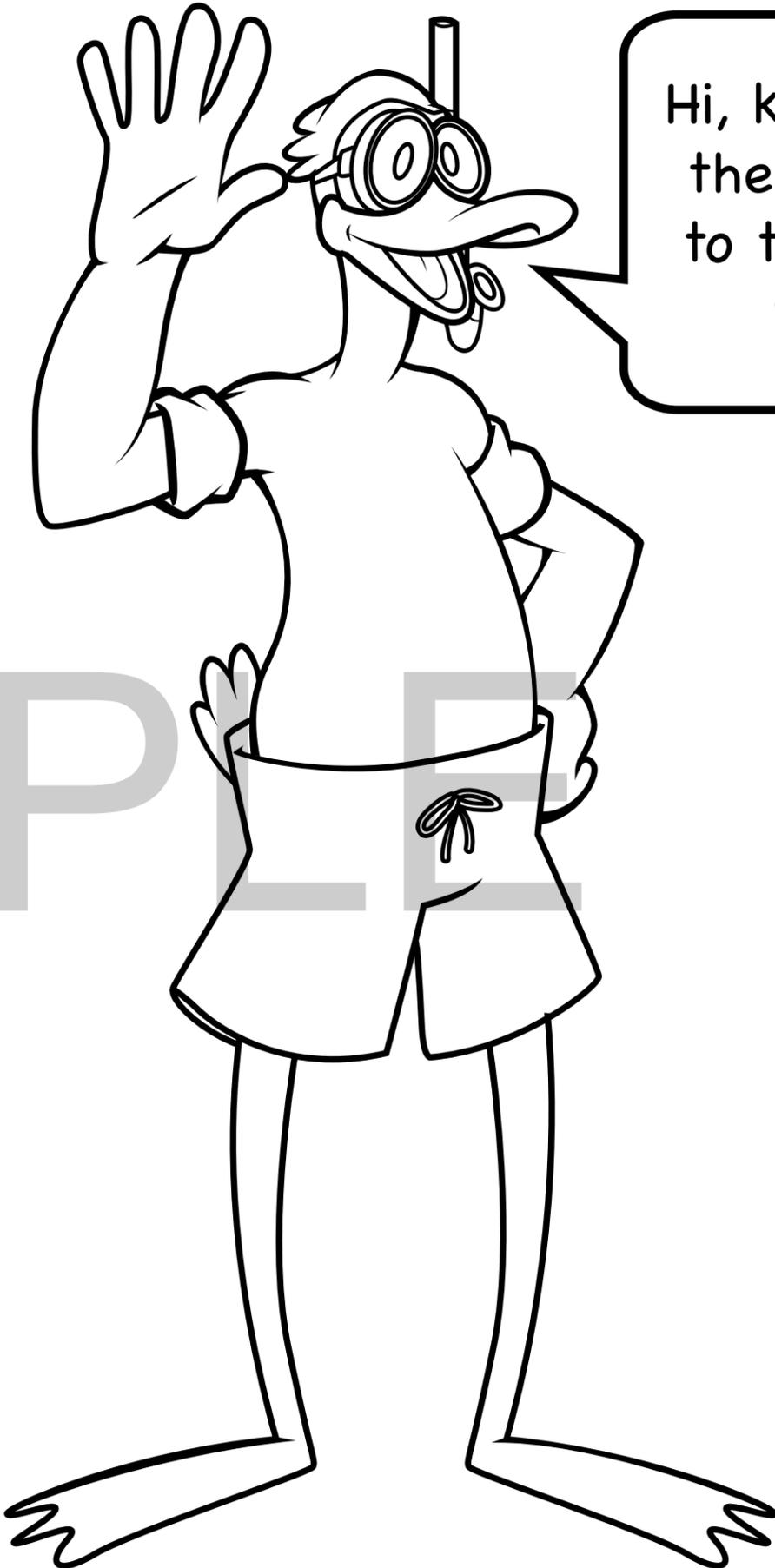


WHO CLEANS OUR WATER?

Wendell the Duck Visits
the Wastewater Treatment Plant





Hi, kids, I'm Wendell the Duck. I'm here to teach you about wastewater!

SAMPLE

We need clean water for lots of things:



DRINKING

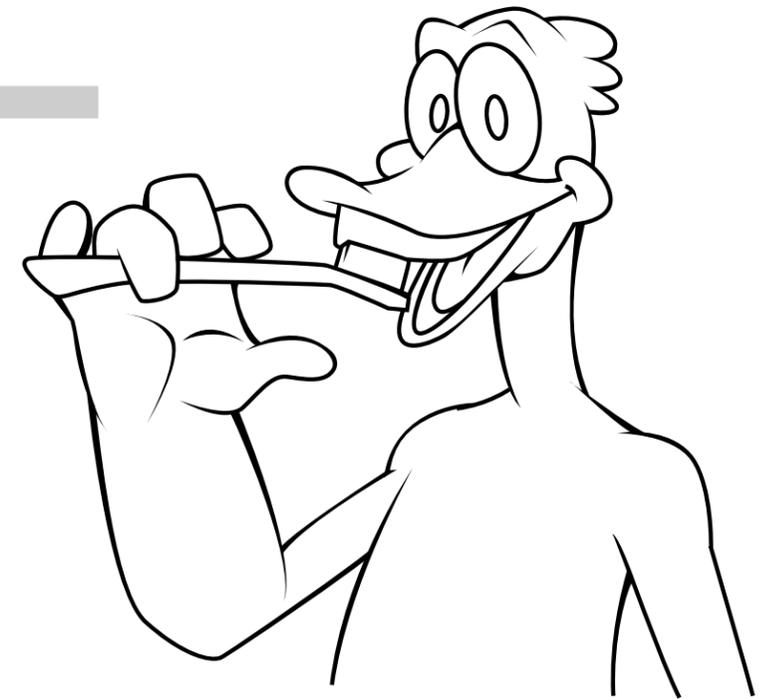


COOKING



TAKING
SHOWERS

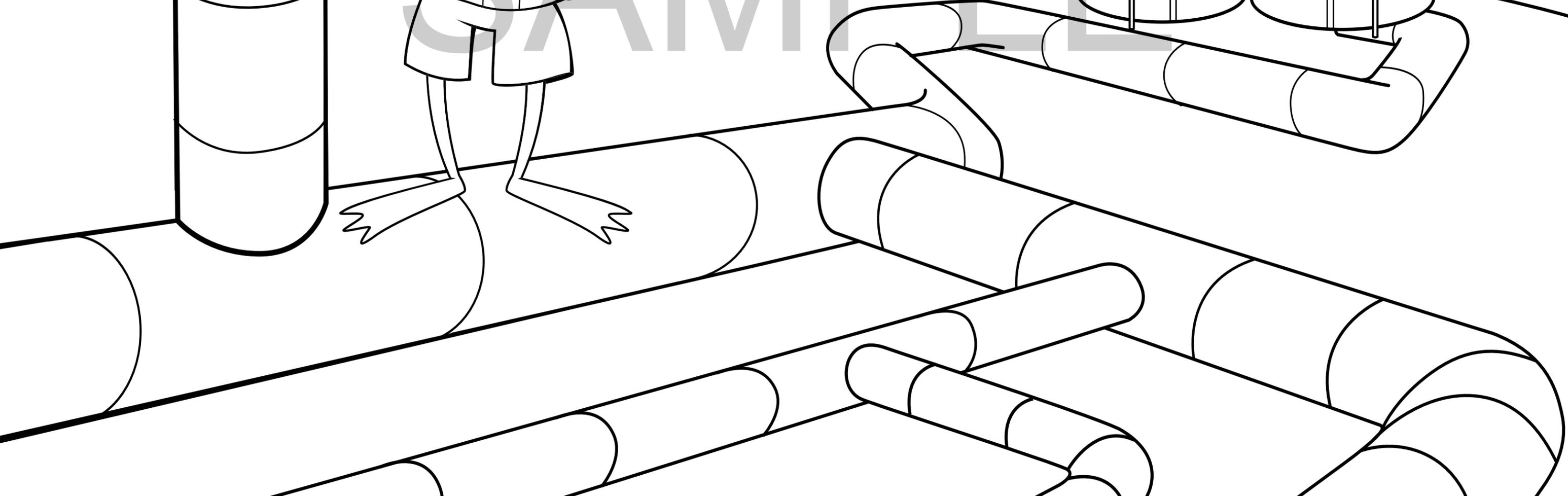
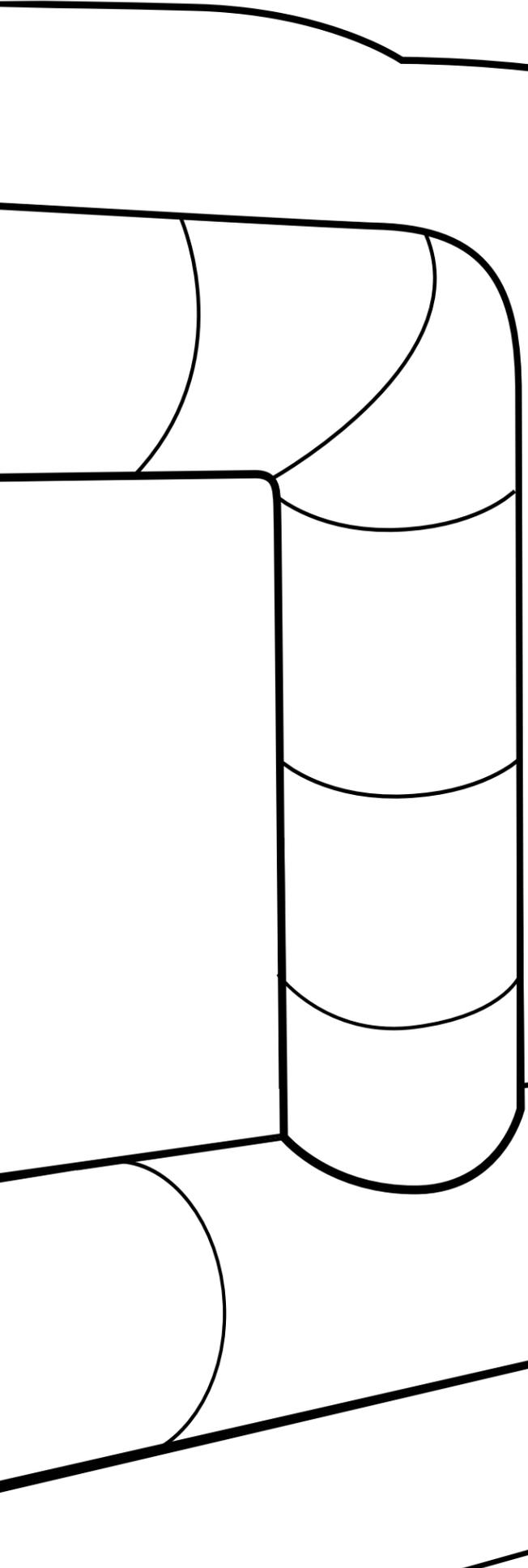
BRUSHING
TEETH



When we use water, it gets dirty.
Dirty water is called wastewater.

Wastewater has to be cleaned before we can use it again.

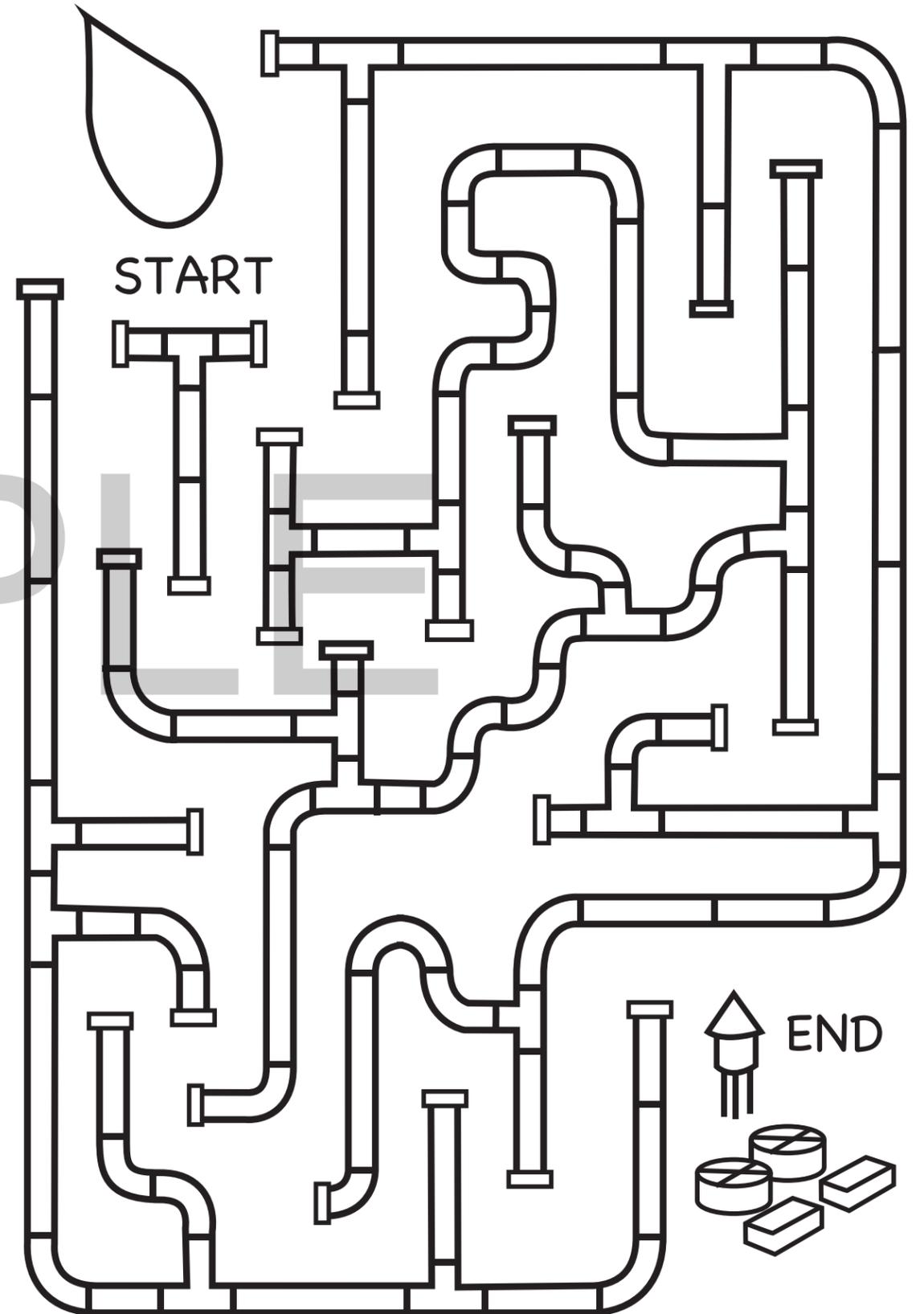
Wastewater flows through pipes under the ground. The pipes carry the water to the wastewater treatment plant.



Let's go to the wastewater treatment plant!



Help the water droplet get to the wastewater treatment plant.



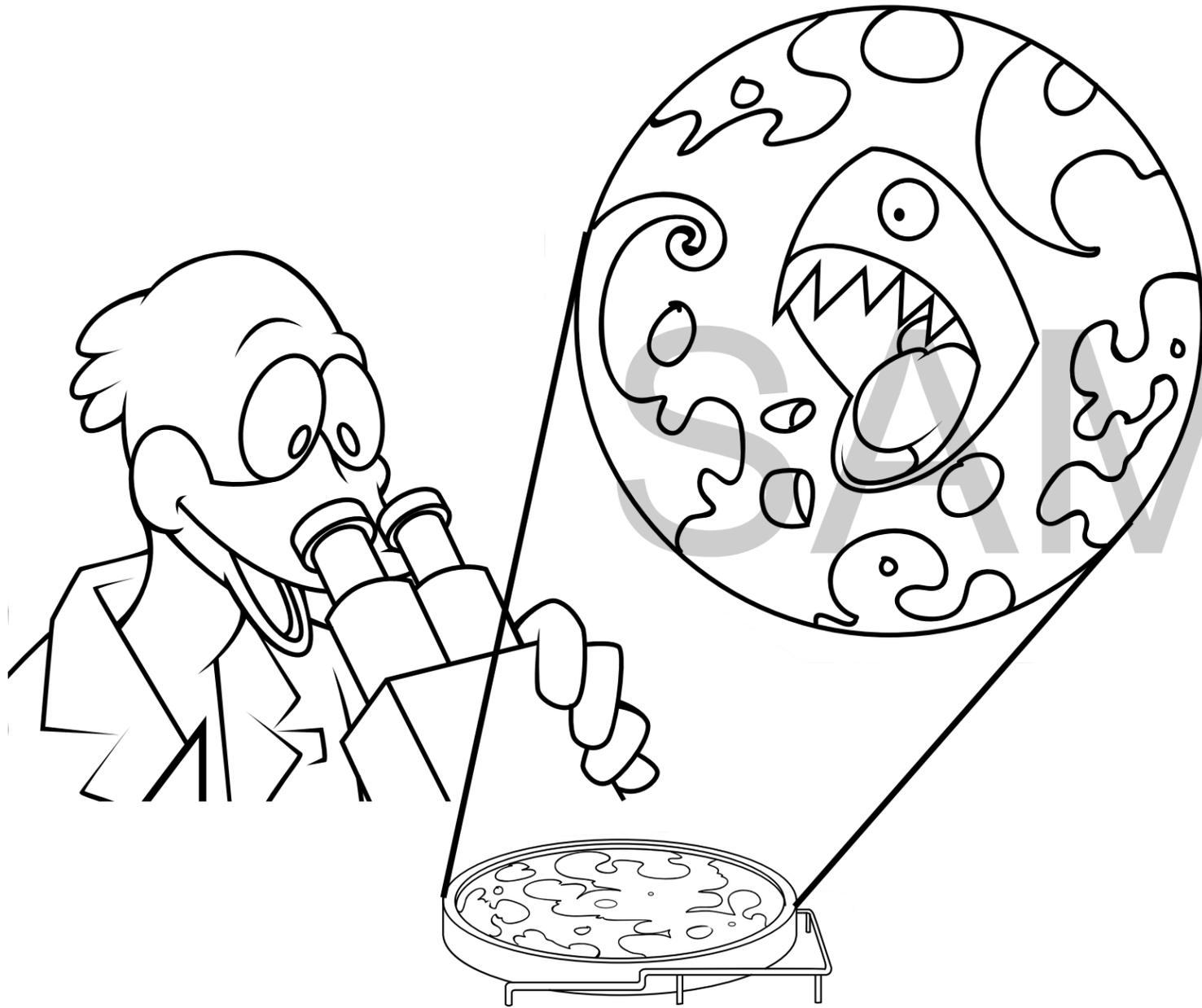
There are lots of people at the wastewater treatment plant who make sure the water gets clean.



Then the water goes into a big tank. Icky stuff floats to the top, and workers scoop it out. Heavier gunk, called sludge, sinks to the bottom. The sludge is treated and sanitized, which turns it into biosolids.

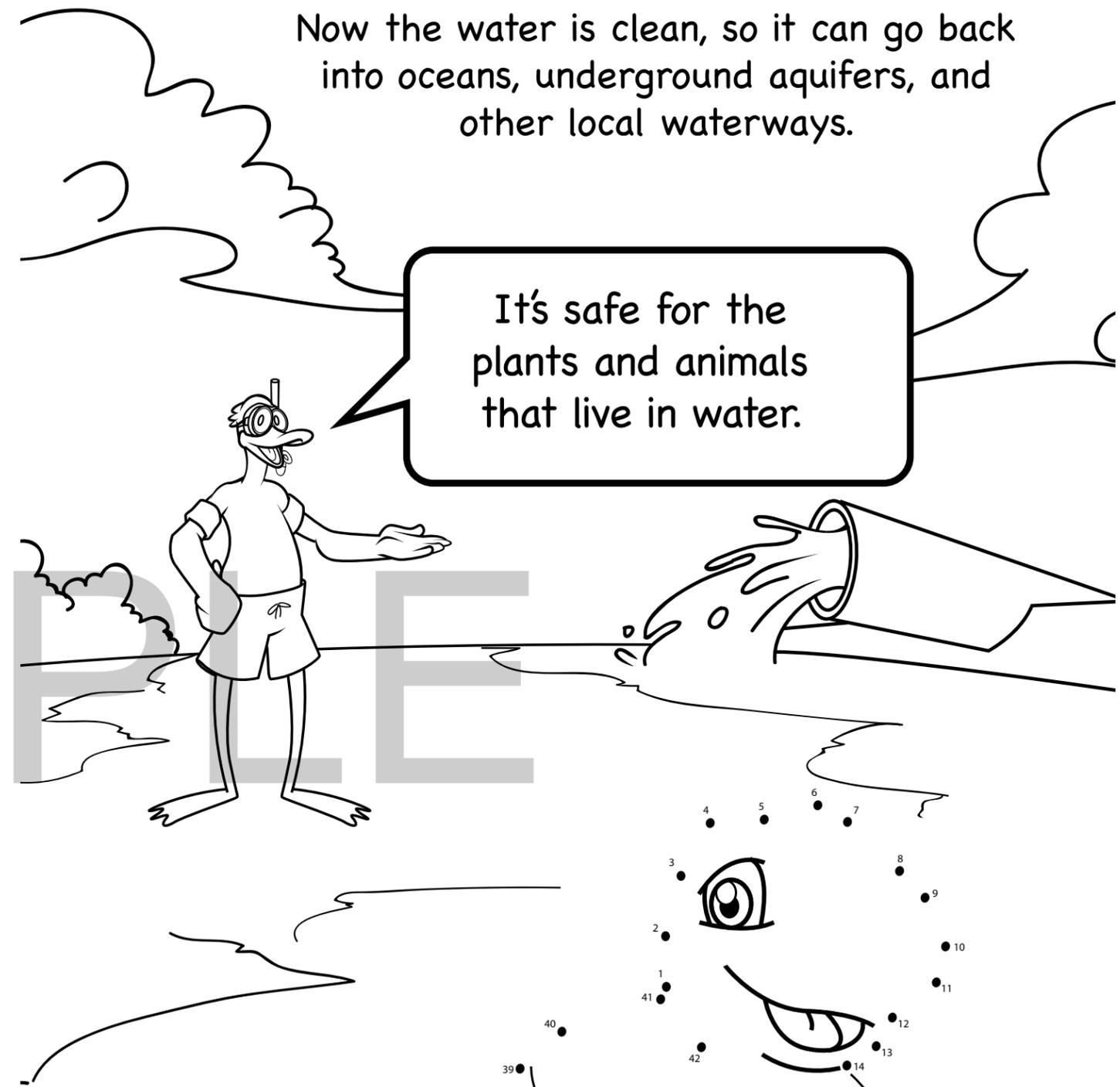


At the wastewater treatment plant, workers add air to the water. Air helps bacteria grow. Bacteria are tiny living things you can see only with a microscope.



Bacteria help clean the water by eating other tiny things in the sewage.

Now the water is clean, so it can go back into oceans, underground aquifers, and other local waterways.



Connect the dots to see an animal that lives in clean water.



Wastewater treatment plants do a lot of work, but they still need our help!

Don't flush or pour these things down the drain:

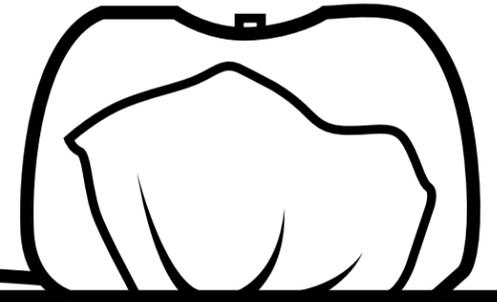


You can do a lot to keep our water clean.

SAMPLE



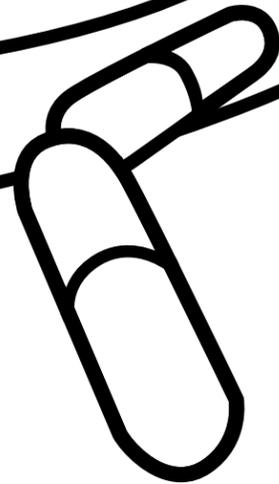
CHEMICALS



WIPES



PAINT

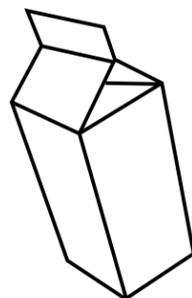


MEDICINE

Fats, oils, and greases are called FOGs. They cause smelly clogs. Look for these FOGs in your kitchen:



COOKING OIL



MILK AND CREAM



MAYONNAISE



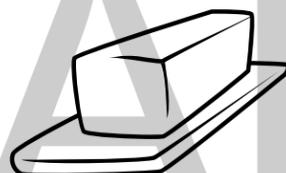
SALAD DRESSING



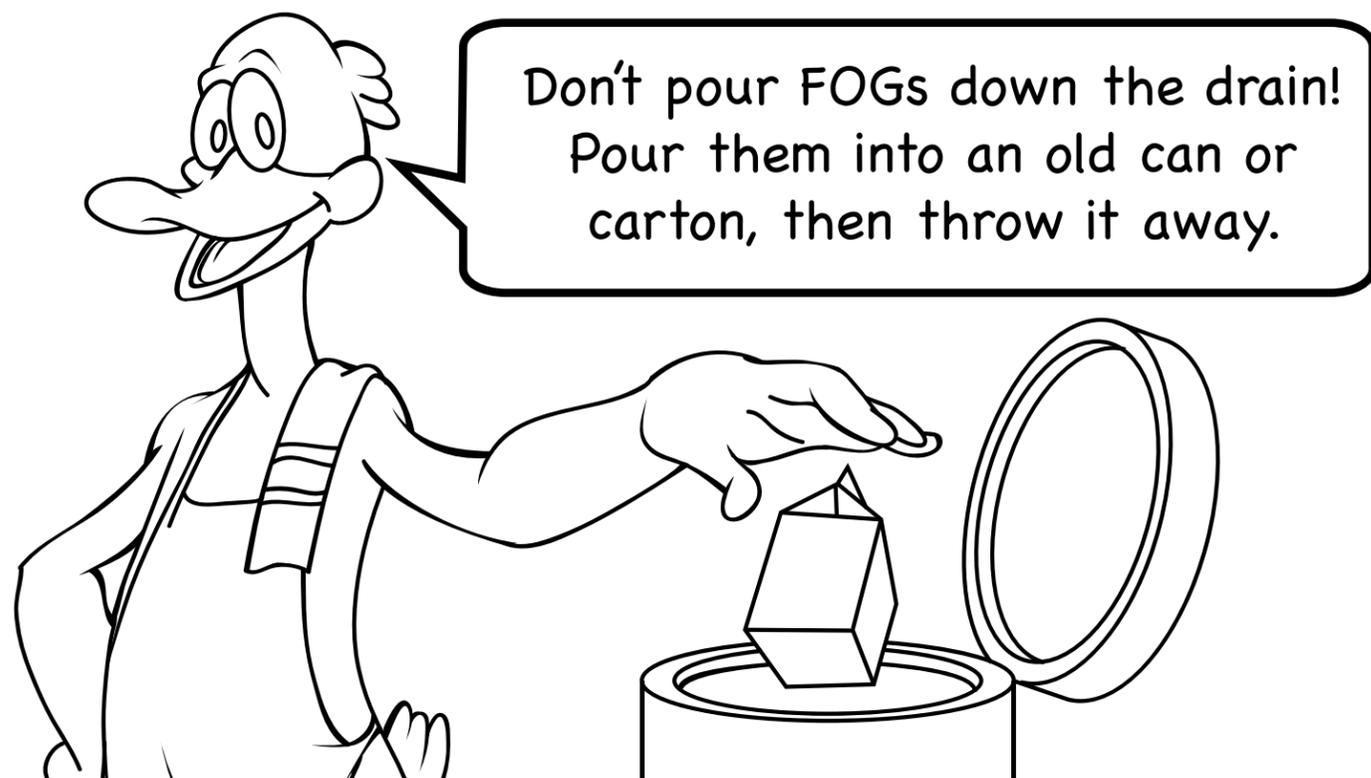
GRAVY



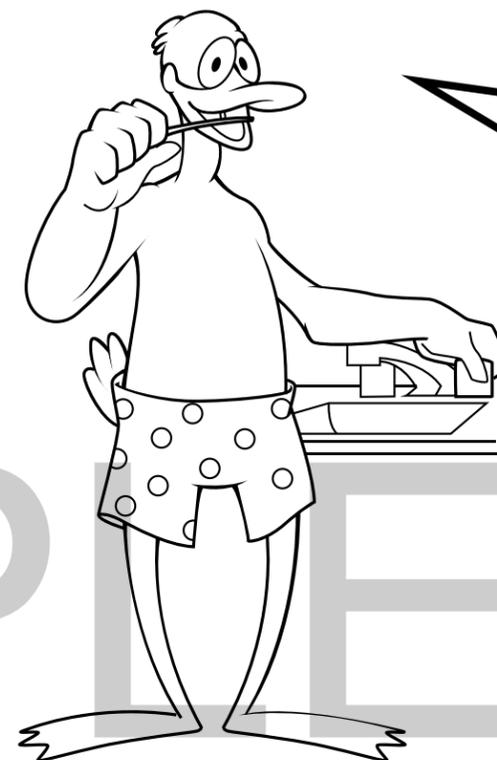
PEANUT BUTTER



BUTTER



You can also help out by saving water. When you save water, there's less water to clean!



Turn off the faucet when you brush your teeth.





Clean water
is good for
everybody!

And every
animal!



©2026 The Education & Outreach Company. All rights reserved.
www.educationandoutreach.com

ES430-07