

# MANDY THE SALAMANDER





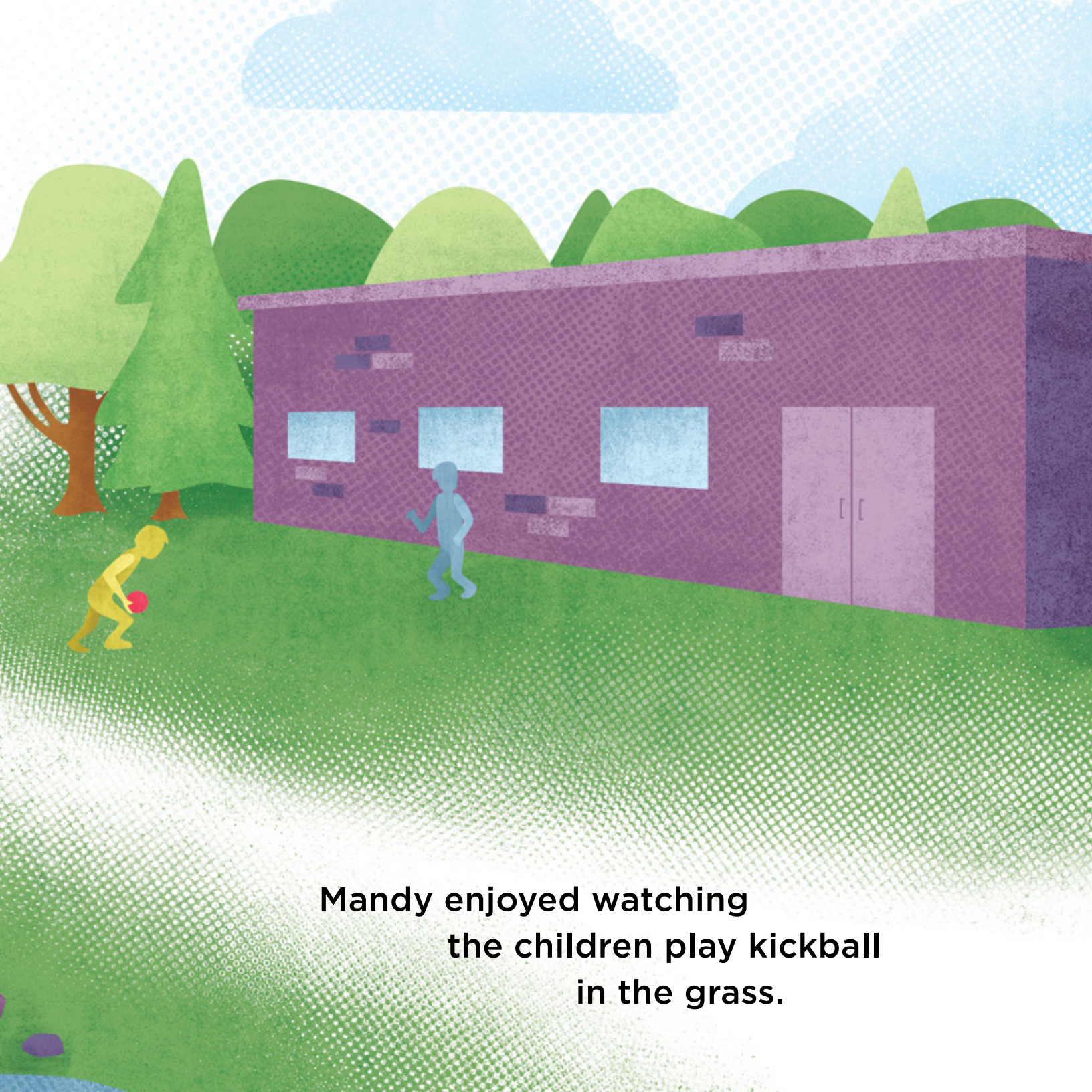


**msd**

Safe, clean waterways®

Once upon a time  
near a stream by a schoolyard,  
there was a tiny salamander named Mandy.

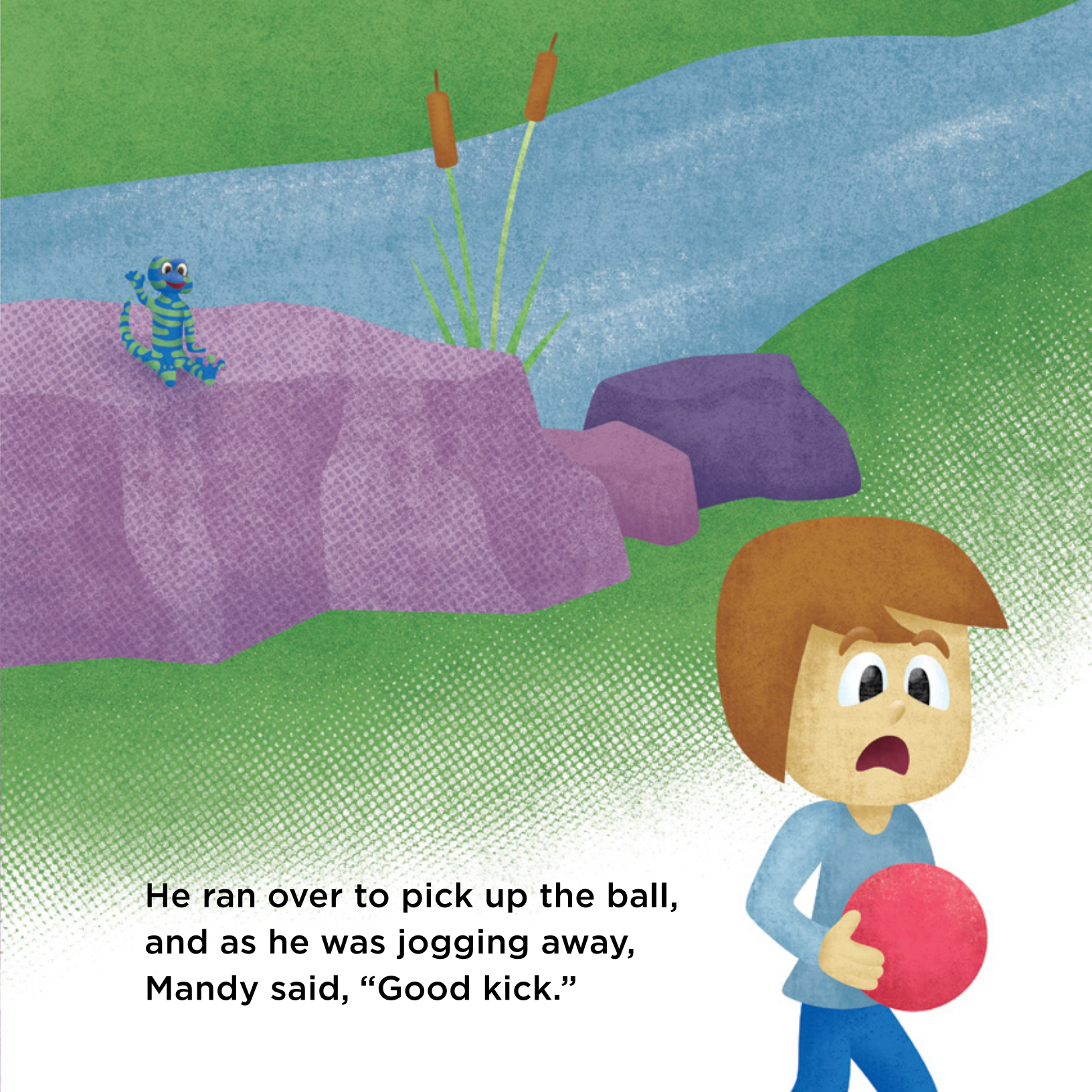




**Mandy enjoyed watching  
the children play kickball  
in the grass.**



One day,  
a boy kicked  
a ball over to  
Mandy's rock.



He ran over to pick up the ball,  
and as he was jogging away,  
Mandy said, "Good kick."

The startled boy turned around and asked,  
“Um... Did you just say something?”



“Yes,” she giggled.  
“My name is Mandy, and  
I’m a Tiger Salamander.”





**“Hi Mandy,  
I’m Zack!” he said.**




“I thought salamanders  
only lived in the swamp.”



**“We Tiger Salamanders live in lots of places – like right here in Louisville. We live in the streams as babies, then move to the banks.**





“This is my home stream,  
where I was born.”


“Whoa!” Zack said.  
“Do you like living  
in a stream?”

“When my stream is nice and clean like this, there’s no better place in the world for a salamander like me,” said Mandy.

“Who’s in charge of keeping your stream clean?” asked Zack.

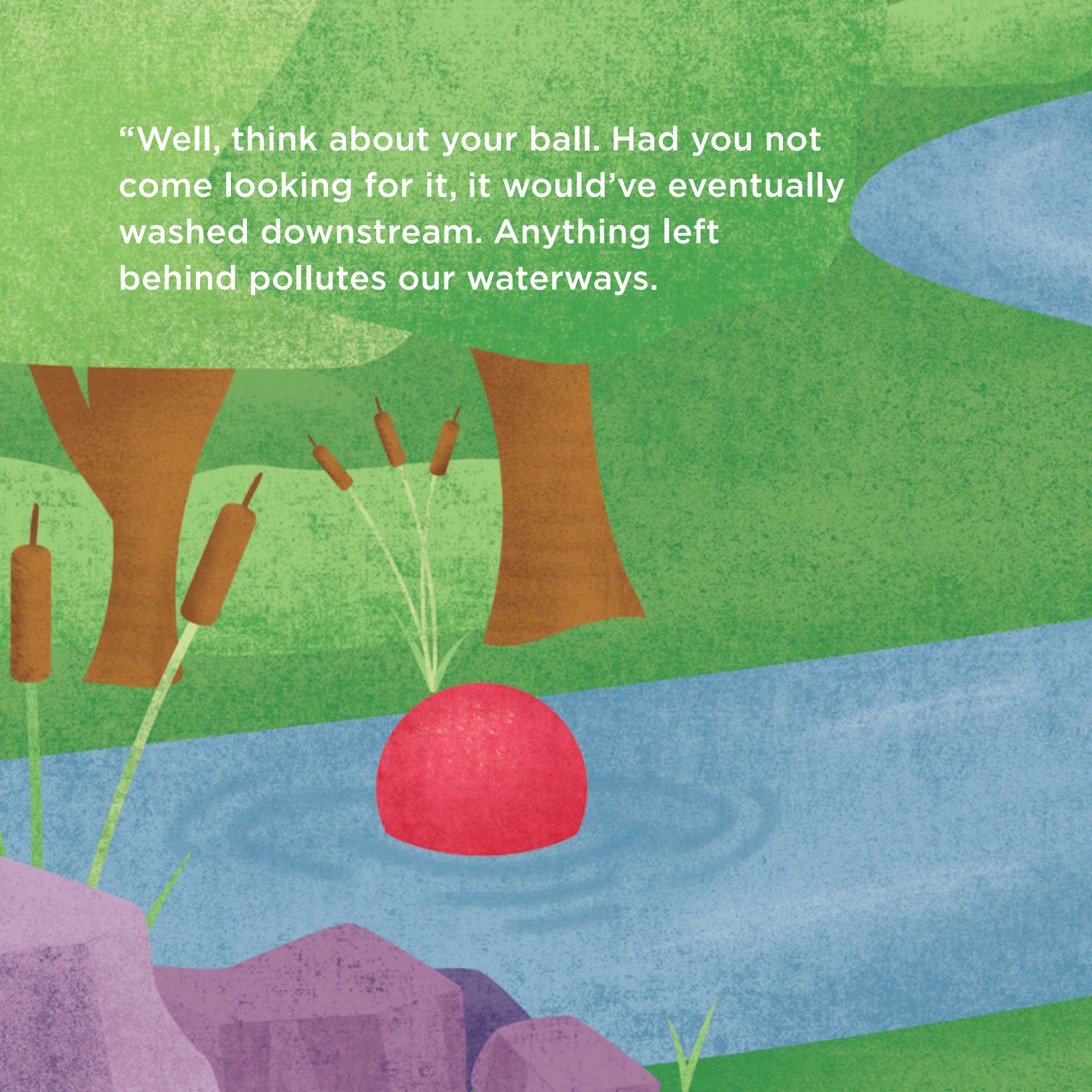
“It takes everyone to help keep streams clean! All the ways we live, play and work affects our waterways,” said Mandy.






“Really? What does me playing  
have to do with your stream?”

“Well, think about your ball. Had you not come looking for it, it would’ve eventually washed downstream. Anything left behind pollutes our waterways.







Even tiny particles you can't see can make a big impact. Those tiny pollution particles are found in things like lawn chemicals, road salt – and even dog poo!”

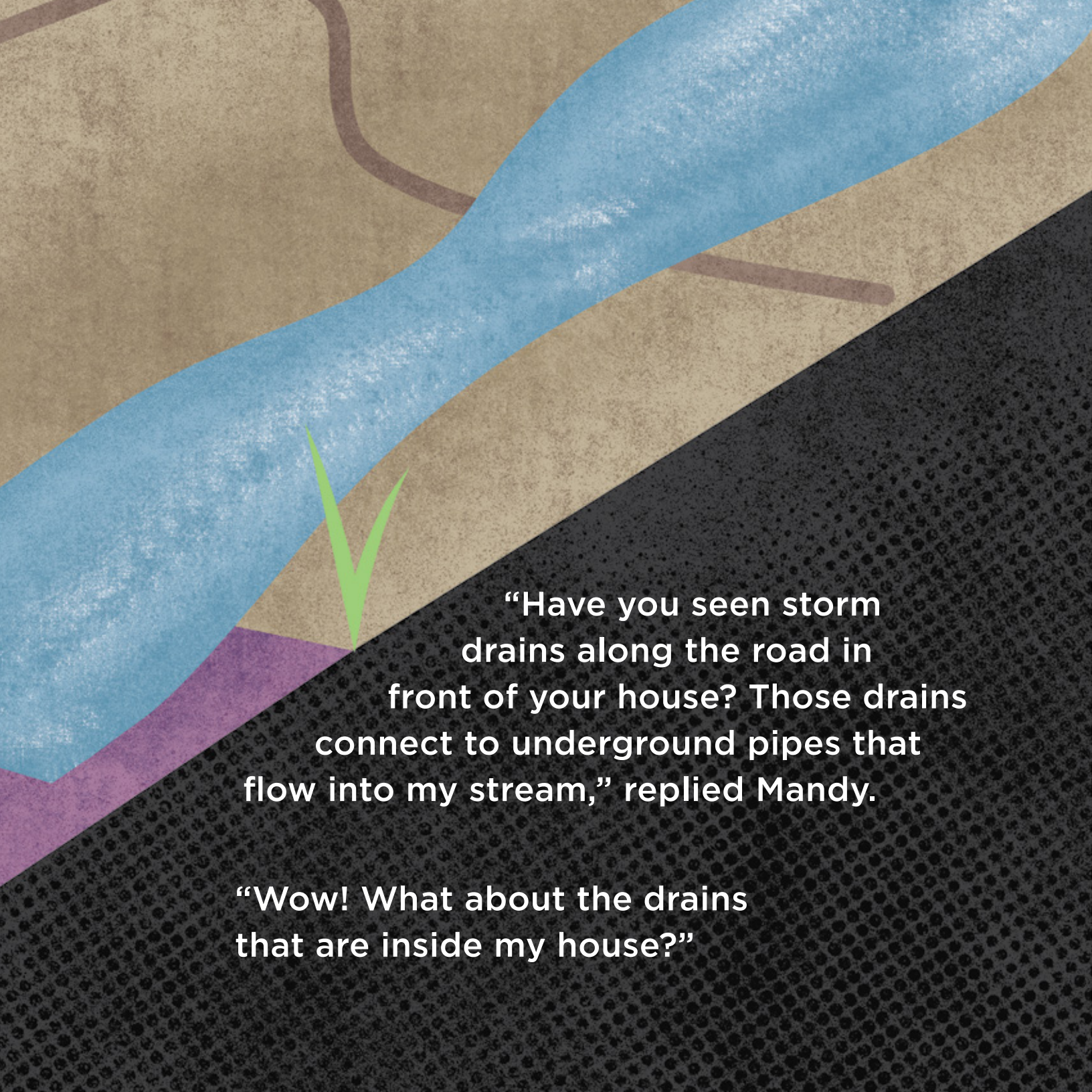
“Dog poo. Eww! That goes into your stream?” asked Zack.

“Think of it this way – every time you pick up after your dog, you are helping make my stream a little safer and cleaner.”

“But my home is  
nowhere near this  
stream,” Zack said.

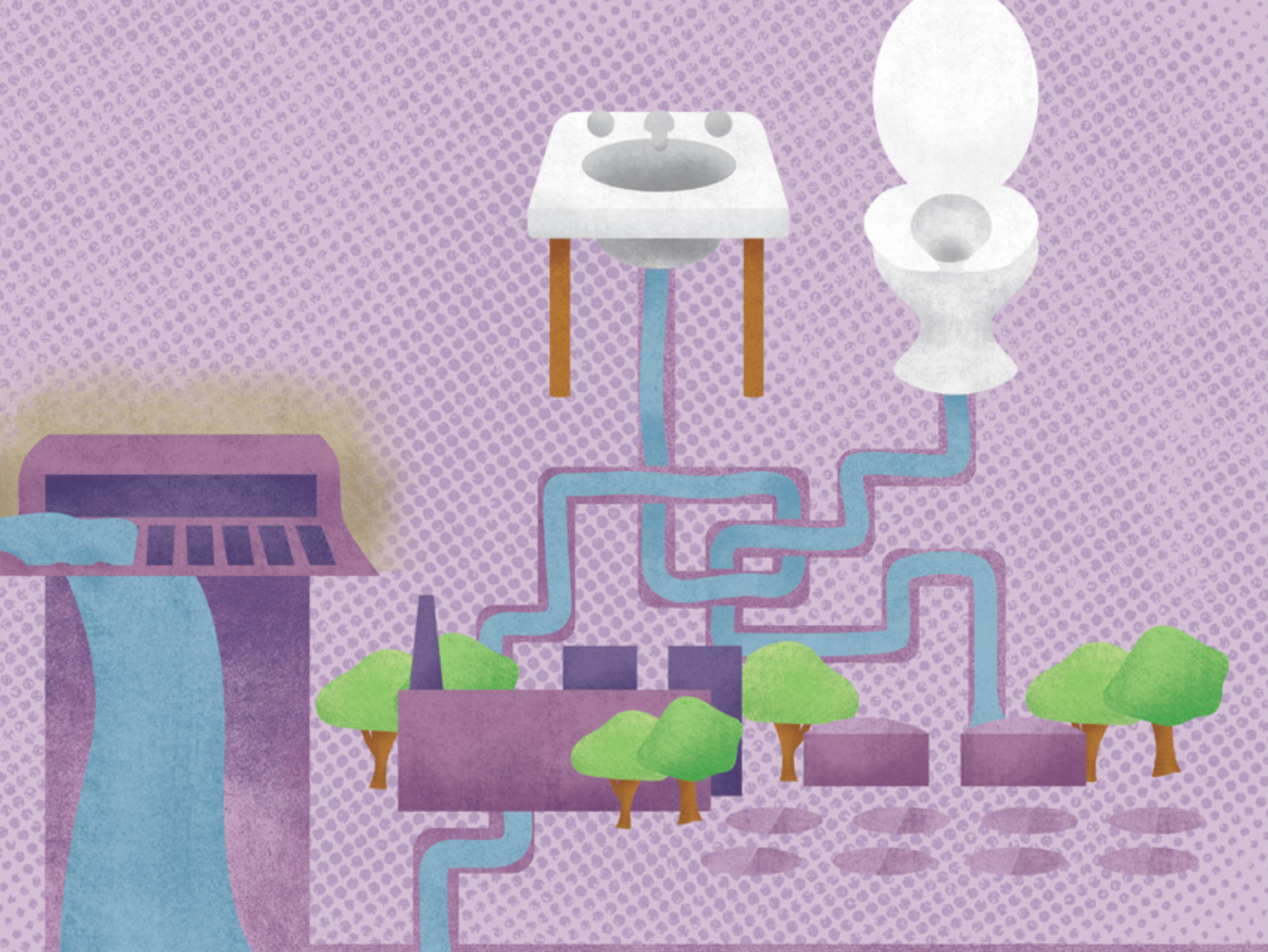
DRAINS TO STREAM



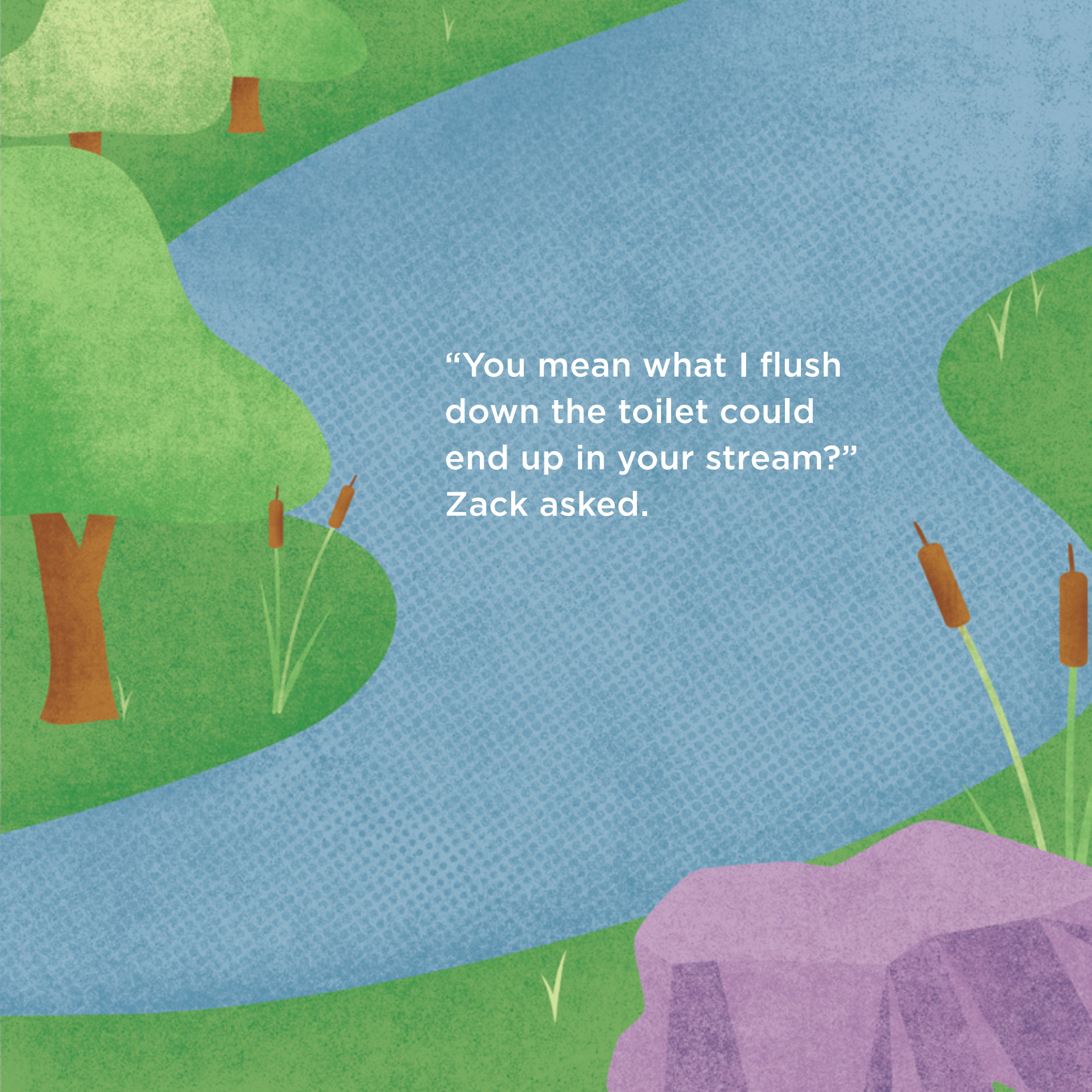


“Have you seen storm drains along the road in front of your house? Those drains connect to underground pipes that flow into my stream,” replied Mandy.


“Wow! What about the drains that are inside my house?”



“Those drains go to Louisville MSD – they have a water quality treatment center upstream. It cleans the water you drain in your sink or flush down your toilet, then returns it to waterways like my stream.”



“You mean what I flush  
down the toilet could  
end up in your stream?”  
Zack asked.



“Not before it’s treated.  
Wastewater from homes and  
schools goes in dirty and  
comes out sparkling clean.”

“Want to help keep  
my stream clean?”







**“Make sure you only flush the three Ps:**



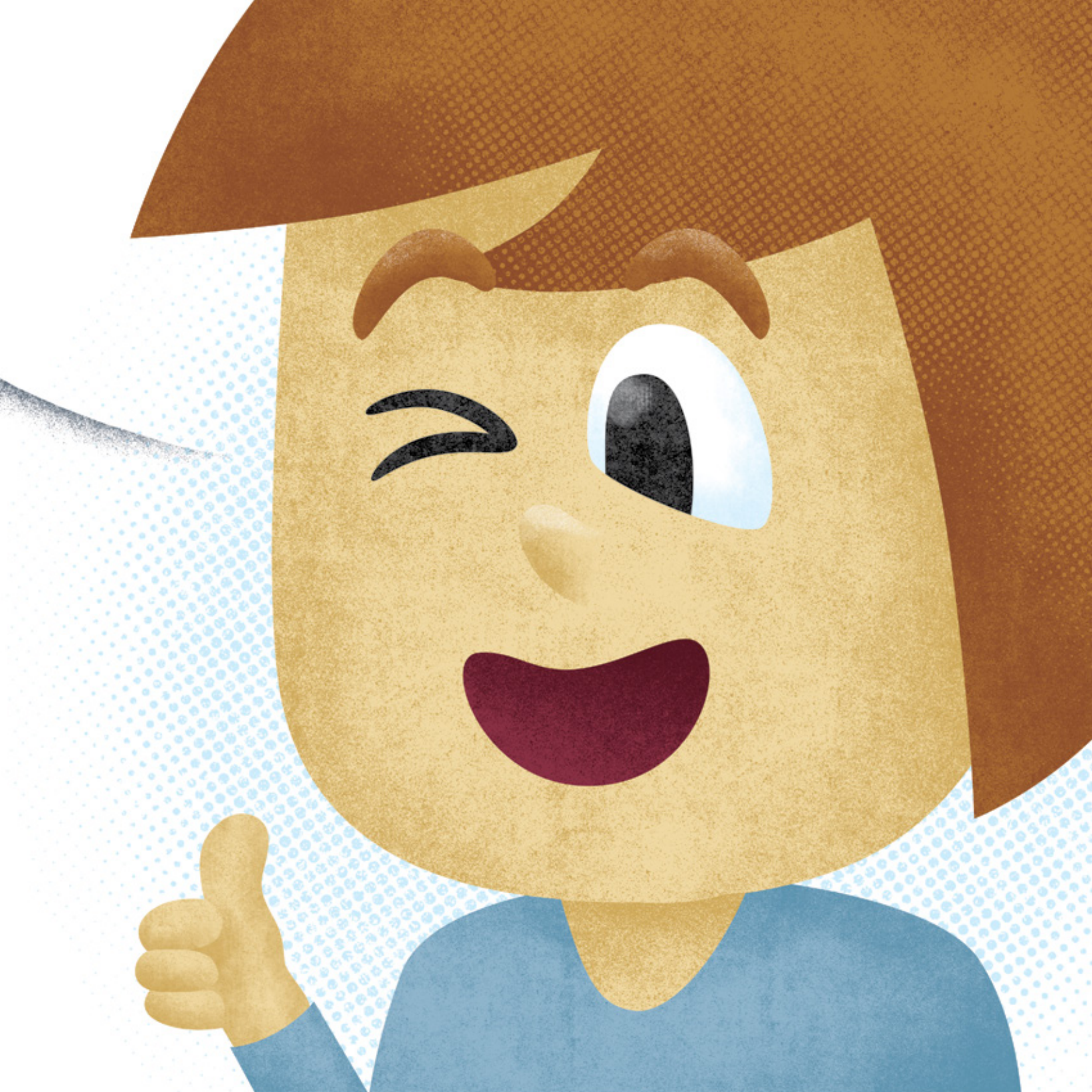
**Never flush things like paper towels or wet wipes – and keep small toys away from drains. They can cause big problems.”**

**“You got it, Mandy,” Zack replied.**

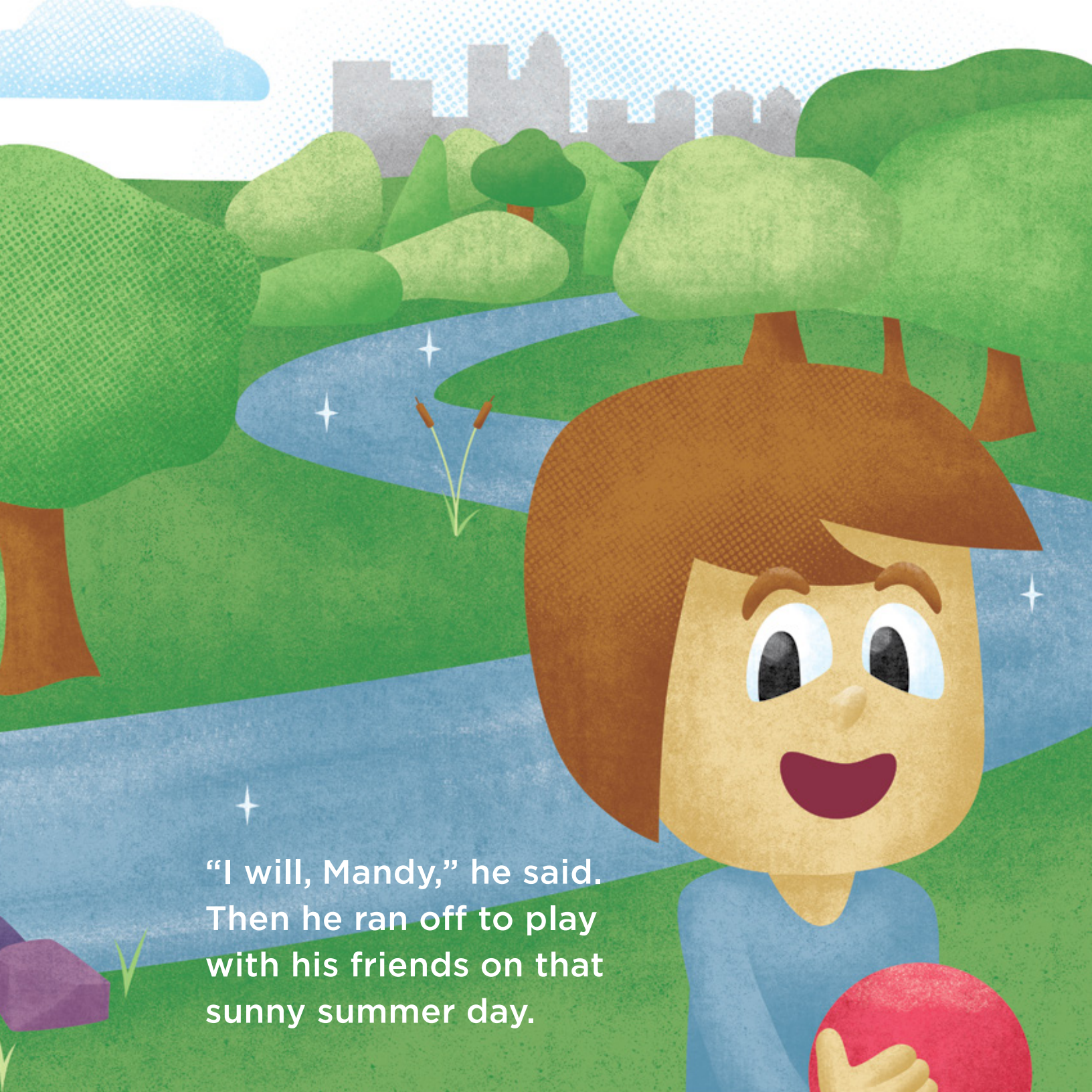


**“Thank you so much,”  
Mandy exclaimed.**

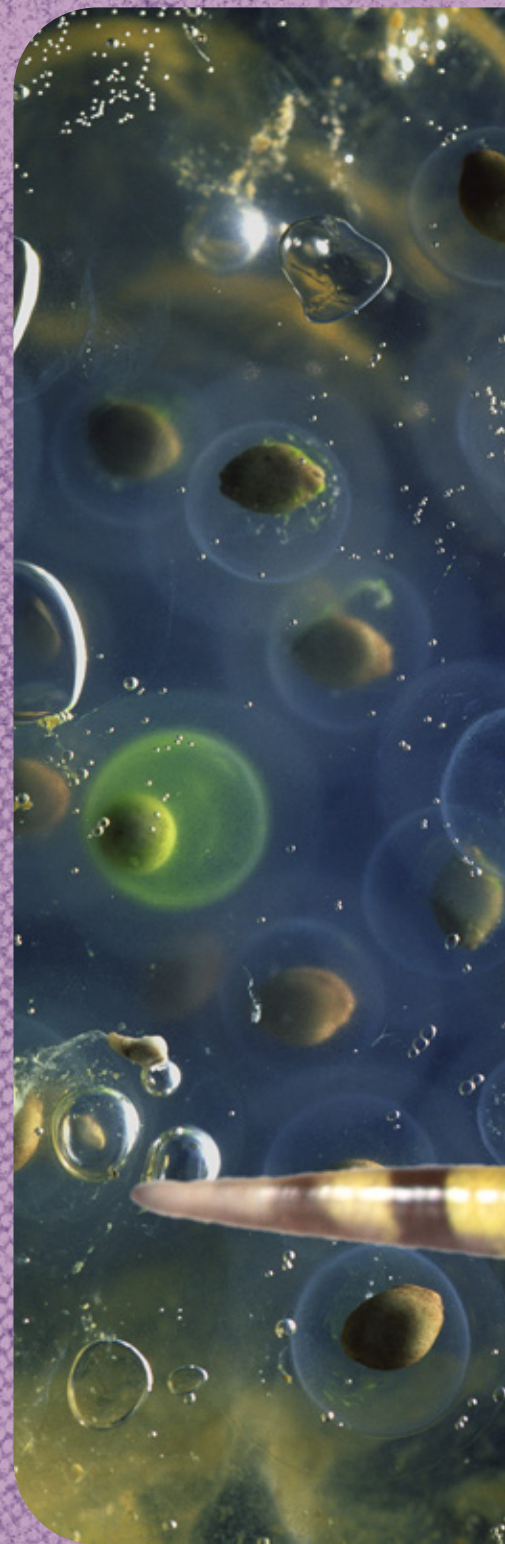
**“And please tell  
your friends about  
the three Ps.”**

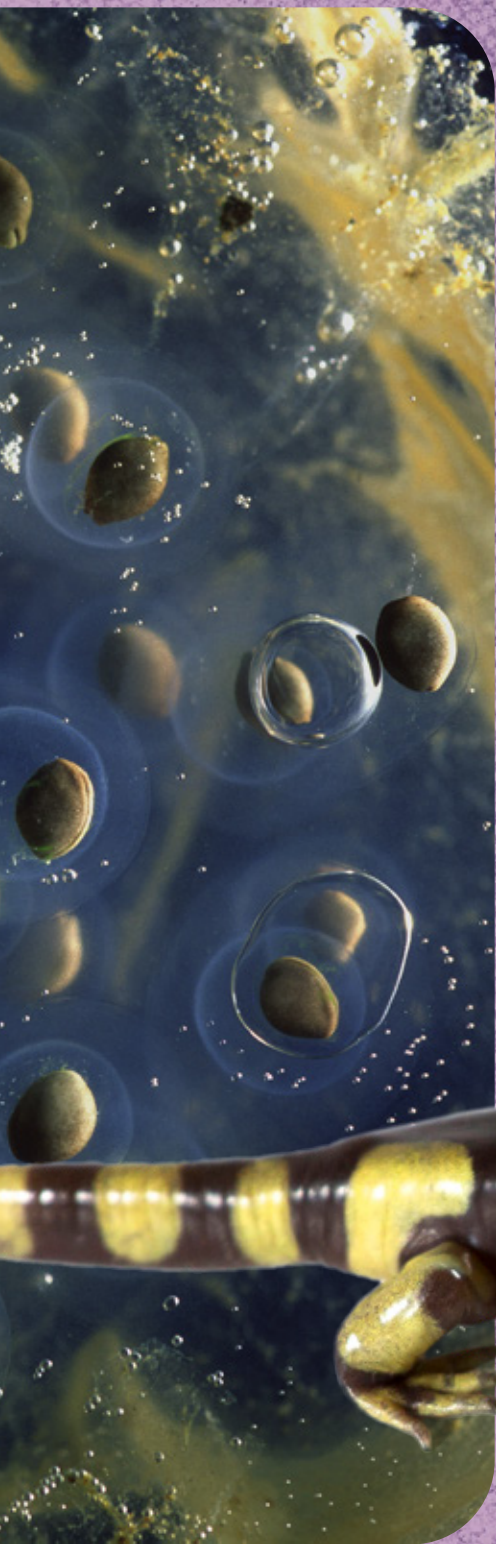






“I will, Mandy,” he said.  
Then he ran off to play  
with his friends on that  
sunny summer day.





**For more information on  
Eastern Tiger Salamanders go to  
[LouisvilleMSD.org/education](http://LouisvilleMSD.org/education)**





[LouisvilleMSD.org](http://LouisvilleMSD.org)