

# Cartoons for the Classroom

Presented by NIEonline.com and the Association of American Editorial Cartoonists (AAEC)



## How do cartoons use visual clichés?



Daryl Cagle / Courtesy of Cagle.com

### Talking Points

1. In explaining his cartoon, Daryl Cagle says, "I love the New Years cliché with old Father Time and the New Year Baby." What is a cliché?
2. What message is Cagle delivering in his cartoon?
3. The New Year Baby and Father Time date back to the ancient Greek mythological characters of Dionysus and Chronos. Where did the "shooting yourself in the foot" cliché originate?
4. Can you find other examples of visual clichés being used in other editorial cartoons?
5. Does a clichéd image make it easier and quicker to understand the meaning of a cartoon?

### Between the lines

During the age of Plato and Socrates, Greeks ushered in the new year with celebrations honoring Dionysus, the son of Zeus and god of wine. One of their traditions was placing an infant in a winnowing basket and hoisting the child skyward to represent the rebirth of Dionysus.

<https://www.cnn.com/2015/12/29/living/baby-new-year-origin-feat/index.html>

### Additional resources

#### ■ More by Daryl Cagle

<https://www.cagle.com/author/daryl-cagle/>

#### ■ Association of American Editorial Cartoonists

<http://editorialcartoonists.com/>



A baby Dionysus drinking wine painted by Guido Reni, 1575-1642