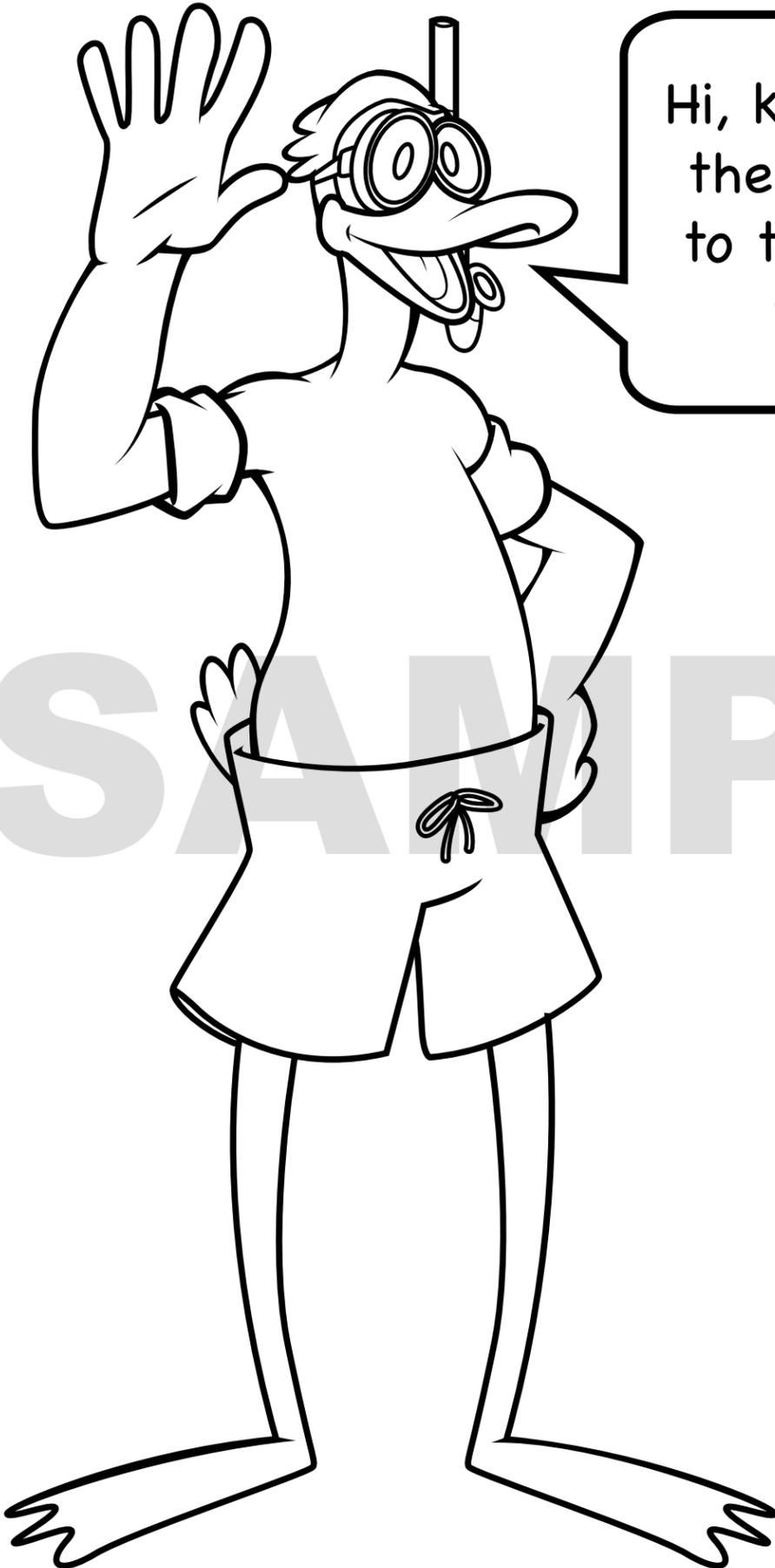


# WHO CLEANS OUR WATER?

Wendell the Duck Visits  
the Wastewater Treatment Plant

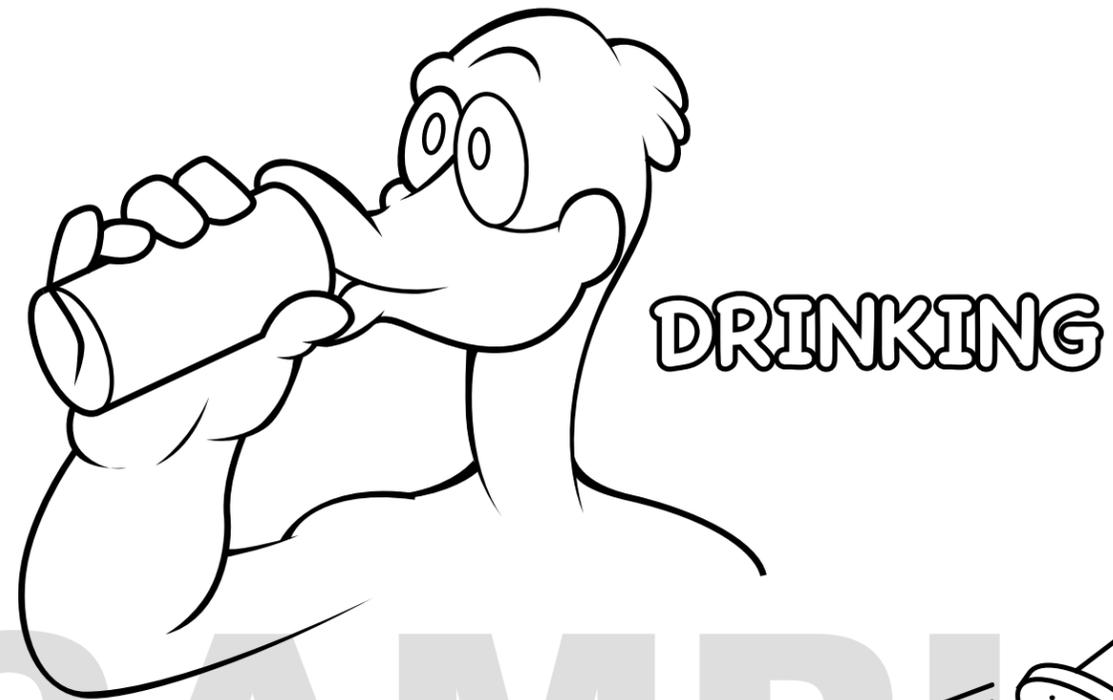




Hi, kids, I'm Wendell the Duck. I'm here to teach you about wastewater!

SAMPLE SAMPLE

We need clean water for lots of things:



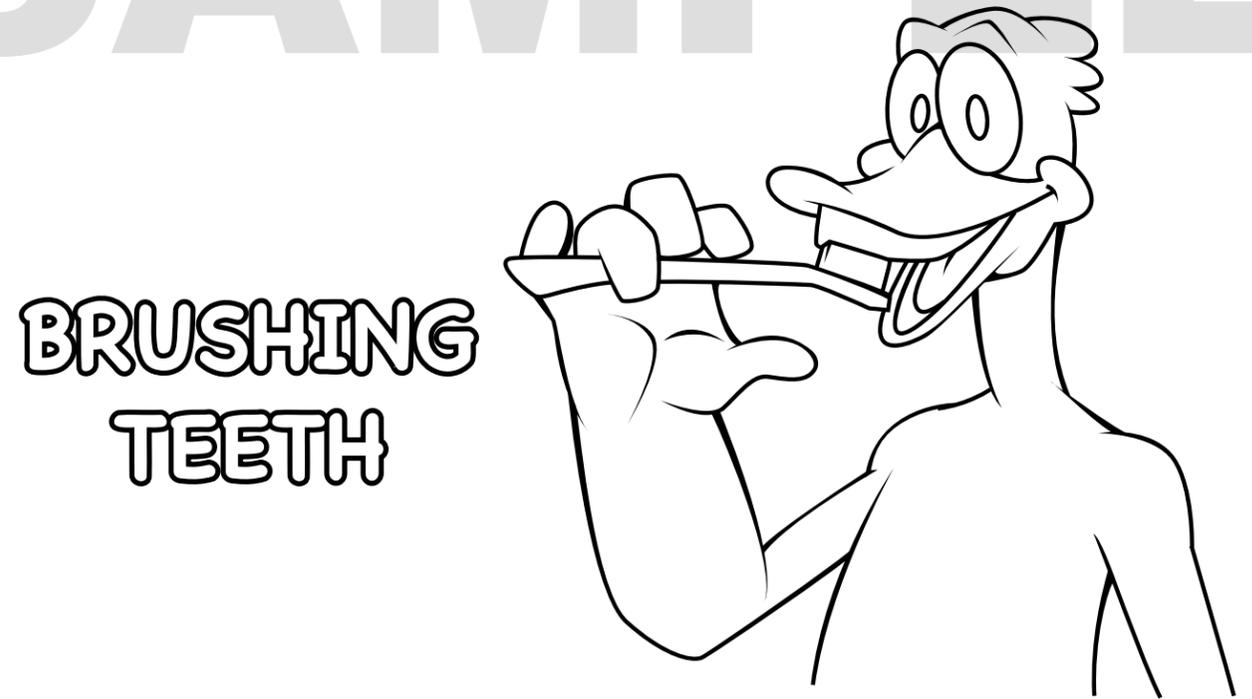
DRINKING



COOKING



TAKING  
SHOWERS

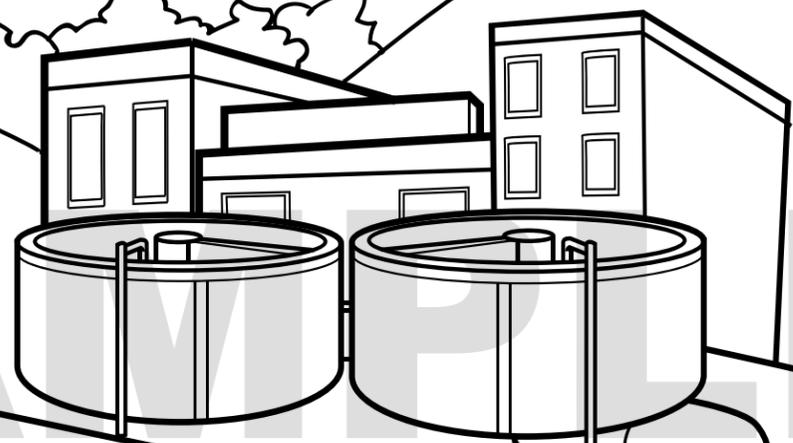


BRUSHING  
TEETH

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

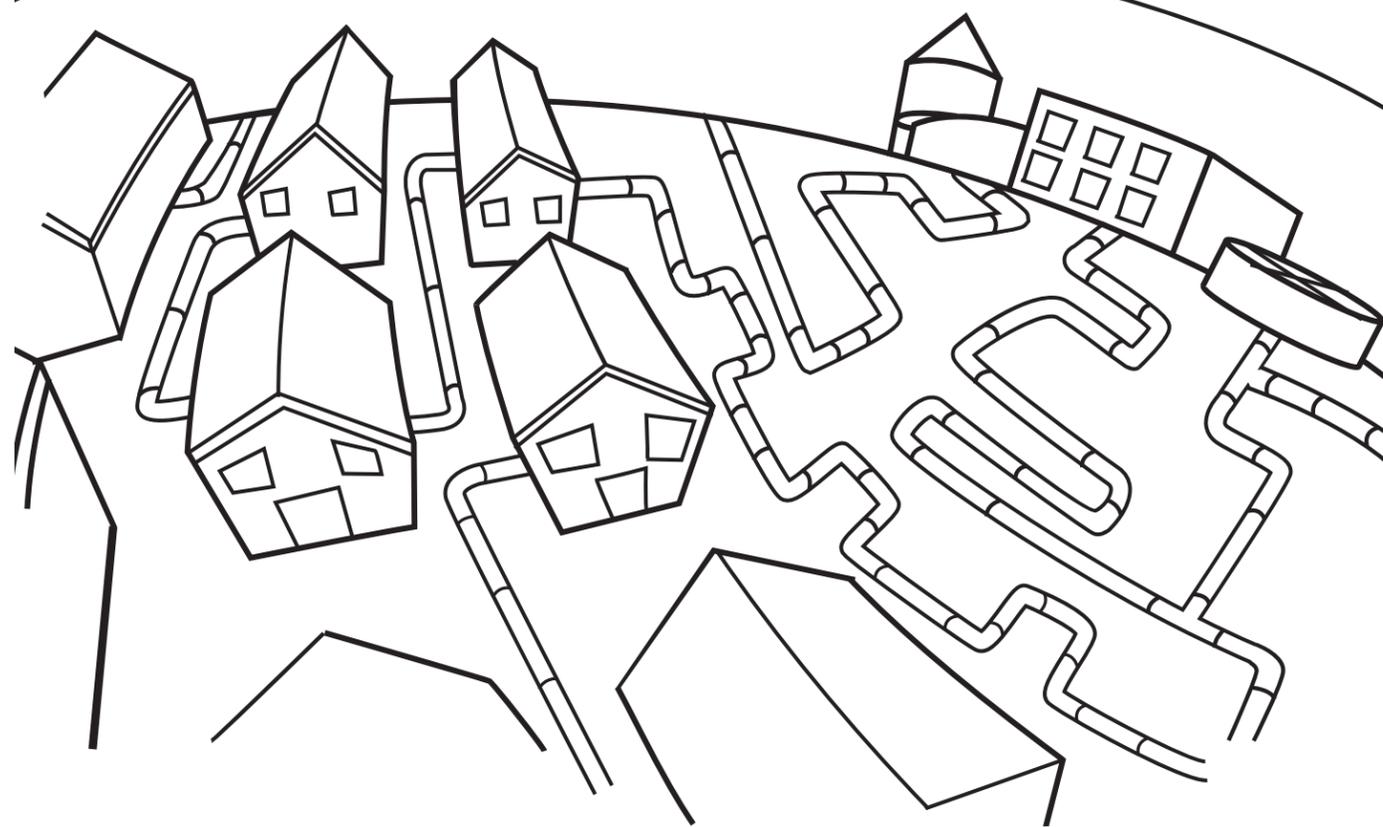
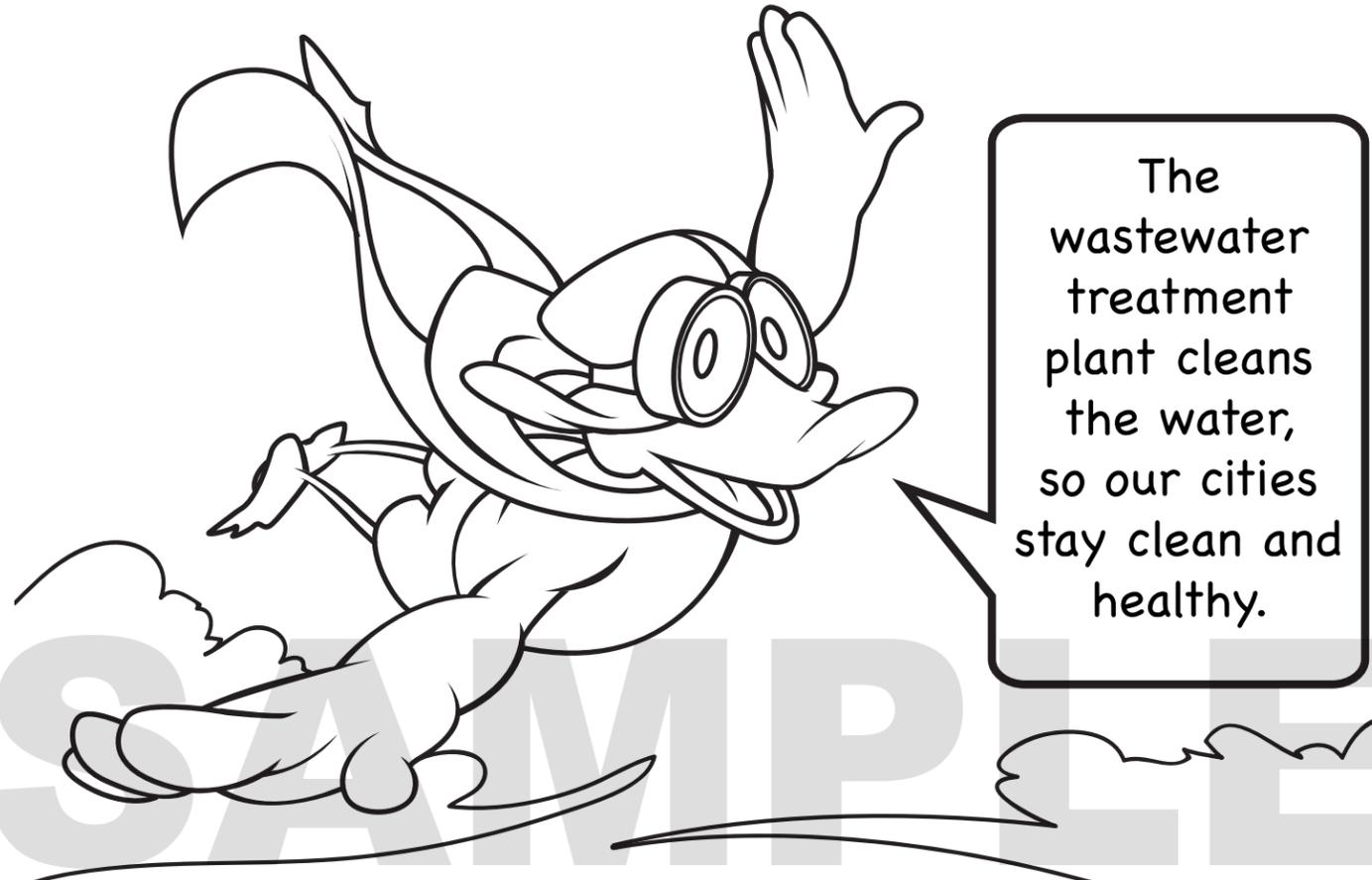
Wastewater has to be cleaned before we can use it again.

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

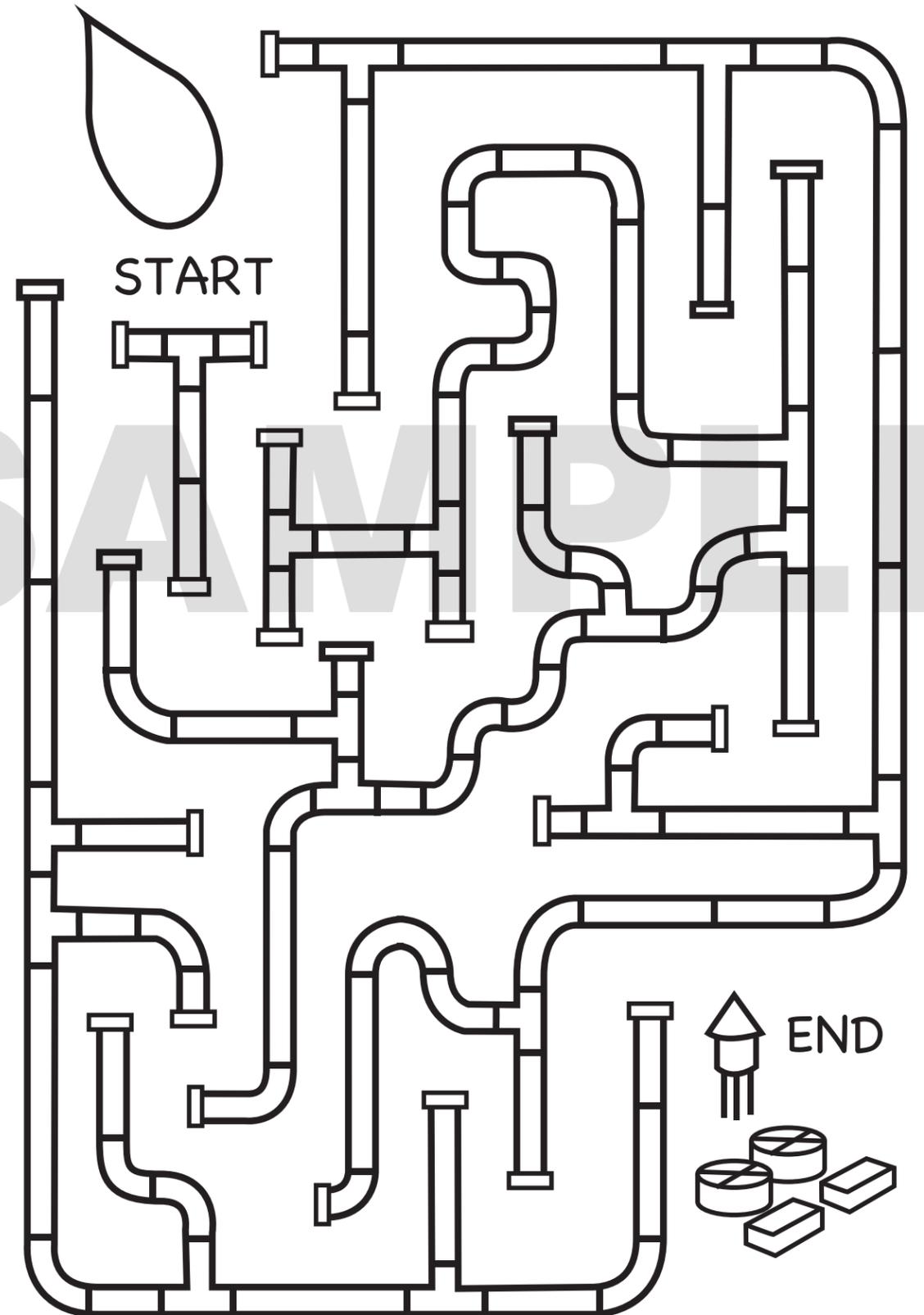


SAMPLE SAMPLE

Let's go to the wastewater treatment plant!



Help the water droplet get to the wastewater treatment plant.



At the wastewater treatment plant, there are lots of people who make sure the water gets clean.

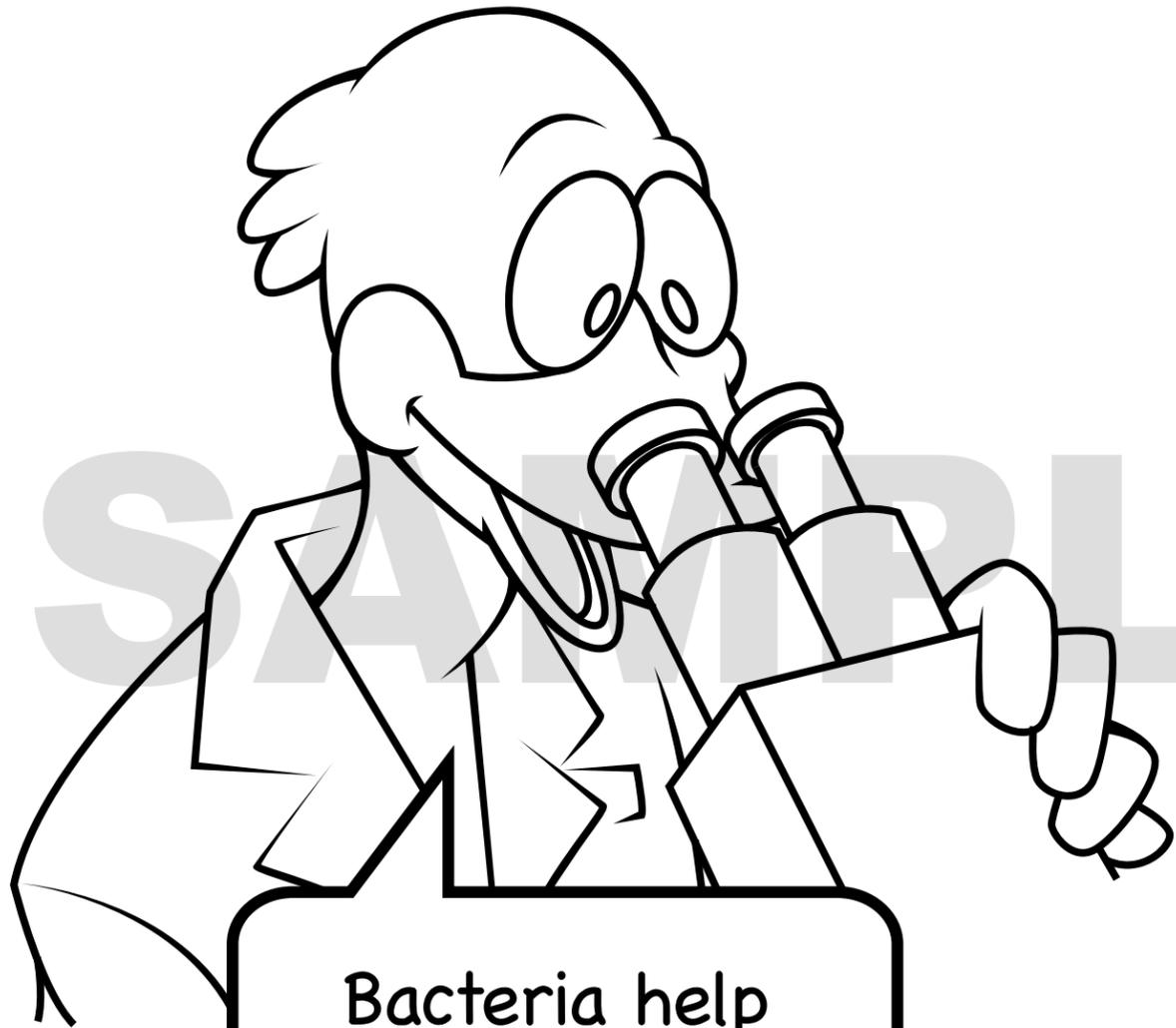


Then the water goes into a big tank. Icky stuff floats to the top, and workers scoop it out. Heavier gunk, called sludge, sinks to the bottom. The sludge is treated and sanitized, which turns it into biosolids.

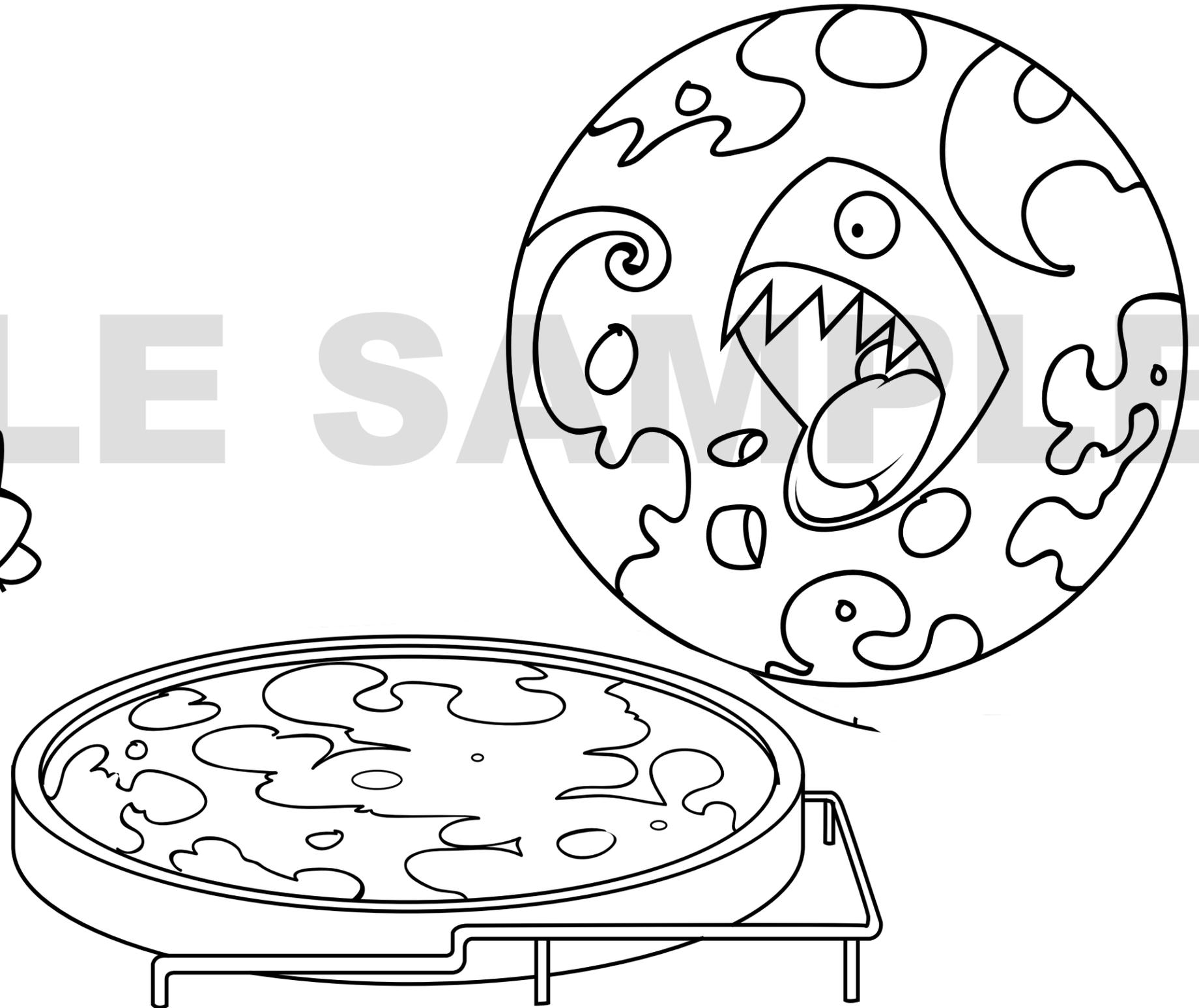


At the wastewater treatment plant, workers add air to the water. Air helps bacteria to grow.

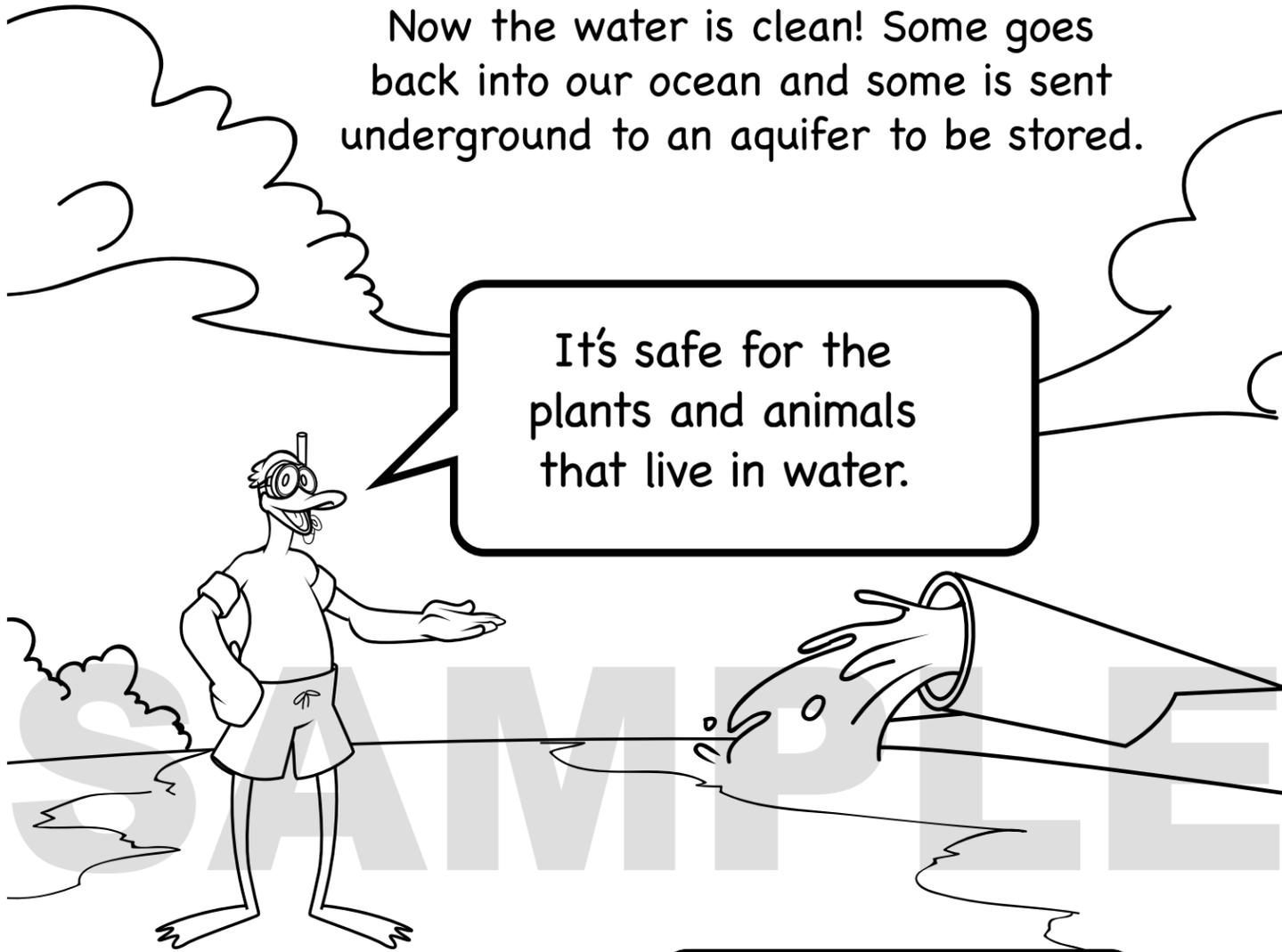
Bacteria are tiny living things you can only see with a microscope.



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

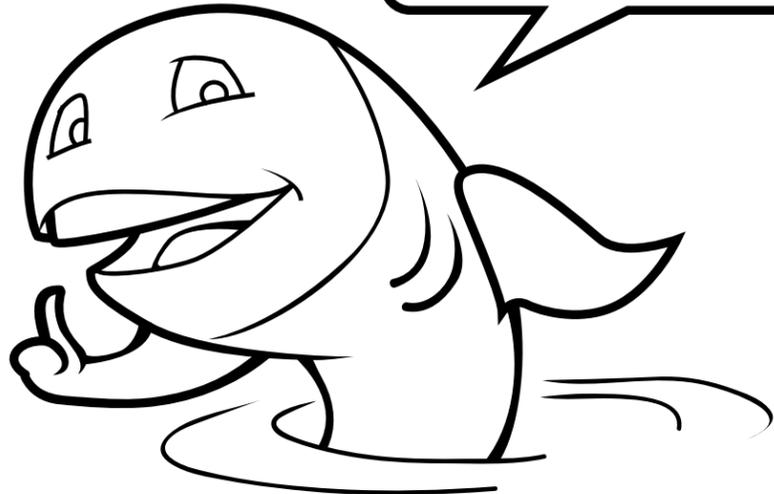


Now the water is clean! Some goes back into our ocean and some is sent underground to an aquifer to be stored.

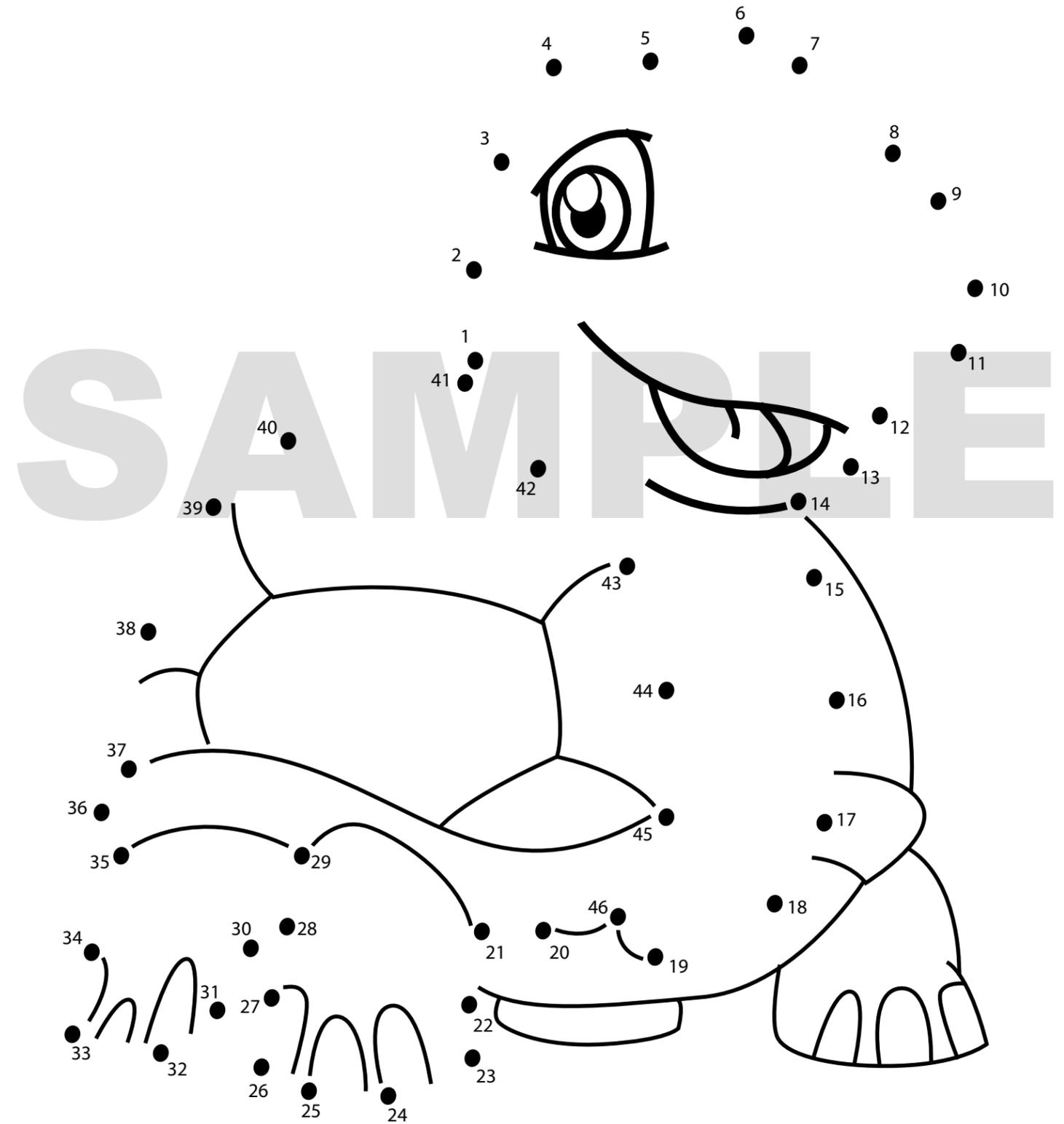


It's safe for the plants and animals that live in water.

That's what I call clean!

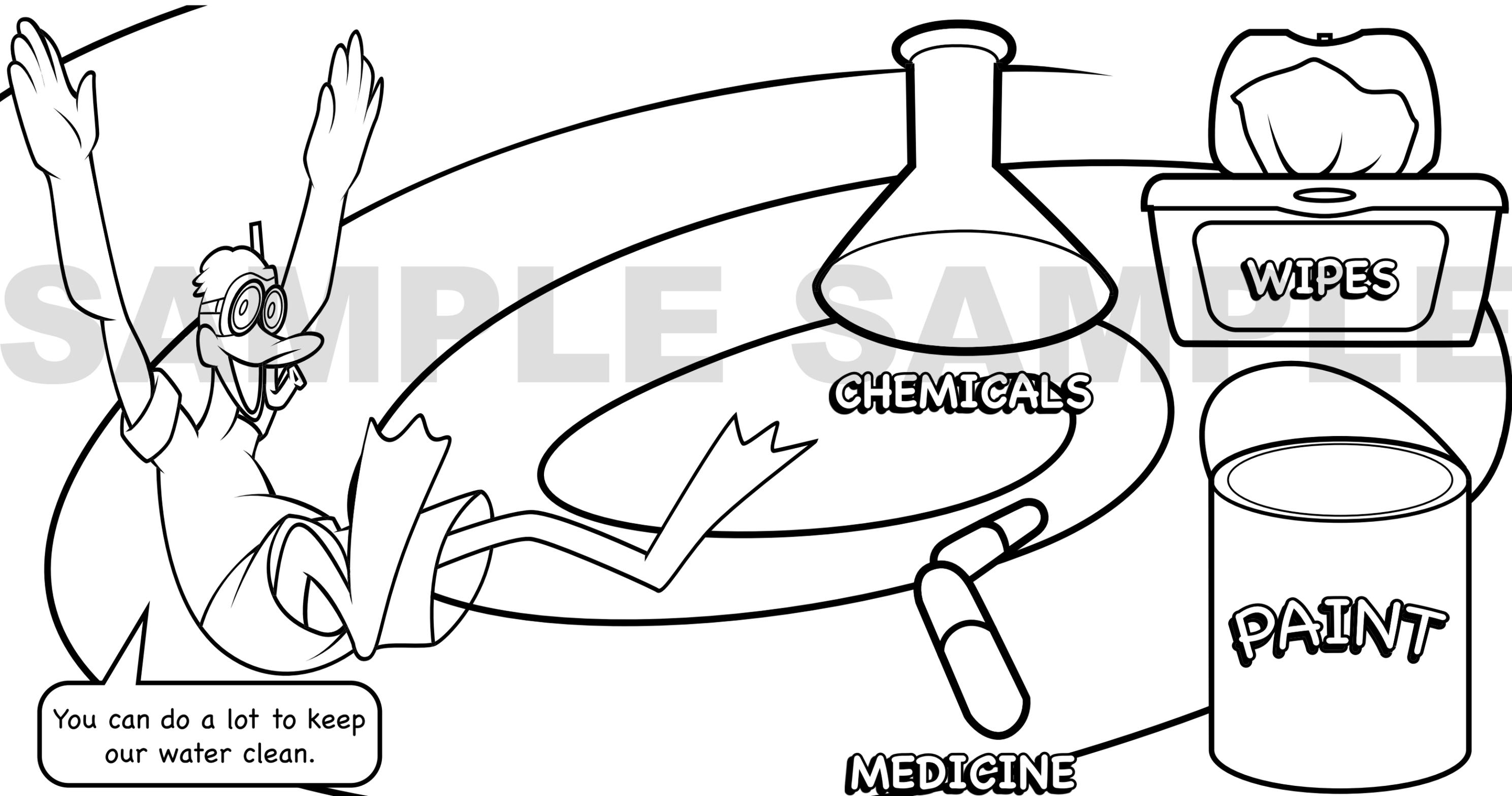


Connect the dots to see an animal that lives in clean water.



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

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

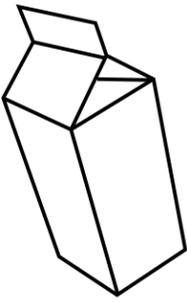


You can do a lot to keep our water clean.

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



COOKING OIL



MILK AND CREAM



MAYONNAISE



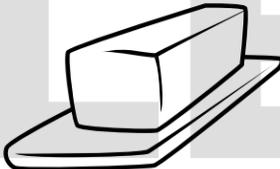
SALAD DRESSING



GRAVY



PEANUT BUTTER



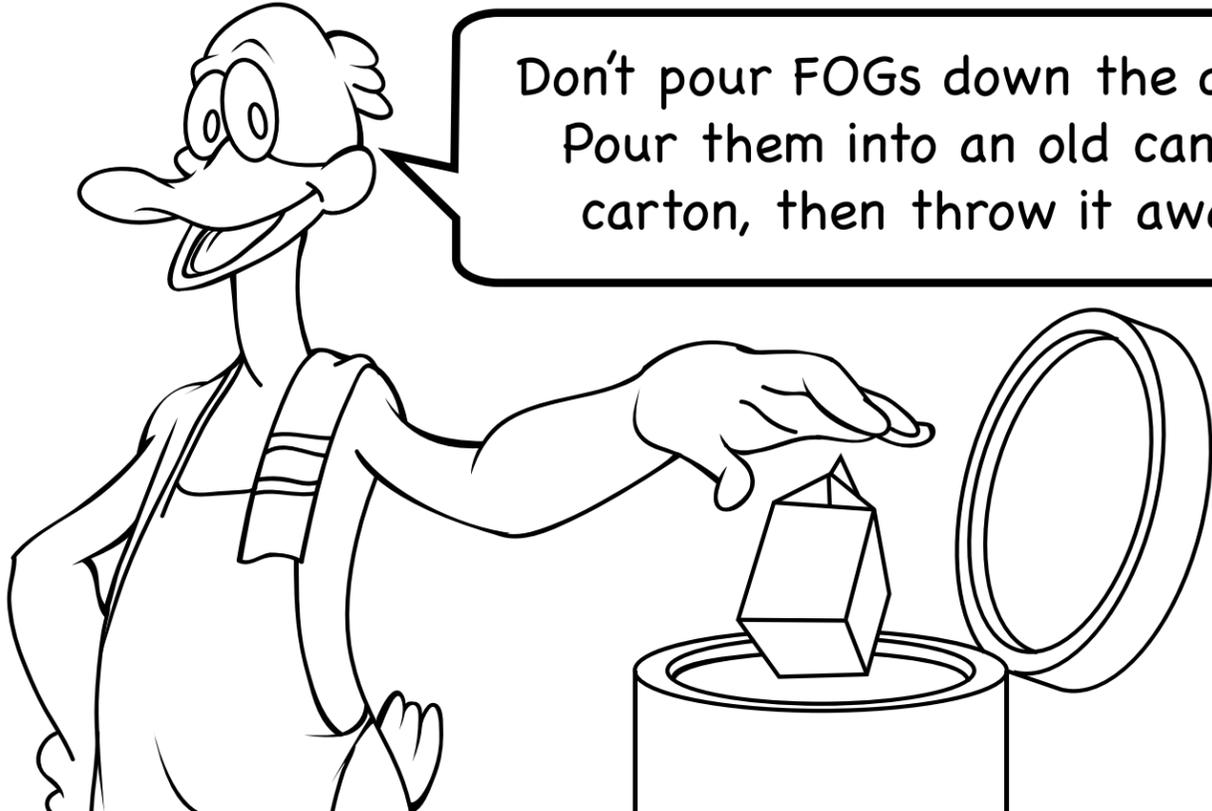
BUTTER

FOGs also cause dirty water to overflow into our streets and waterways.



Can you find all eight FOGs in the kitchen?

Don't pour FOGs down the drain! Pour them into an old can or carton, then throw it away.



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



Time how long it takes to shower, and then try to beat your record!



Turn off the faucet when you brush your teeth.



Find a way to use old water, instead of pouring it down the drain.





## For Parents & Guardians

Here are some simple questions and answers to help you talk to your child about wastewater.

**What do you call water that goes down the drain or into the sewer?**

Answer: Wastewater.

**What happens to wastewater after it goes down the drain?**

Answer: Wastewater travels through underground pipes to the wastewater treatment plant, where it gets cleaned.

**What are some things you shouldn't flush or pour down the drain?**

- Chemicals
- Cooking oil
- Gravy
- Medicine
- Mayonnaise
- Peanut butter
- Paint
- Salad dressing
- Wipes

**Why is it important to save water?**

Answer: Because when you save water, there's less water to clean.

**What are some ways you can save water?**

- Take a shorter shower
- Turn off the faucet when you brush your teeth
- Reuse water instead of pouring it down the drain



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