How to Draw an Oregon Caves National Monument and Preserve Pacific Giant Salamander

The Pacific giant salamander is the largest amphibian native to the state of Oregon, and one of the few found at Oregon Caves National Monument and Preserve. They divide their time between water and land, with adults often found on land beneath plants, wood, rocks, and in stream channels. They are noticeable by their brown and black color and can be spotted as younglings with external gills that help them breath in water. Use these steps to draw one and keep an eye out for one on your next hike through the preserve or the next time you enter the cave!

1. Start with a slightly misshapen oval for a head of your salamander.
2. Put in a big happy smile.
3. Create some arching eyebrows.
4. Draw in some eyeballs beneath those eyebrows so your salamander knows where it's going.
5. Add some pupils so your salamander can pick up on the meager light entering the cave environment.
6. Do some light shading as shown to begin adding some contrast.
7. Create some body markings and color them in as you like; remember, these salamanders are brown and black.
8. Do some darker shading in areas that you like and go over your lines with a darker color to make them stand out.