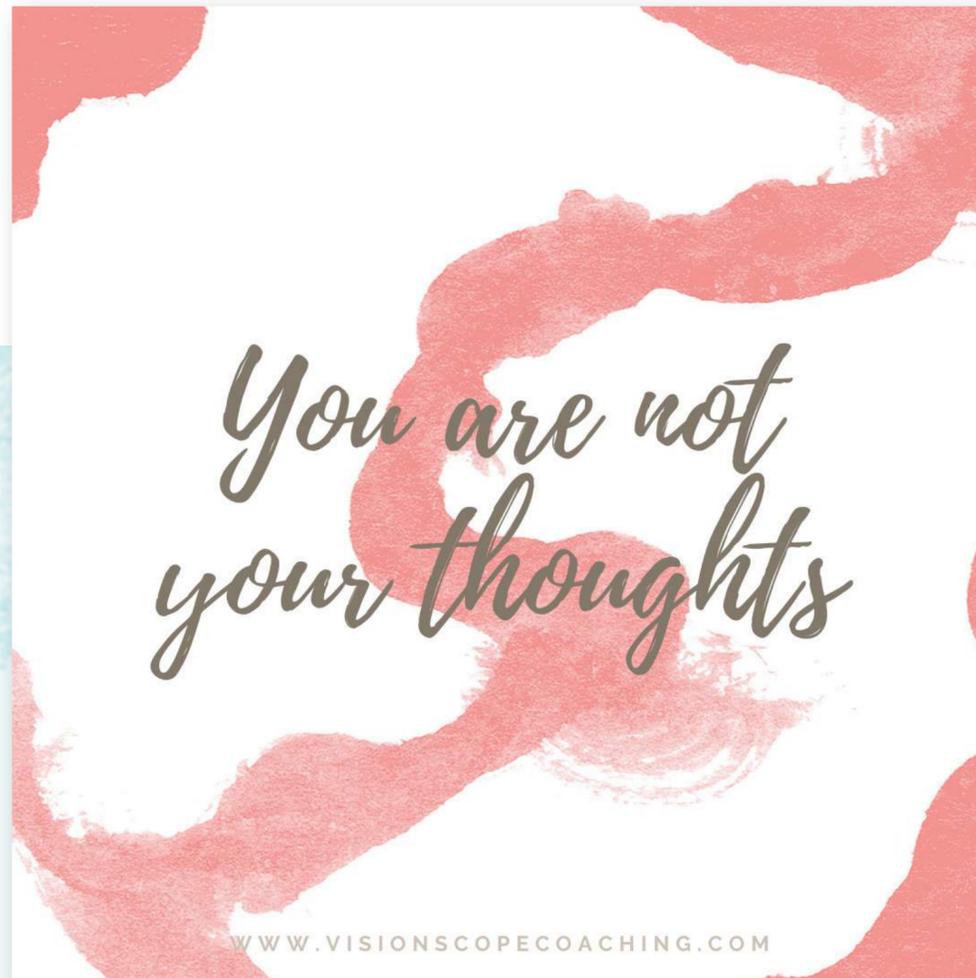


I have created various colourful, playful and engaging greeting cards, postcards, stickers, badges, and zines featuring these two, and often post about their daily lives on my [Instagram](#).



I enjoy experimenting with different mediums when depicting Girl and Rabbit's adventures, such as coloured pencils, ink, and Procreate (which I used to create the above three illustrations).



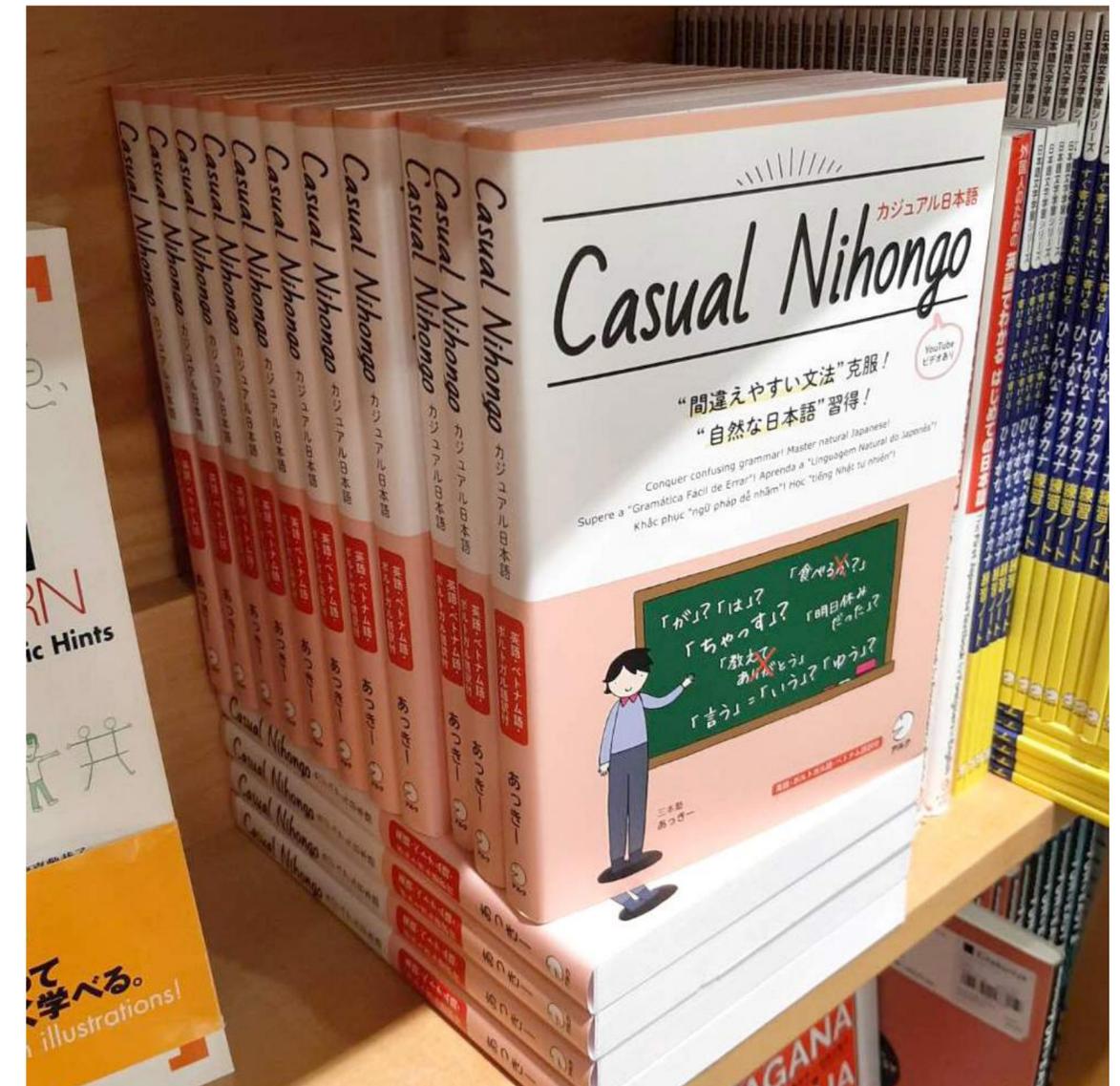
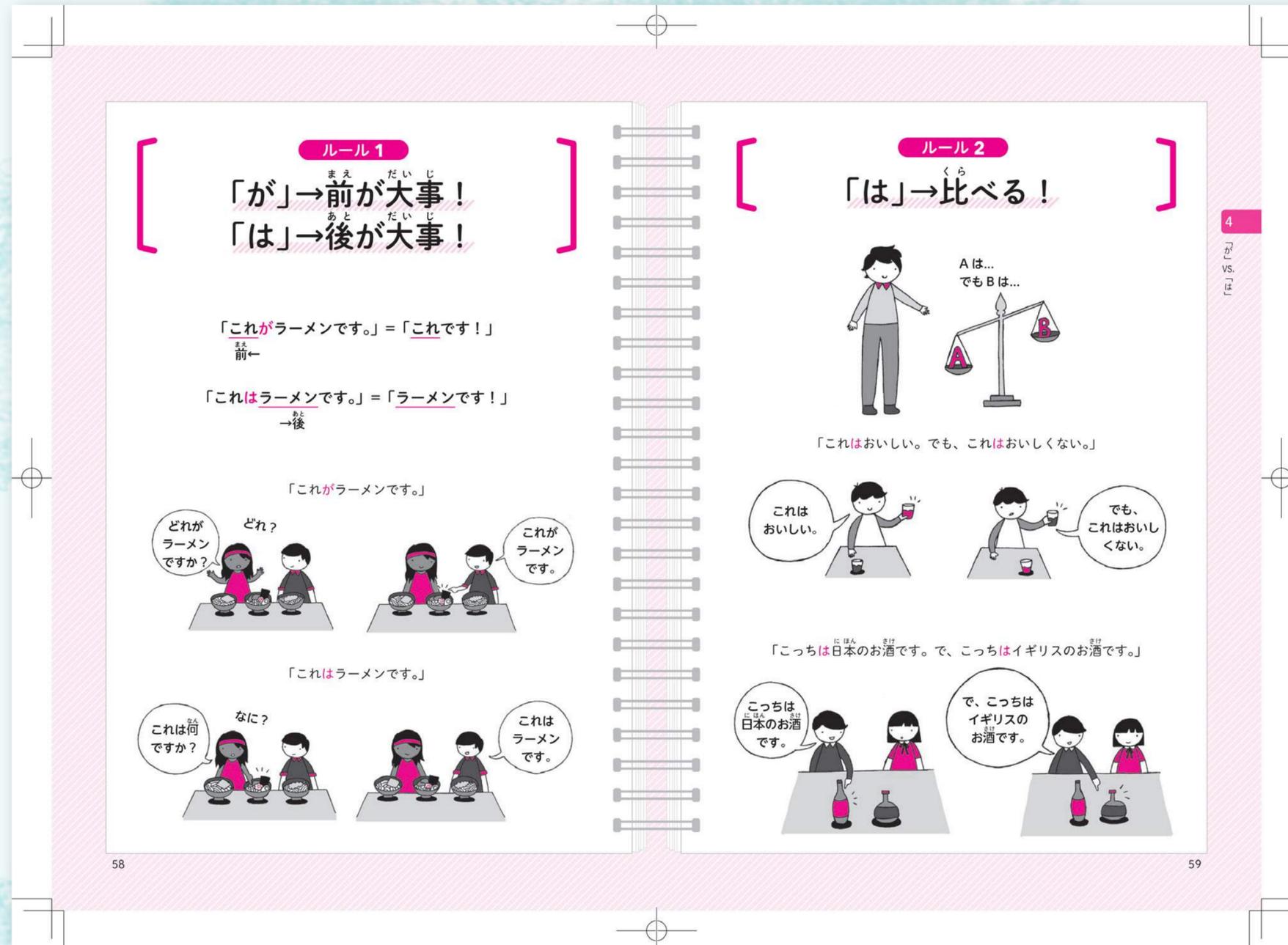


In 2020 I created and curated content for life coaching business VisionScope Coaching's website and social media pages. As VisionScope's mission statement is closely aligned with my own

(focusing on helping people to lead happier, anxiety-free lives), it was a pleasure to contribute gentle and encouraging photography, written content, and graphic design work to further this cause.

Examples of my work include a healthy habit tracker, promotional material for VisionScope Coaching's founder Tammi Kirkness' debut book launch, and motivational content for Instagram.

CASUAL NIHONGO illustration



Casual Nihongo is a unique Japanese language textbook for people looking to learn native-sounding Japanese. I was responsible for creating over 300 illustrations to accompany the countless tips and practice conversations throughout the book, all of which are explained in detail in English, Vietnamese, and Portuguese. It's available in bookshops around Japan, Amazon, and Kinokuniya Books Sydney.

For a university design course called *Professional Practice*, I analysed the life and work of one of my favourite illustrators Sha'an d'Anthes, and created this visual essay critically reflecting on her position as my role model. As d'Anthes' work is always cheerful and light, I aimed to write an essay and design a layout that showcased, as well as worked in harmony with her lively art and charismatic personality. This visual essay was created using InDesign.

Critical Reflections on a Role Model:

**Sha'an d'Anthes aka
Furry Little Peach**

DDES2101 Assessment 2
Hana Kinoshita Thomson
z3330054

Values

(consistent with her colourful and fun overall aesthetic) (see Figure 7), continued experimentation of materials and techniques (forever exploring new and exciting methods of creating art), the importance of the creative process (generously sharing her process through Studio Vlogs on YouTube) (Furry Little Peach, 2021), and of course, consistently creating work to an impeccably high standard (as is evident from her regular, highly polished work).

d'Anthes' core values, ranging from sustainability and social responsibility, to creating work and living a life that is colourful and playful, resonate with me deeply. She is able to balance being hard-working and passionate, with being fun and silly, and embodies yet another theme which I wish to carry with me through life – that it's important to stay true to who you are, and not what others think you should be.



Figure 6 (right). An original print d'Anthes created, from which she donated 100% of the proceeds to support NSW Rural Fire Service and Australian Red Cross (furrylittlepeach, 2019).

Figure 7 (top). d'Anthes with her signature fun fashion sense in her colourful and stylish studio (Chan, 2019).

“Make the stuff you like to make, not the stuff you think you should be making.”

- Sha'an d'Anthes (Chan, 2019)

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Introduction

As an aspiring designer and illustrator of picture books, my role model is undoubtedly Sha'an d'Anthes (see Figure 1), a 28-year-old Australian illustrator and author who is based in Sydney (d'Anthes, 2021). I have identified d'Anthes as my role model because the career path that she is successfully navigating, the values that she consistently adheres to, and even her colourful and playful aesthetic (see Figure 2), are all closely aligned with the path, values, and aesthetic that I strive for in my own personal and professional life. By analysing the components that make up d'Anthes as a person, as well as the steps she has taken to get to where she is today with her professional practice, and applying these elements to my own life, I too hope to plot my way forwards as an ethical, passionate, and unique illustrator and designer.



Figure 1 (above). Author and author Sha'an d'Anthes (Lawn, 2020).



Figure 2 (below). Summer Nights. A lively, colourful illustration created by d'Anthes using her own coloured pencil collection, 2021.

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Values

Taking a deeper look at the work that she produces and the pieces of her life that she shares online, it is evident that d'Anthes is a confident, passionate, and ethical illustrator, designer and author, who strongly values making a positive mark on the world.

One clear example of this can be seen in her second and most recently published picture book called "Bandits," a beautifully presented story that follows the journey of protagonist Fern, as she seeks to explore a colourful world outside of the lifeless city in which she lives (see Figure 5).

Not only has d'Anthes masterfully combined various techniques to create the stunning visuals of this picture book (using water colour, coloured pencils, layering, digital refinement, and Risograph printing) (Lawn, 2020), she also explores the themes of friendship, diversity and environmental responsibility in a manner that is easily digestible to children.

Consistent with these themes, d'Anthes' commitment to a sustainable practice shines through whenever she releases merchandise on her online shop, as she strives to maintain plastic-free and environmentally friendly materials and packaging (Furry Little Peach, 2021). Furthermore, d'Anthes' desire to use her platform to raise awareness and create positive change was evident during the devastating bushfires that ravaged Australia in 2019, when she created a limited edition print in an effort to raise money to support the NSW Rural Fire Service and the Australian Red Cross (see Figure 6).

In addition to caring deeply about the issues that affect the wider society, on a more personal and creative level, d'Anthes also values such things as a child-like sense of wonder (often citing the imagination of children as a source of inspiration) (Lawn, 2014), a playful fashion sense

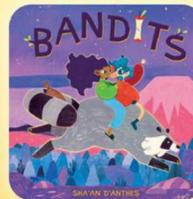


Figure 5. d'Anthes' second picture book, 'Bandits', which follows the journey of protagonist Fern, as she seeks to explore a colourful world outside of the lifeless city in which she lives (see Figure 5).

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Background & Beginnings



Sha'an d'Anthes started her professional journey when she was still a teenager in high school, with the seemingly small act of sharing her art on the social network website Tumblr (The Design Files, 2017; Gillespie, 2016). Under the name Furry Little Peach, a moniker which she continues to use across all her social media platforms to this day, d'Anthes posted images of her life and art, and in the process, began to gain a dedicated online following. By engaging with her audience regularly and consistently refining her work, d'Anthes successfully expanded her network to include almost 200,000 subscribers on her YouTube channel (see Figure 3) and over 250,000 followers on Instagram (furrylittlepeach, 2021).

Alongside sharing her craft on social media and freelancing successfully through her online connections, d'Anthes studied at the Australian Catholic University

and in 2013, graduated with a Bachelor of Visual Art and Design, having majored in Graphic Design (d'Anthes, 2021). From there, she worked at creative studio and digital agency Cypha as a digital designer and all-rounder, contributing to website and app design projects for well-known brands such as ABC, Australian Maritime Museum, and Freedom Furniture (d'Anthes, 2021). While she has since moved away from digital brand design in her current career, she cites her time at Cypha as being a great learning experience and responsible for making her a "much better and more well-rounded creative" (Lawn, 2020).

Tying together all of d'Anthes' early career experiences are the themes of consistency, hard work, and a commitment to learning and improving her craft. Through consistent practice and sharing of her illustrations (see Figure 4), she has been able to reach a

Background & Beginnings

progressively wider audience; through being open to exploring and learning about different forms of design, she has been able to hone a wide range of creative skills. These themes strike me as essential for developing designers and creatives, and ones that I hope to carry forward with me on my own professional path.

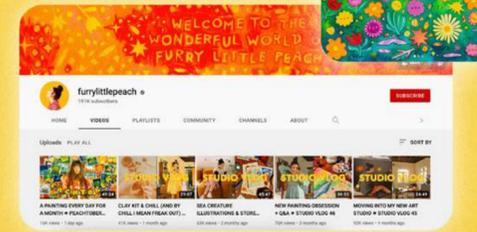


Figure 3. Screenshot of the 'furrylittlepeach' YouTube channel page, showing the channel name, subscriber count, and a list of videos.

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Clients

As a freelance illustrator, d'Anthes has worked with a wide range of well-known clients, including Audible Australia for their Grow Your Mind campaign (Furry Little Peach, 2017), Samsung Australia for their Do What You Can't campaign (Furry Little Peach, 2018), and Adobe for their Adobe On Colour series (The Adobe Blog team, 2019). Each of these campaigns involved encouraging people to get creative and expand their minds in new and exciting ways, whether by being immersed in different worlds through the magic of audiobooks, by taking the time to take a breather to avoid creative block and burnout, or by the simple act of playing around with unexpected colour palettes.

While d'Anthes' involvement in these projects reflects her passion for exploration and creativity, her other work also allows her previously mentioned



Figure 8. The cover of the picture book 'Zoom', which follows the journey of protagonist Fern, as she seeks to explore a colourful world outside of the lifeless city in which she lives (see Figure 8).



Figure 8. The cover of the picture book 'Zoom', which follows the journey of protagonist Fern, as she seeks to explore a colourful world outside of the lifeless city in which she lives (see Figure 8).

values of social responsibility and the uplifting of children, to shine through. For example, she painted a stunning library mural for the Happiness and Education for Life Organisation (HELO) School in Cambodia (see Figure 9), an NGO that aims to provide free education and important life skills for underprivileged children and teenagers (HELO, 2021). Meanwhile, her debut picture book "Zoom," not only consists of gorgeous visuals, but also gently educates children about the structure of the solar system (see Figure 9).

Other clients d'Anthes has collaborated with include Netflix, Together Gallery, Wacom, Cuddle Co, and the band Kisschasy (Furry Little Peach, 2021) – and what is evident from her portfolio of work is that she chooses her clients carefully based on her values, and consistently delivers art that fits the bill perfectly for her clients, while still unmistakably showcasing her unique style.

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Conclusion

Sha'an d'Anthes is not only an incredibly talented illustrator and author, she is also a conscientious creative who carefully considers her ethical responsibility to treat the planet we live on with respect, and uses her large online platform for the purpose of having a positive impact on our society. She is unabashedly herself, and confident in her highly honed craft.

While my aim is not to reproduce her career step by step, I wish to learn from the path that she has taken and the code of conduct that she abides by, to have a successful career in my own right – by consistently developing my creative skills, trusting in my process, having confidence in and developing my style, and persistently sharing my work for the purpose of making a better world.

Taking inspiration from Sha'an d'Anthes and imbuing my own passion for such things as mental health awareness and sustainability education, I hope to follow in the footsteps of my role model by carving out a successful and ethical career as an illustrator and designer.

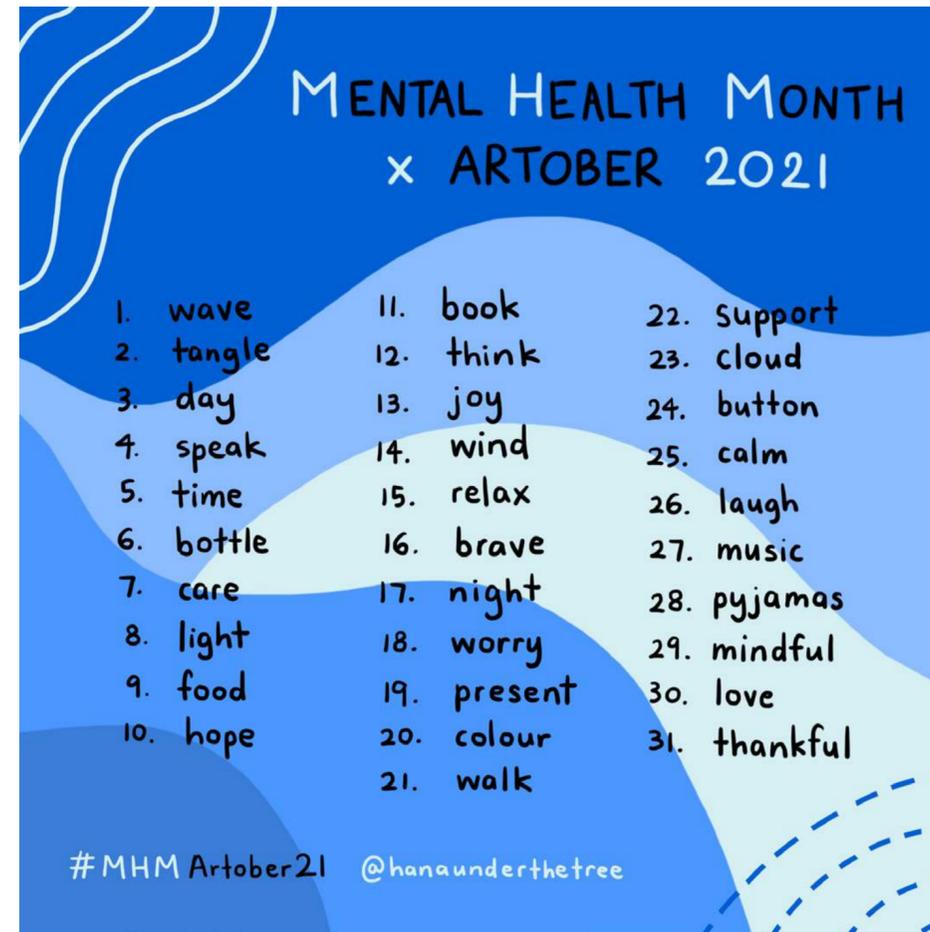


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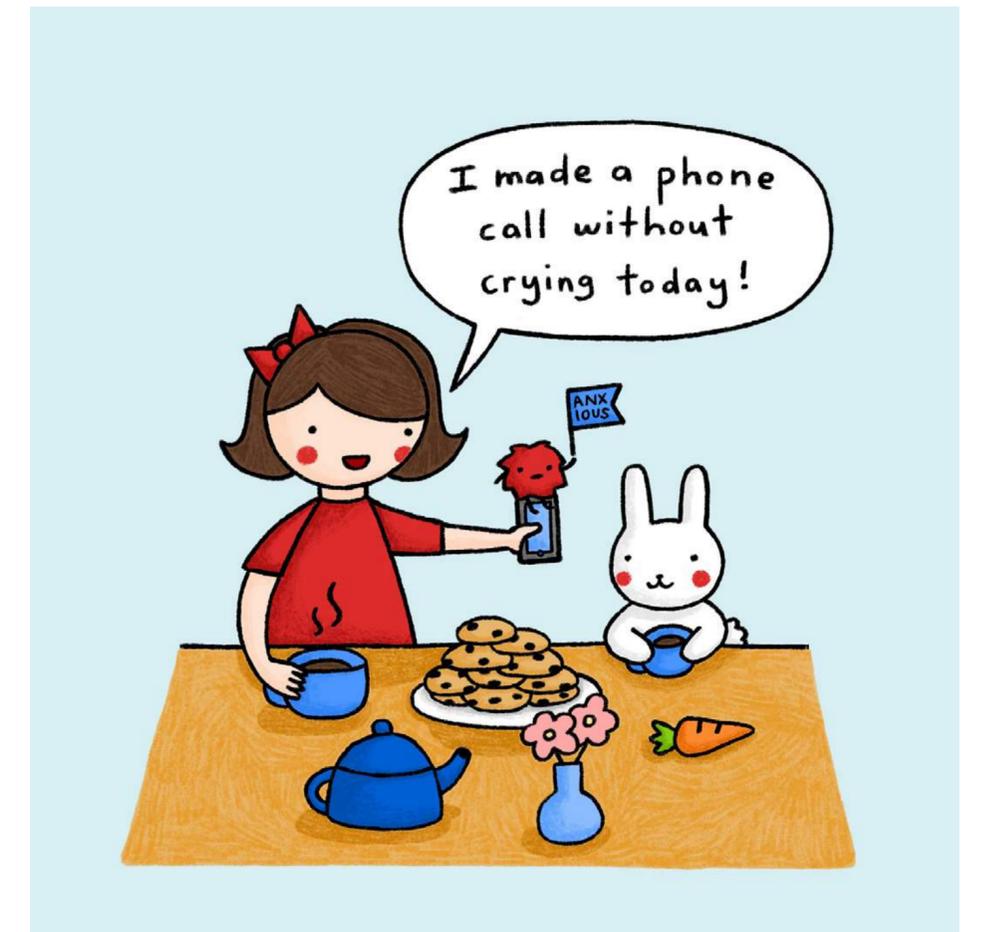
MENTAL HEALTH MONTH x ARTOBER *campaign & illustration*



In October 2020, I hosted a creative challenge on Instagram for [Mental Health Month](#), by putting together a list of 31 prompts that would both stir up everyone's creativity, and raise awareness



about mental health. Due to the success of the event, I hosted it once again in 2021, this time sponsored by the Health Promotion Unit at UNSW, which allowed me to provide prizes to winning



participants. I also shared my own mental health-related artworks: ink paintings in 2020 and digital drawings in 2021.



POSTERS

illustration & design

For various university design courses, I have created A1 posters which concisely summarise the term's major project.

Good Morning, Joey! showcases a picture book with accompanying worksheets I designed to help educate children about sustainability, while the *Mindful Media* poster features a multi-sensory journal kit I created to guide social media users to live and use social media more mindfully.

Both of these posters are the culmination of a thorough process of research, ideation, iteration, feedback and refinement, and involved sketching, hands-on making, illustrating on Procreate, and the use of Illustrator, Photoshop and InDesign.

PHOENIX LEARNS "GOOD MORNING, JOEY!"

Empowering future generations to live sustainably by rethinking pedagogical practices in primary school education.

PROBLEM

One key factor behind the misinformation surrounding sustainable practices is a lack of consistent education on the topic from an early age. As a result, adult consumers and decision-makers are left struggling to make sustainable choices in their everyday lives.

GOOD MORNING, JOEY!

"Good Morning, Joey!" is a children's picture book aimed at Stage 3 learners (year 5 and 6). By following two playful kangaroo characters as they navigate the great Australian outback, readers are introduced to such topics as how natural life cycles work and the impact that man-made plastic is having on our planet.

SOLUTION

We believe it is paramount for sustainability education to be redesigned and emphasised from early primary school onwards, using a variety of fun, interactive, age-appropriate resources, activities, and long-term projects.

Our hope is that consistent, reinforced, and enjoyable sustainability education will help empower future generations, allowing them to become sustainability-literate adults who are inspired to create new narratives that go beyond mass production and consumption.

In line with these aims, we propose "Good Morning, Joey!" as one such fun educational resource to introduce children to sustainability.

STORYBOARD EXCERPTS



STORYBOARD & SPREAD

In the storyboard excerpts, you can see Joey discovering the life cycles of trees and butterflies, and their circular nature. This culminates in a scene (in the spread above) where Joey and mum come across a campsite littered with rubbish, and Joey believes that man-made litter also has a similar natural and circular life cycle.

WORKSHEETS

To accompany the picture book are worksheets and activities which educators can use to enable children to engage with the book on a deeper level. Through individual and group activities, children are encouraged to consider the current state of the world, and what they themselves might be able to do to create a more sustainable future.



For more information, visit www.phoenixstudio.com

Hana Kinoshita Thomson z3330054



MINDFUL EDIA

A science-backed multi-sensory journal designed to help you break social media's hold on your life.

The Mindful Media journal seeks to address the negative impact that excessive social media use is having on the Emotional Wellbeing of young adults (symptoms of depression and anxiety, and lowered self-worth), using an inter-disciplinary approach.

PSYCHOLOGY

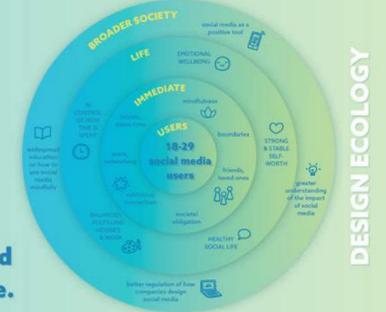
Current literature grounds the information and activities provided throughout the journal. This information guides the user through a journey of better understanding themselves and their Social Media Habit Loop, mindfulness activities and gratitude exercises that enable users to disrupt this loop, and support that empowers users to maintain their mindful social media use (see Storyboard).

TEXTILES

Accompanying the A5 journal is a white cotton journal cover and three fabric samples of varied textures. The fabric samples can be used for tactile mindfulness exercises, while the cover is a blank canvas on which users can carry out the mindful embroidery activities; activities which focus on the process of making rather than a perfected product.

GRAPHICS

The visuals have been designed with the user's wellbeing in mind, using a gentle gradient from dark blue to yellow (colours associated with calm and joy respectively) and playful illustrated icons.



DESIGN OBJECTIVES

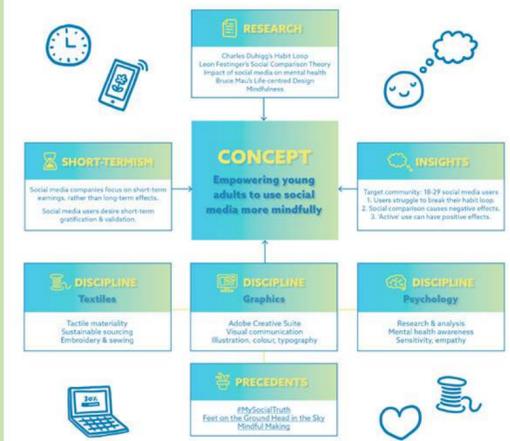
- Educate young adult social media users how to use social media in a more mindful manner, through a multi-sensory, information & activity packed Mindful Media Journal.
- Empower young adult social media users to recognise & break their Social Media Habit Loops, through a tactile textile approach that enables users to regain control of their time.



USER JOURNEY STORYBOARD



CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK



Hana Kinoshita Thomson 3330054

みいちゃんは、目がくりくりとした
元気いっぱいの子供の女の子です。

肩まで伸ばした明るい茶色の髪には、
いつもお花やリボンが 色とりどりに
並んでいます。



そのお花やリボンは、みいちゃんの淡
いピンク、時にはレモン色、雲の色など、
いろいろな色のお洋服といっしょに、
ひらひらと楽しそうに舞っています。



お母さんは、どれどれとみいちゃんの顔
をのぞきこみました。

「いつから?」

「ずうーっとまえ」

「それは、大変。じゃあ、見せて。うーん。
どれどれ、ちょっとパチパチしてみて。
もう一回。んー、今ママ、見た。でも
だいじょうぶみたい。なんともなっ
てなかった。さつ、みいちゃんなら、
がんばれる。はよう、宿題やらな。あした、
日本語の先生に「はい」って渡さないで。
先生も待ってるよ」

お母さんは、みいちゃんの肩をポンポンと
たたくと、「ママ、お手伝いするし」
と、日本語の本を開き始めました。

MII-CHAN CAN SPEAK JAPANESE

*illustration & design
(work in progress)*

These are works in progress for a picture book commission I am currently collaborating on. The author of this book, a Japanese teacher Chino Nakano, wrote *Mii-chan Can Speak Japanese* based on the true story of one of her students, a Japanese Australian girl who no longer wanted to attend Japanese Saturday School.

The book explores the challenges of growing up in a mixed cultural environment, of living in one country and trying not to lose your connection to your secondary heritage. It will be used as a resource in workshops held to support parents who are raising mixed heritage children.

Given my own Japanese-American-Australian heritage and similar lived experiences, I am very grateful to be working on such an important and relevant project, and look forward to refining my illustrations and layout design in preparation for publication later this year.

みいちゃんは、月曜日から金曜日まで
は、家の近くの小学校、みいちゃんは
「英語の学校」と呼んでいるのですが、
そこに通っています。



毎週土曜日は、日本のおじいちゃんや
おばあちゃんともお話ができたり、手紙を
書いたりできるようにと、土曜校で、
日本語を勉強しています。



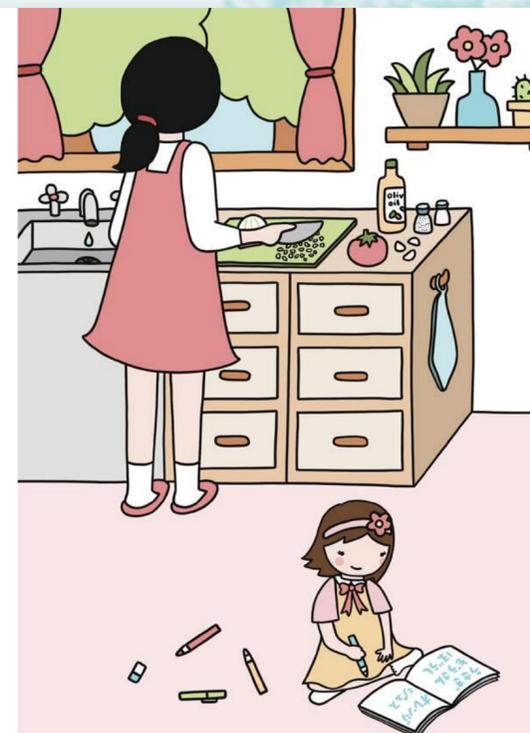
みいちゃんをあわてて、次のトピックを
探します。

「みいちゃんなキンディ(幼稚園)さん
から土曜校行ってるし、ひらがな読めるよ」

お母さんは
「そやな。がんばったもんなあ」
包丁を小さく動かしながら、玉ねぎを
切っています。

—そうだ!—

みいちゃんは、急いでリビングから
お絵かきノートを持って来て、キッチン
の片隅で、知っているかぎりの日本語を
書きました。



THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME

✉ h.underthetree@gmail.com

📷 [@hanaunderthetree](https://www.instagram.com/hanaunderthetree)