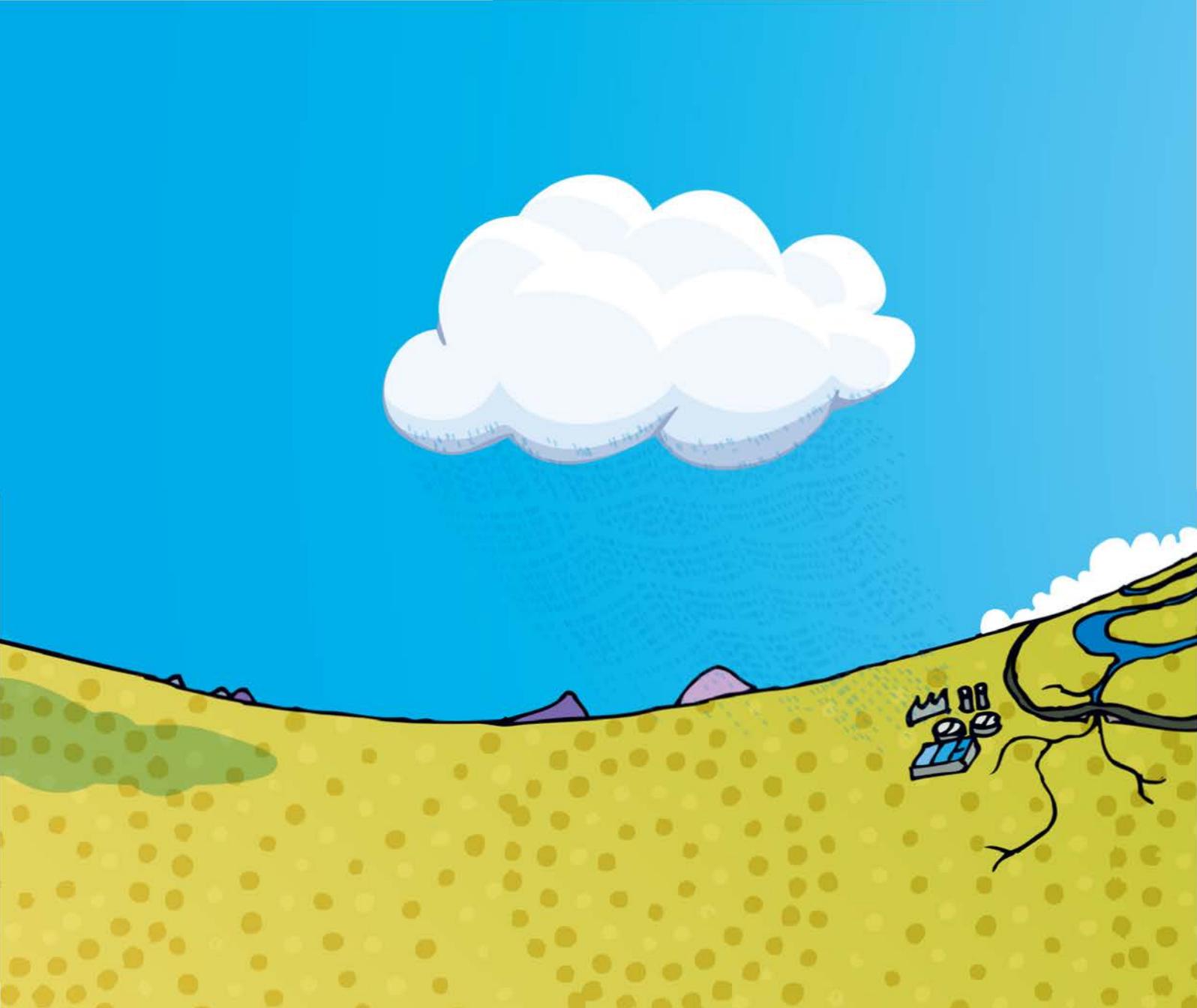




Whizzy's new adventures

Journey through the pipes



About this book

This book complements the Whizzy's Incredible Journeys - Pick-a-Path book which takes Whizzy on different make believe journeys to show what happens as water travels through the water cycle.

Whizzy's New Adventures – Journey Down the Pipes is a fictional story narrated by Aunty Merle in which Whizzy helps to explain how water is treated through various processes as it travels to the home and then returns back to the environment. It consists of two journeys:

Adventure 1 – Whizzy's Journey to the Tap follows Whizzy throughout the water treatment process to get safe clean drinking water to your tap.

Adventure 2 – Whizzy's Journey from the Loo shows Whizzy interacting with the sewer network and explaining the water cleaning processes that take place once wastewater is flushed down the pipes and finally released as clean water back into the environment.

Whizzy's New Adventures - Journey Through the Pipes is a teaching resource that will help students explore and understand:

- the processes involved in providing clean drinking water
- what happens to wastewater once it goes down the toilet or sink
- what not to put down the pipes.

This is a make-believe story using rhyme. Whilst principally aimed at preparatory to year 3 students, it can also be used for upper primary students to teach scientific concepts relating to water treatment.



Australian Government

waterwise
Queensland

This book was developed by the Queensland Government under an Australia Government funded project to support the education of communities in north Queensland about sustainable water use practices.

Adventure 1

Whizzy's journey to the tap



Whizzy's New Adventures - Journey Through the Pipes

Written by Kim Brown

Illustrated by Harry Buckingham



Acknowledgement

The background pattern throughout the book has been adapted from original artwork by Aboriginal artist Maurice Gibson.



Aunty Merle smiled broadly as the children sat down,
"What a great place for learning," she said looking 'round.

"Let's have a yarn about a precious old friend,
Who journeys around never reaching an end.

Always quenching our thirst, or splashing in fun,
Or cooking and cleaning and getting work done.

Our friend even helps with flushing the loo,
Always happy helping, can you guess who?



*Whizzy comes through our taps always fresh, safe and clean.
Do you know about Whizzy's journey? Just where has Whizzy been?*

*Let me tell you about the fun Whizzy has each day,
From the cloud to our tap getting clean on the way.*

*Whizzy loves raining down to our catchment zone,
Then tumbles to the rivers and dams to roam.*

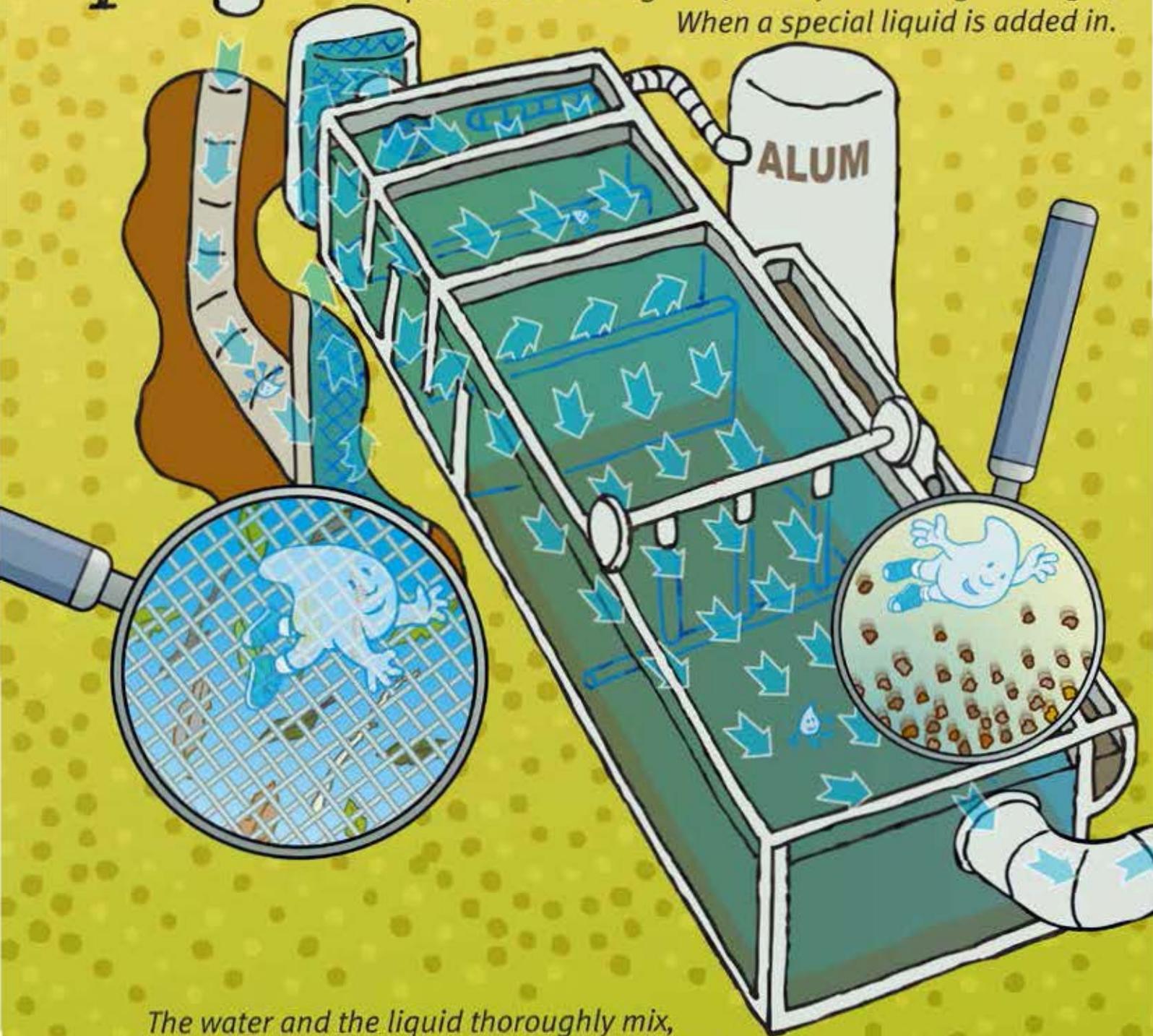
*If Whizzy takes a rest while floating around,
You can bet there's a shock on being piped underground.*



*Into the water treatment plant Whizzy goes,
And through all the cleaning processes Whizzy flows.*

*Swirling so quickly, past the filtering gate,
Leaving the twigs, bags and bottles, Whizzy won't wait.*

*Piped into the mixing area, Whizzy's cleaning can begin,
When a special liquid is added in.*



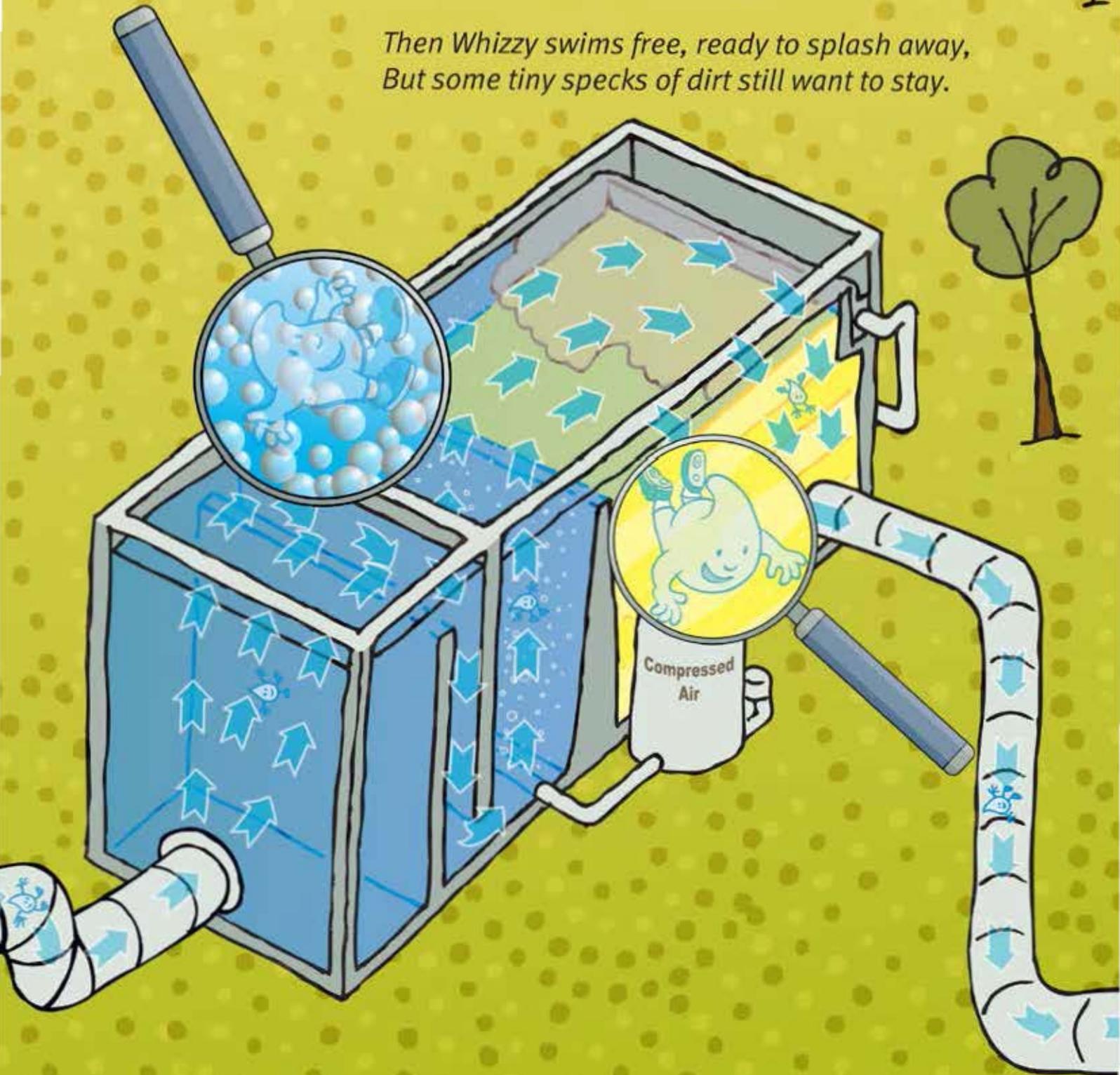
*The water and the liquid thoroughly mix,
Then ever so slowly, it helps the mud and dirt stick.*

*Looking closely, you'll see little clumps form,
Tiny, dirt clusters are being born.*

Whizzy continues through the cleaning routine,
Flowing into the settling tank, trying to get clean.

The dirt clusters gather and settle down.
And the floc, as we call them, sink to the ground.

Then Whizzy swims free, ready to splash away,
But some tiny specks of dirt still want to stay.

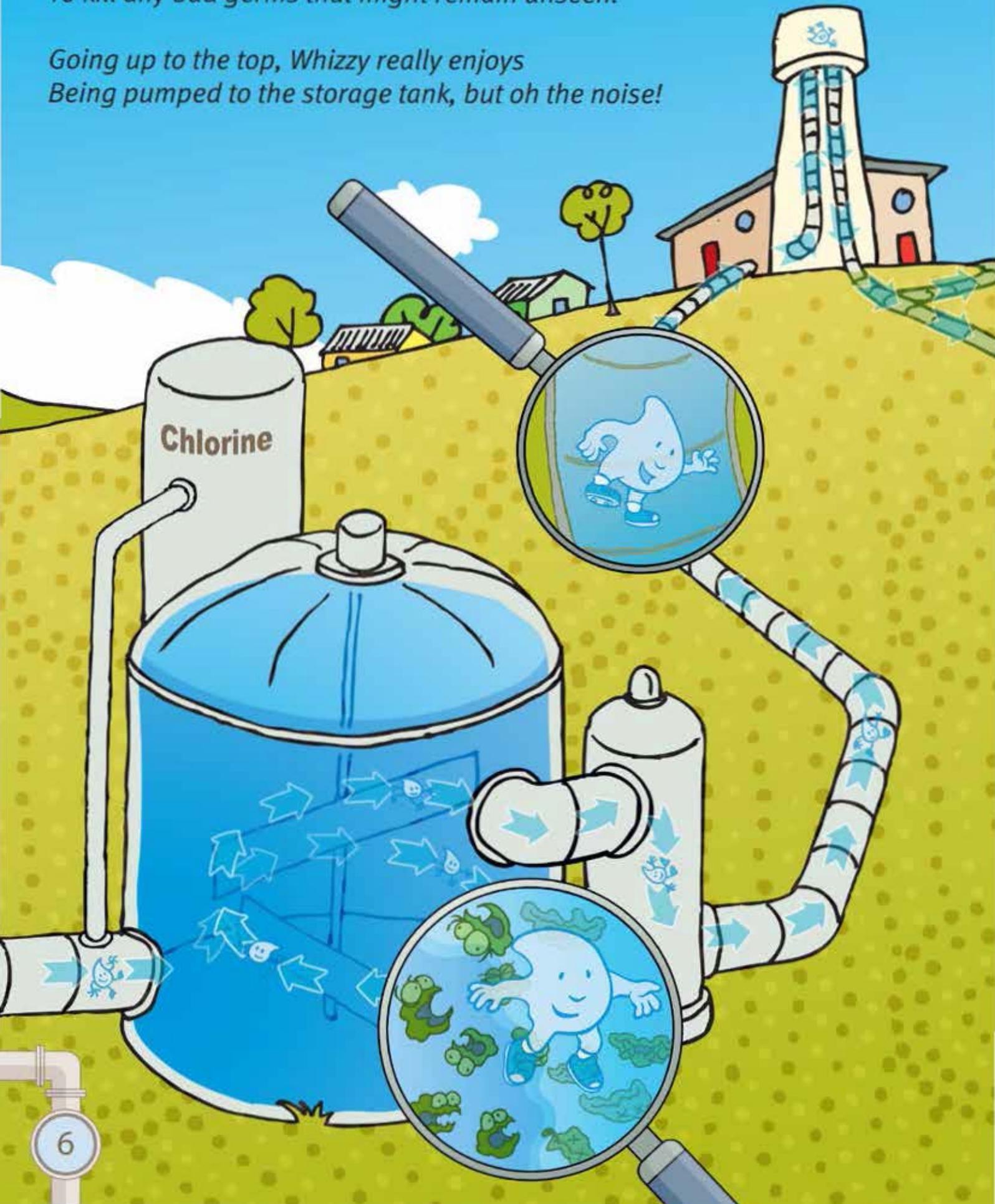


So Whizzy keeps moving to the filtering phase,
And squeezes through sand, with not even a graze.

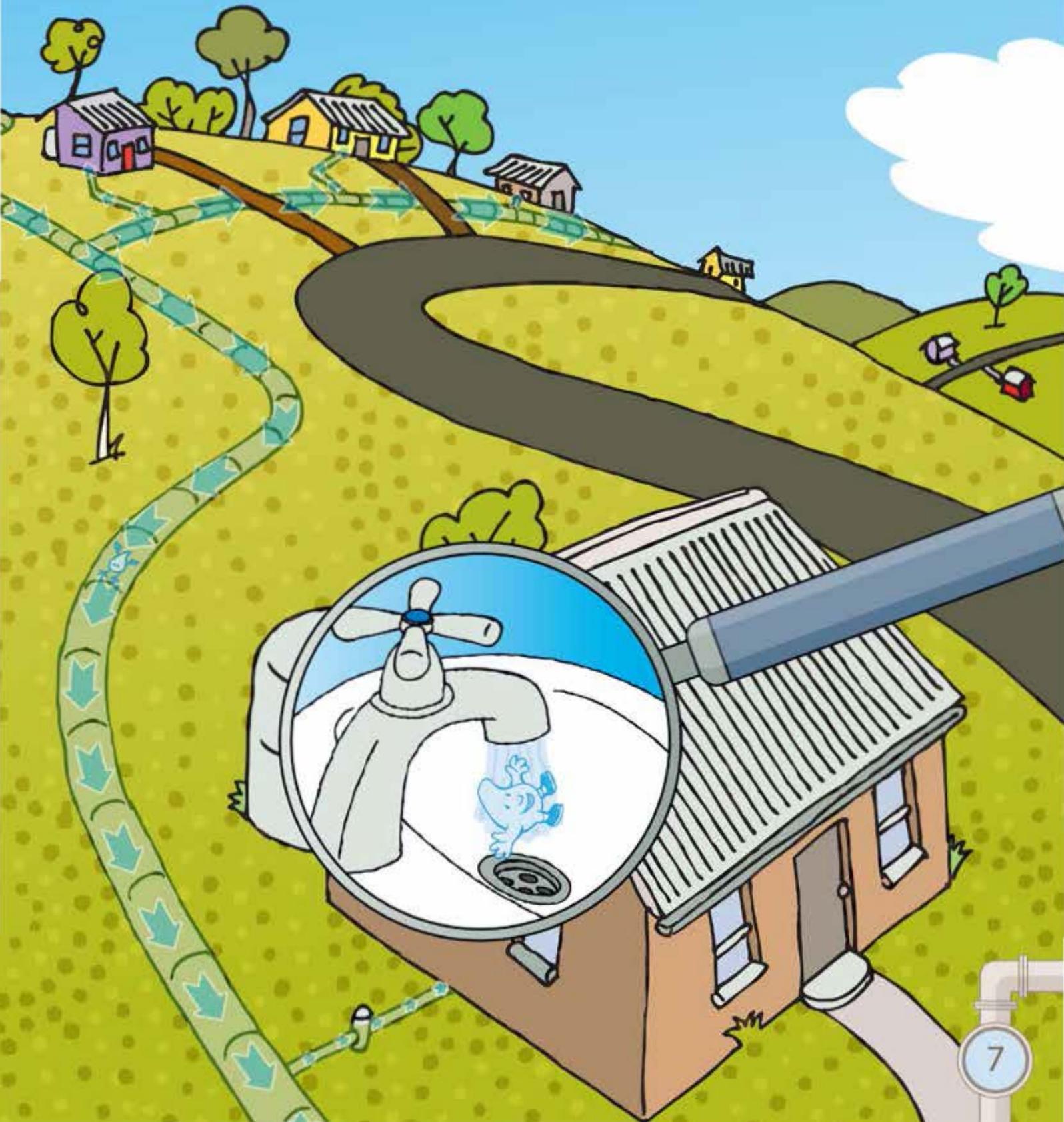
The water is glistening now the dirt is all gone,
Then Whizzy heads to the pipes, ready to roll on.

Into the water goes the disinfectant, chlorine,
To kill any bad germs that might remain unseen.

Going up to the top, Whizzy really enjoys
Being pumped to the storage tank, but oh the noise!



*Whizzy's then pushed down through the pipes underground,
That bring the water to our home through the taps all around.*



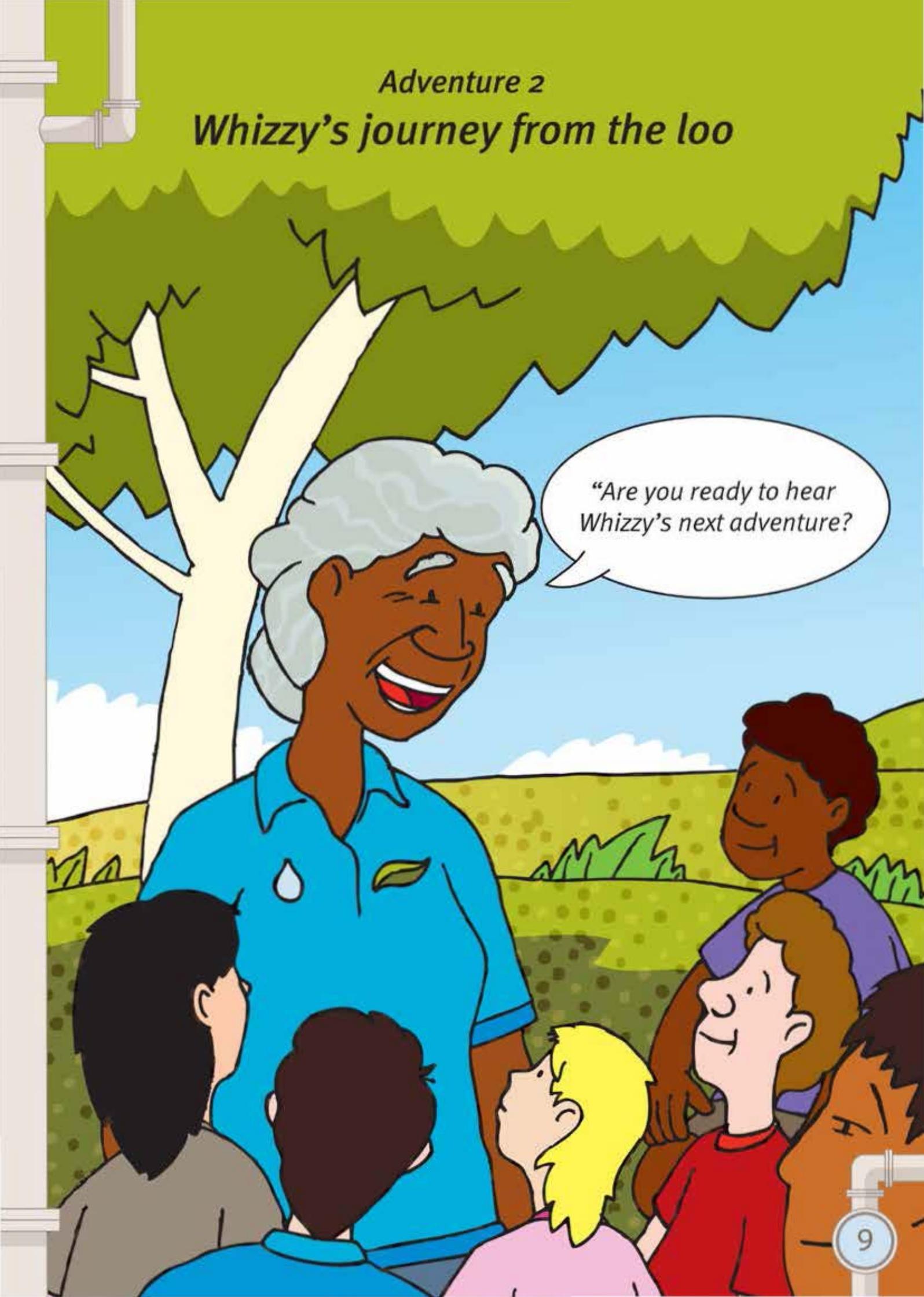
*Now you know how our water
comes in clean all day.*

*For us to use and enjoy
in a waterwise way.”*



Adventure 2

Whizzy's journey from the loo



“Are you ready to hear Whizzy’s next adventure?”

*The family gathered in the bathroom at the end of the day,
Flushing and swirling and gurgling away.*

*All the wastewater was leaving by the usual path,
down the toilet and sink and the drain in the bath.*

*Can you see Whizzy the waterdrop in there too,
Floating in the bowl, 'til someone flushes the loo?*



*But then an alarm rang out interrupting their night.
They ran out into the street, to an unusual sight.*

*Around the corner they heard car tyres roar,
Operator Bill had to attend once more.*

*It was the Wastewater Treatment Plant at the end of the road,
Something was wrong, was there an overload?*



Bill zoomed through the gates and ran up the steps,
Looking for the cause, to the control room he leapt.

He identified the problem; he was smart that's for sure.
He knew what to do; he'd fixed this before!



*He ran over and lifted the lid on the screens,
The people's rubbish was stopping the water getting cleaned.*

*He called to the neighbours, 'You need to TAKE CARE
What you wash down your drains is ending up here!'*

*It's caused a blockage, that I've had to clean out,
Please change your ways, this problem we could all do without!'*



*The adults shook their head, it couldn't be their fault,
They didn't flush anything that would cause this result.*

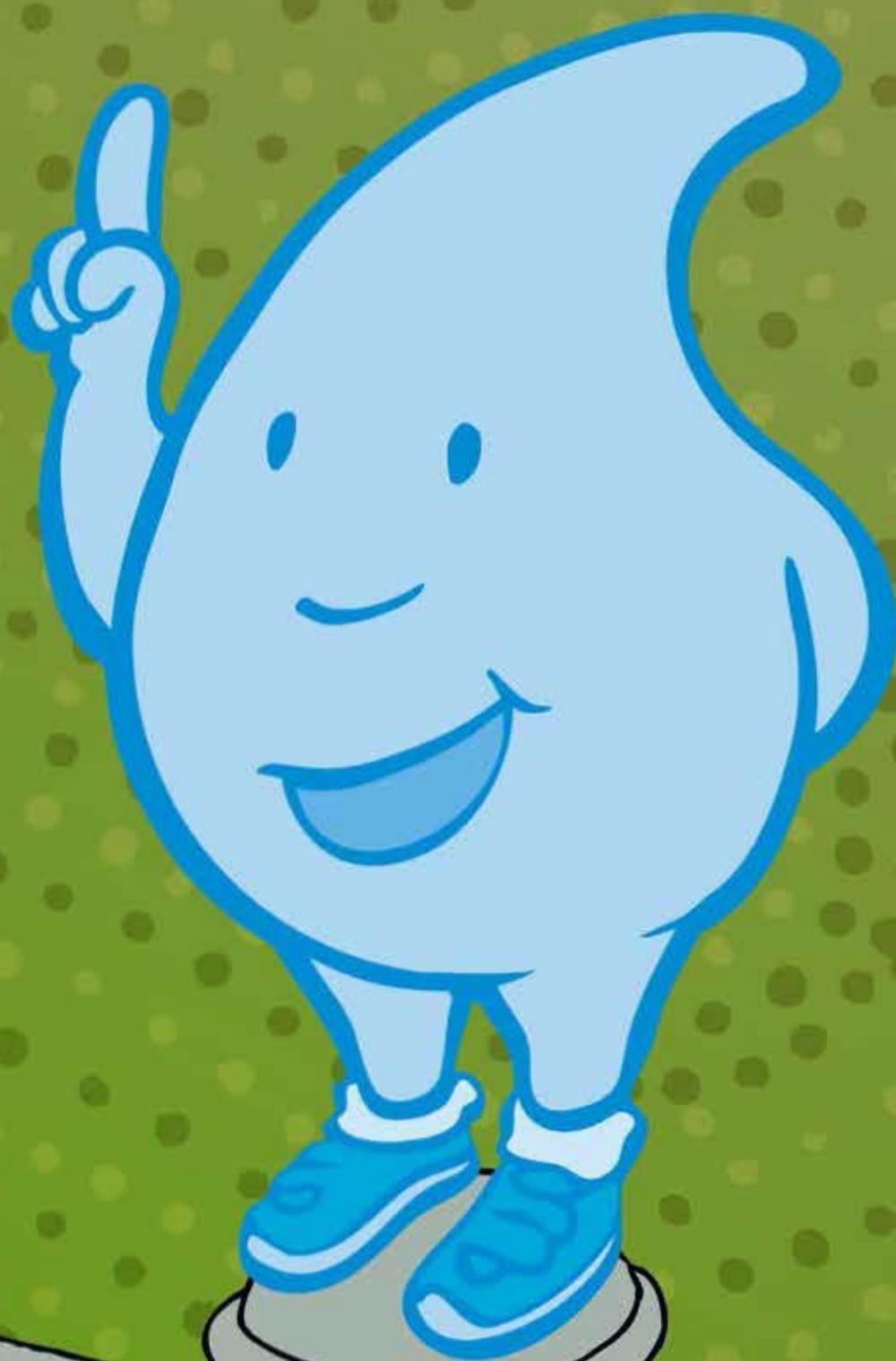
*The kids were confused about just what he said,
Down the pipes? The treatment plant? It was hurting their heads.*



*Then Whizzy called out, 'I know how to explain,
All about wastewater and what happens down the drain.'*

*I'll teach you about wastewater that leaves your home,
How it is cleaned and released back to the waterways to roam!*

So Whizzy explained as they walked home ...



*'You might laugh at this tale and just think it's so funny
To talk about things that go down the sink, drain and dunny.*

*Last week I was floating in the toilet bowl,
Then you flushed, and I was washed down through the hole.*

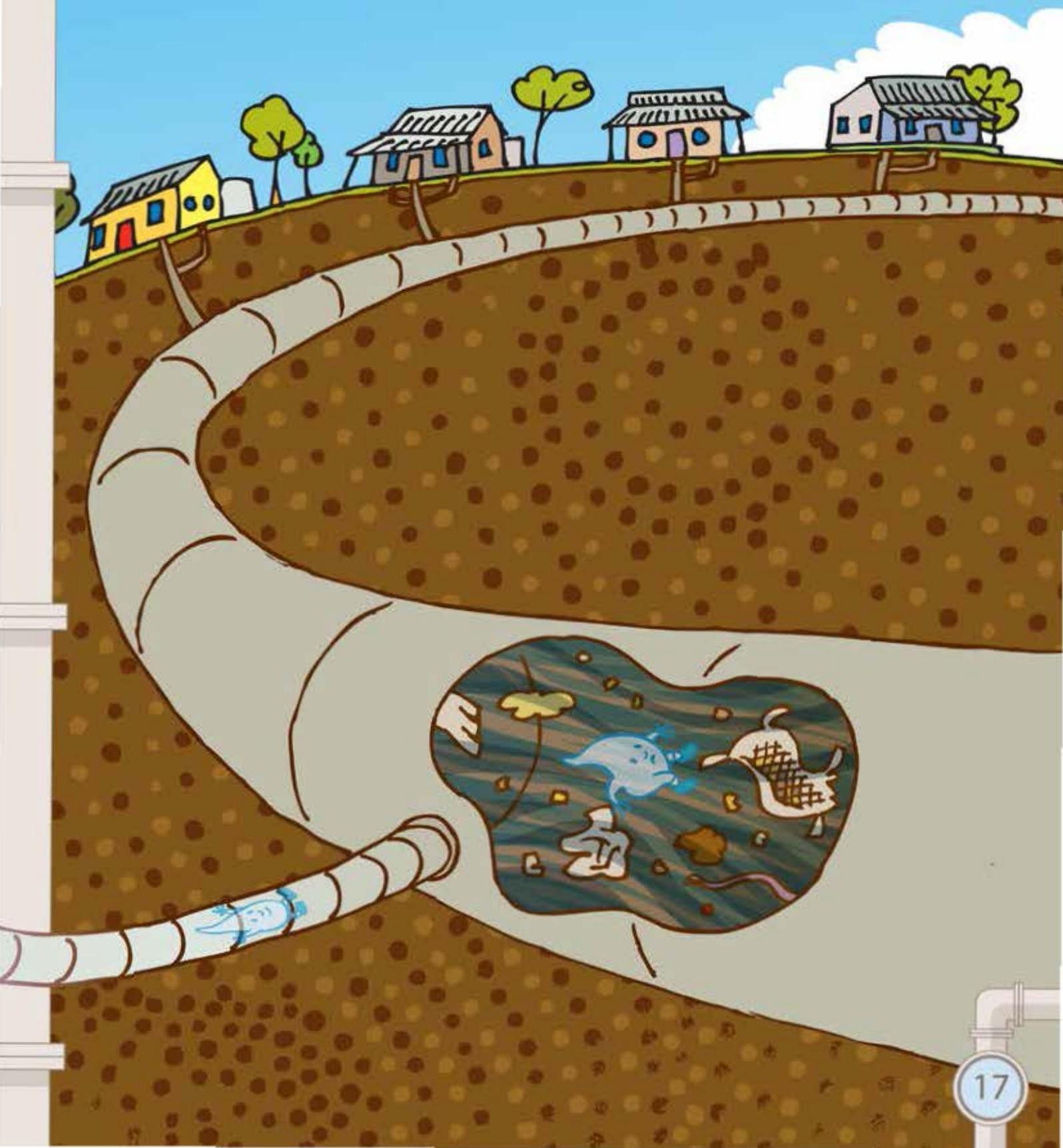
*I swirled through the pipes down under the house.
They were dirty and brown, from directing wastewater out.*



*But down under the streets as I rushed through,
There was something alarming and it wasn't the poo.*

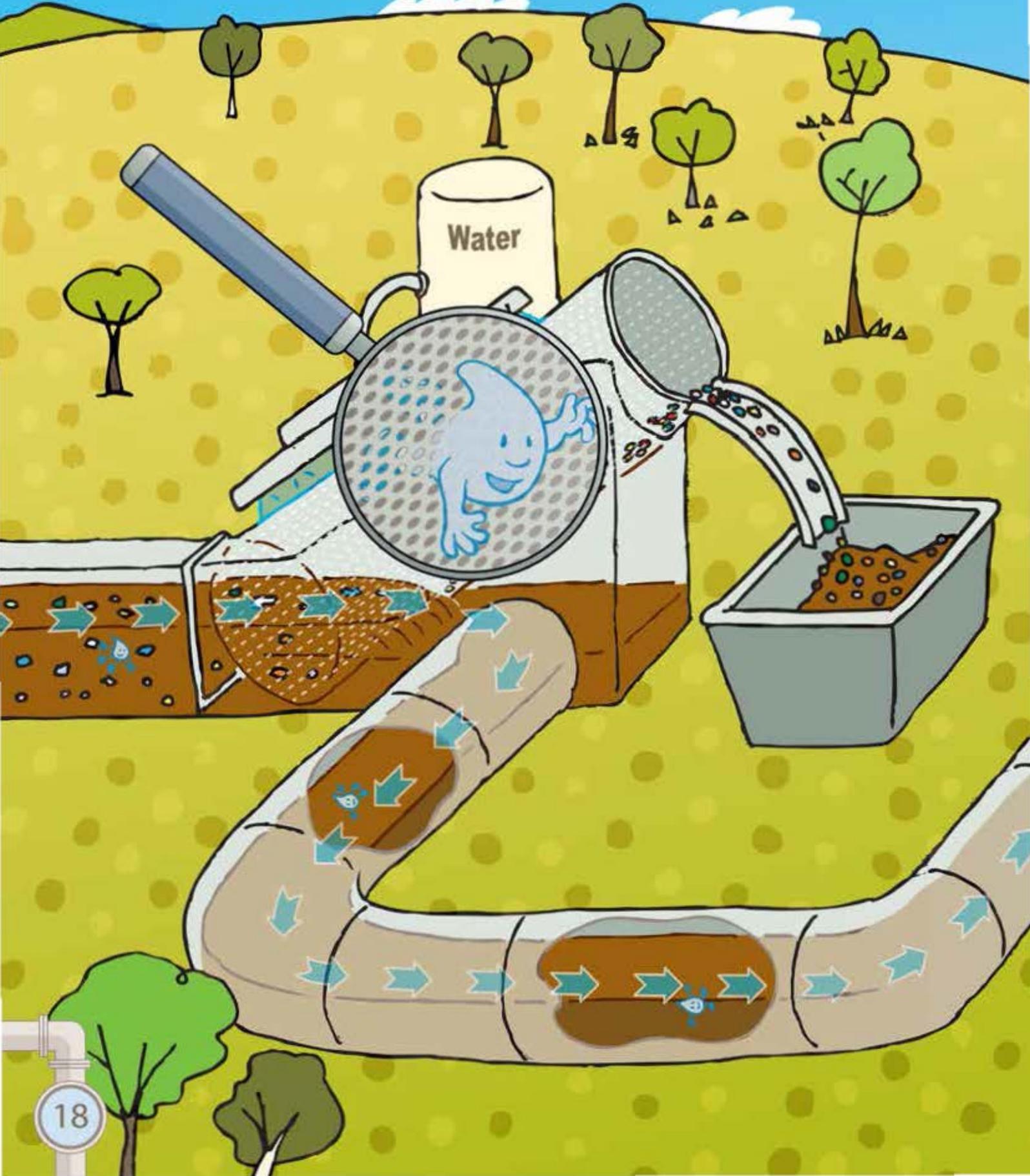
*The pipes were worse than a rubbish bin,
All sorts of harmful things had been flushed in.*

*Then I noticed the huge pipes were about to end,
As the wastewater cleaning plant was around the bend.*



At the screens I was paused, by a cotton bud stick,
I knew a little water drop would go through quick!

But there were so many bits that didn't break down,
Coming from the toilets and drains across town.



Carried along with the sludge, I washed on past,
To a tank that was swirling and bubbling up fast.

I wiggled and giggled, being toppled around,
Then I noticed the waste was slowly breaking down.

But then I understood what was going on here,
With these good little germs, the waste would soon disappear.

The wastewater kept moving, to finish the routine
To be released to the river I had to be clean.

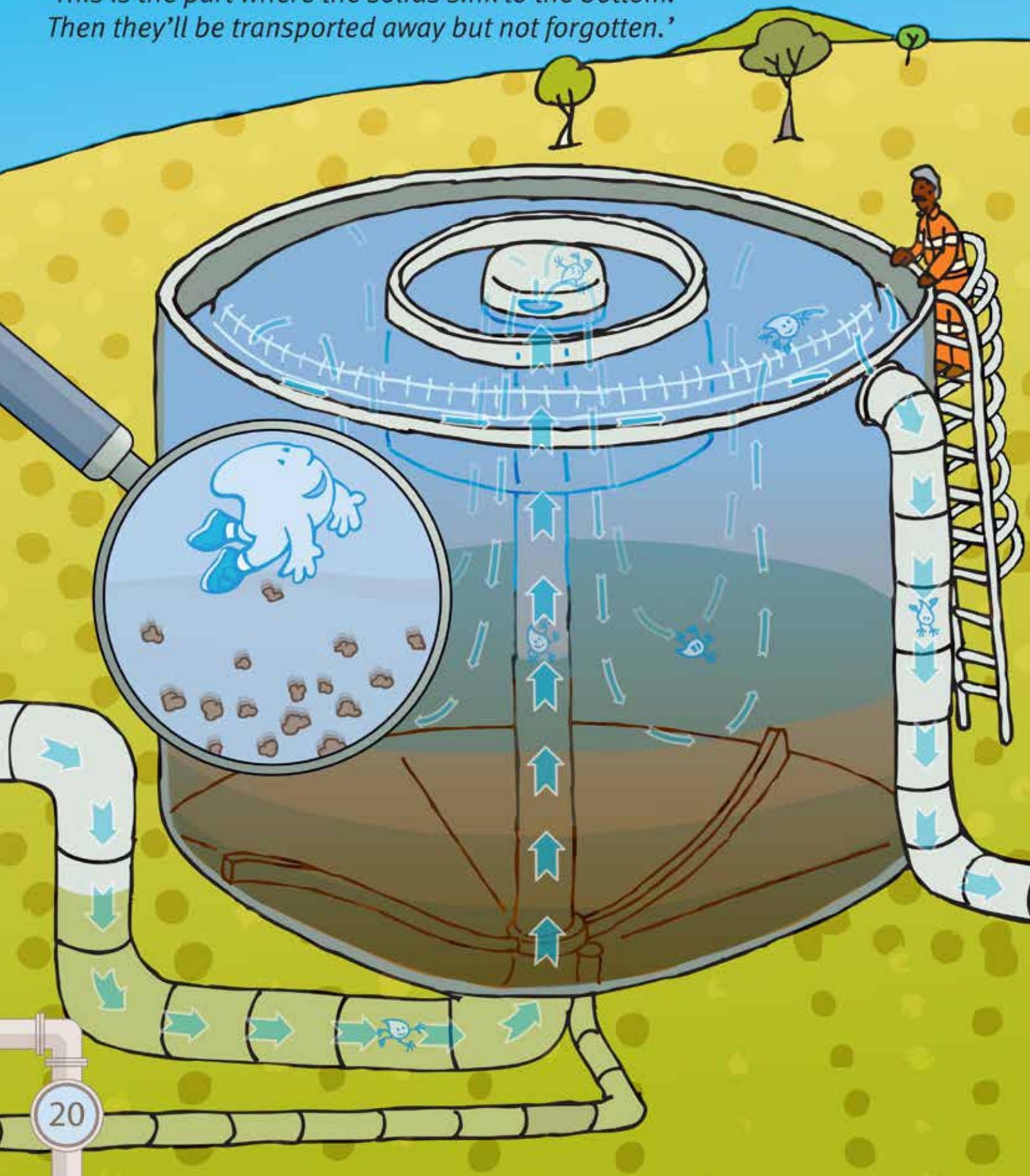


'Very tiny little
super germs
are eating all the
harmful germs.'

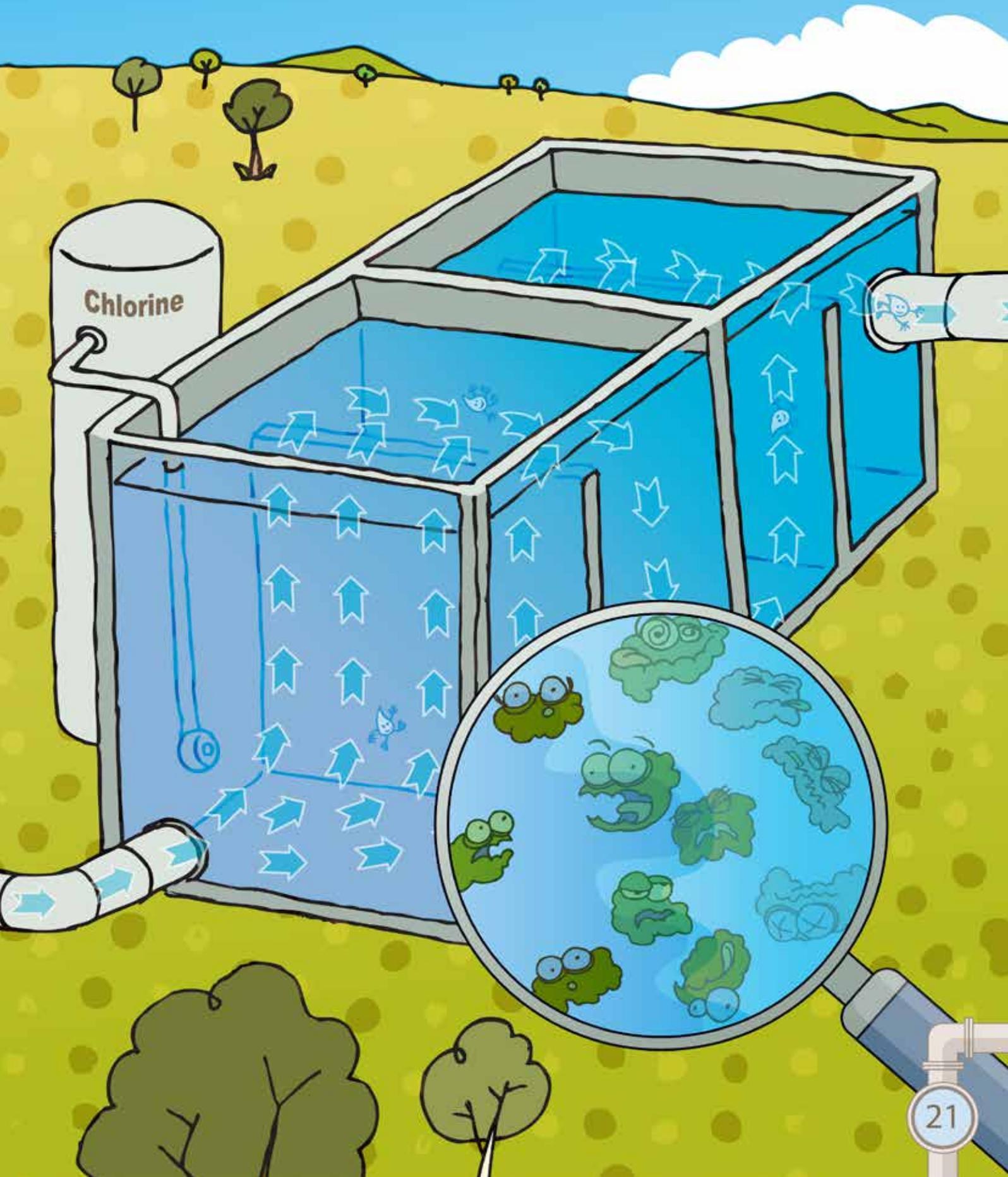
*This next tank was quiet and really still.
As the heavy sludge settled, in looked Operator Bill.*

*I swam to the top where the water was clearer,
'What's happening here?' I called getting nearer.*

*'This is the part where the solids sink to the bottom.
Then they'll be transported away but not forgotten.'*

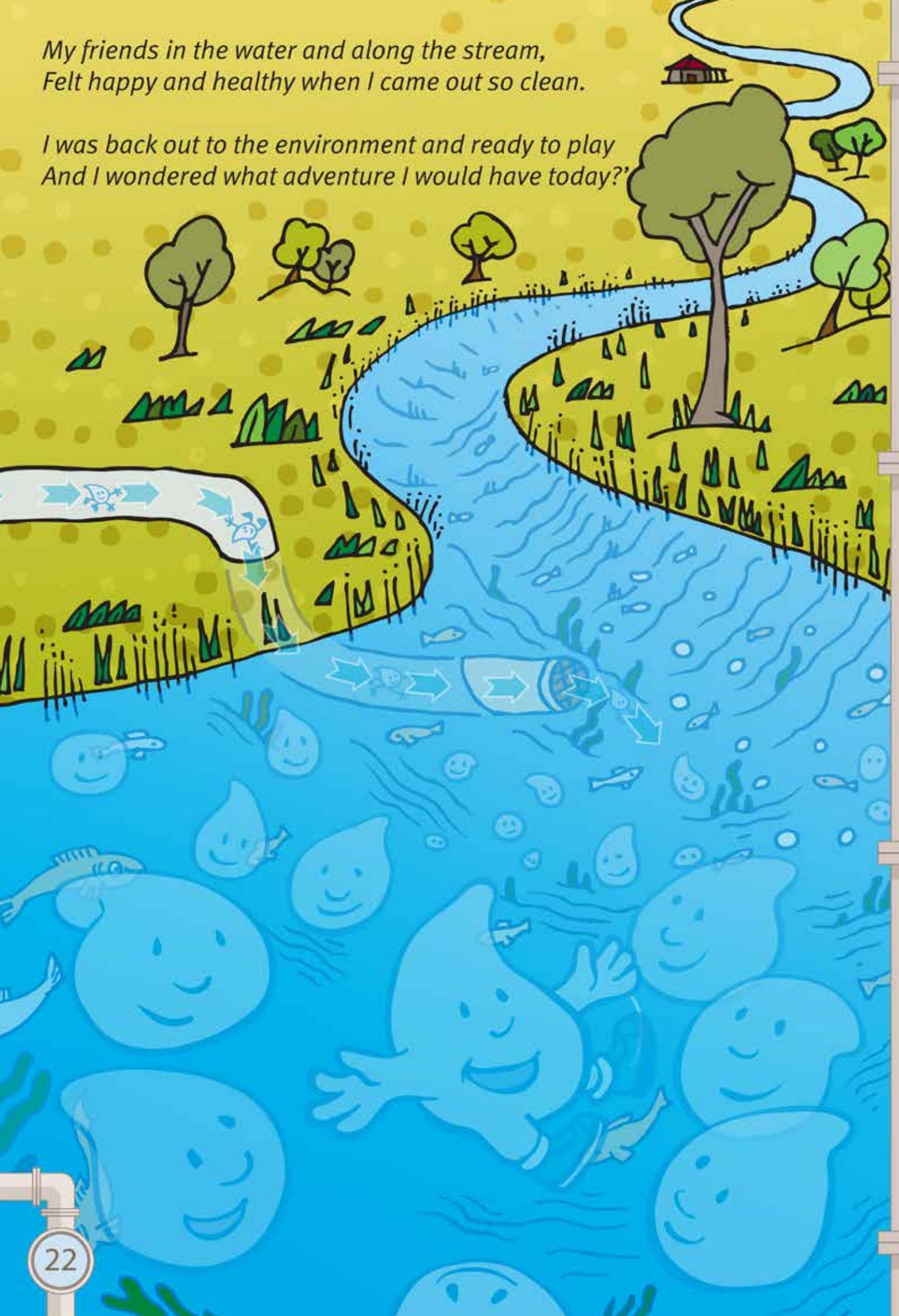


*At last I was much cleaner and ready to flow,
Just a wash with disinfectant, and I was allowed to go.*



*My friends in the water and along the stream,
Felt happy and healthy when I came out so clean.*

*I was back out to the environment and ready to play
And I wondered what adventure I would have today?'*

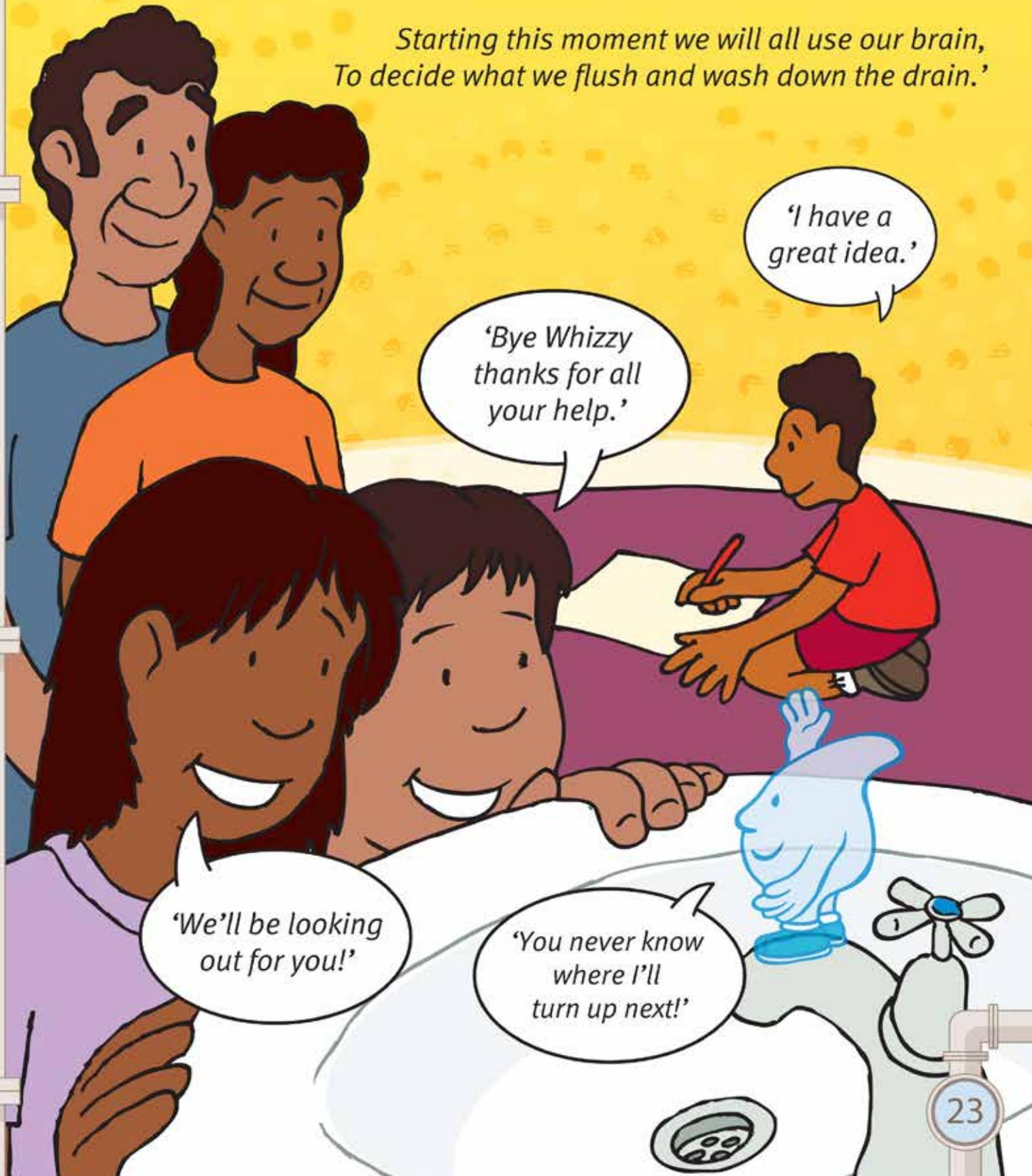


*So the children thanked Whizzy, for all that was taught,
For they all loved Whizzy, and the help Whizzy brought.*

*'We'll always remember this story Whizzy's told.
Water is precious and there is much work involved.*

*To take all this wastewater that washes away,
Then clean it and return it to the waterway.*

*Starting this moment we will all use our brain,
To decide what we flush and wash down the drain.'*



*'I have a
great idea.'*

*'Bye Whizzy
thanks for all
your help.'*

*'We'll be looking
out for you!'*

*'You never know
where I'll
turn up next!'*

USE YOUR BRAIN!

SHOULD IT

GO DOWN
THE DRAIN?



"Be thankful each day for clean water from your tap."

And be responsible with what you wash and flush back."