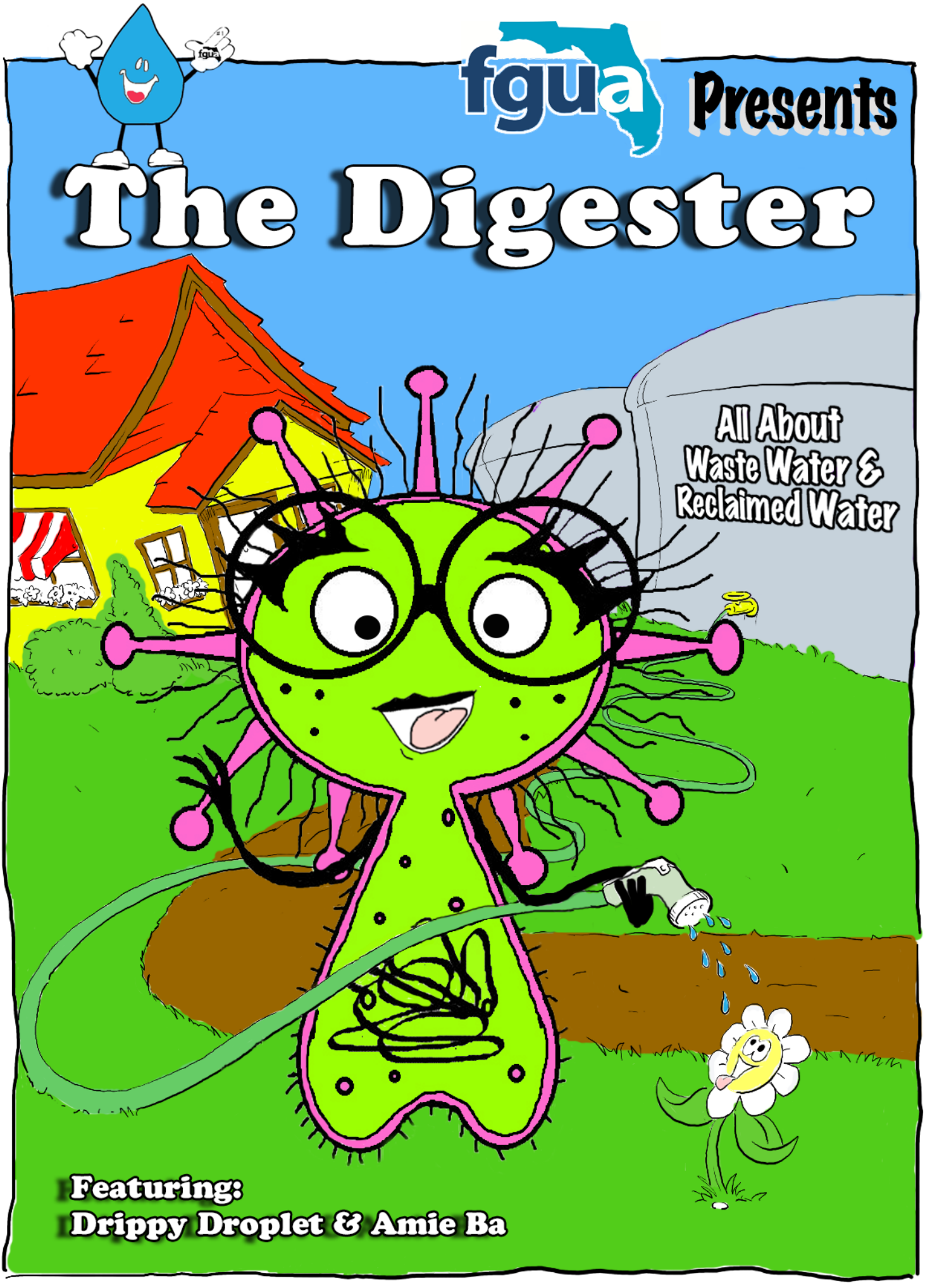
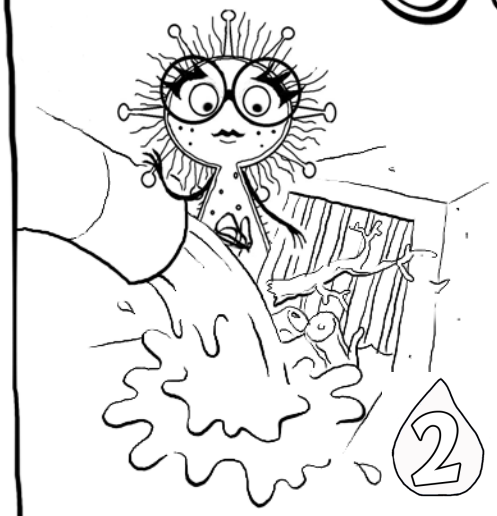

fgua
Presents
The Digester
All About
Waste Water &
Reclaimed Water
Featuring:
Drippy Droplet & Amie Ba

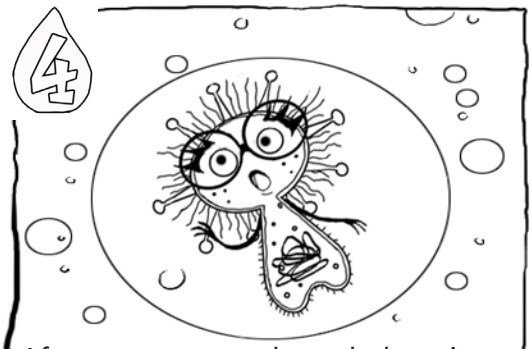
# What IS WASTE WATER?

Wastewater is the water that leaves our home through the drains and enters a set of pipes called sewer pipes.



This water travels through the sewer pipes to a wastewater treatment plant. When it gets there, bar screens let water pass through but keep trash out.

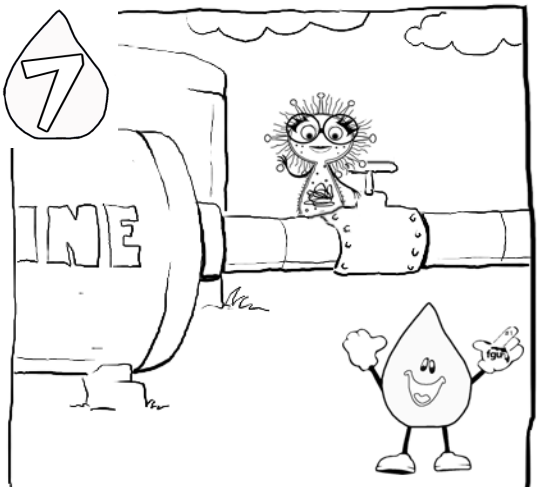
Next, a grit chamber slows the flow of the water. This causes sand, grit, and other heavy stuff to sink to the bottom. The rest of the water goes to a tank where it waits to get full. When the tank gets full, the water keeps moving.



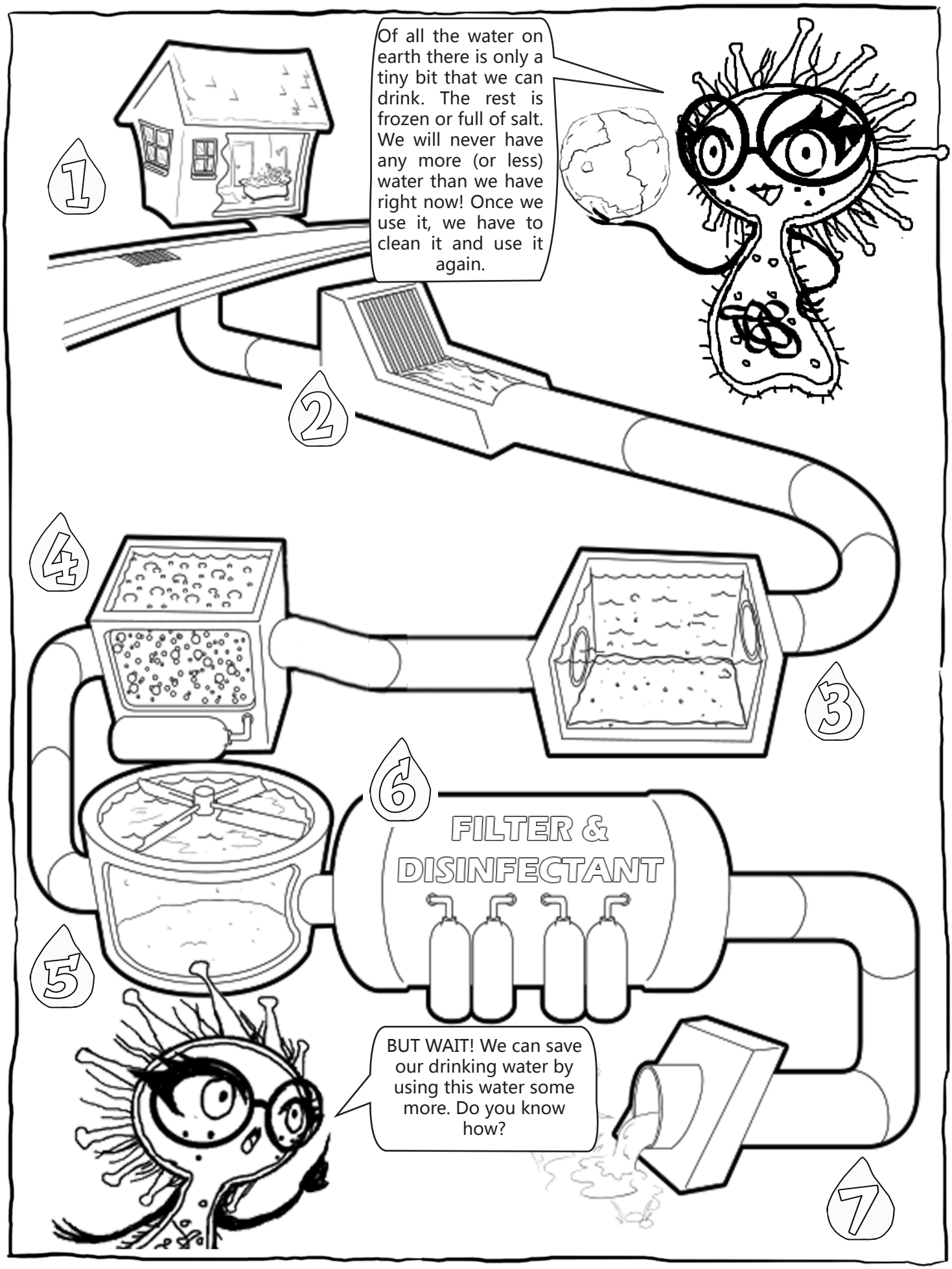
After water passes through the grit chamber and the storage tank, it goes to a tank that puts millions of bubbles into the water (aeration). This causes the water to absorb oxygen and helps microorganisms like Amie Ba to grow fast and break up sludge.

Then the water goes to a tank with a rotating paddle on the top. This tank is called a Clarifier. The Clarifer allows more stuff to sink to the bottom. The paddles on top scoop any grease and scum that is still floating on the top.

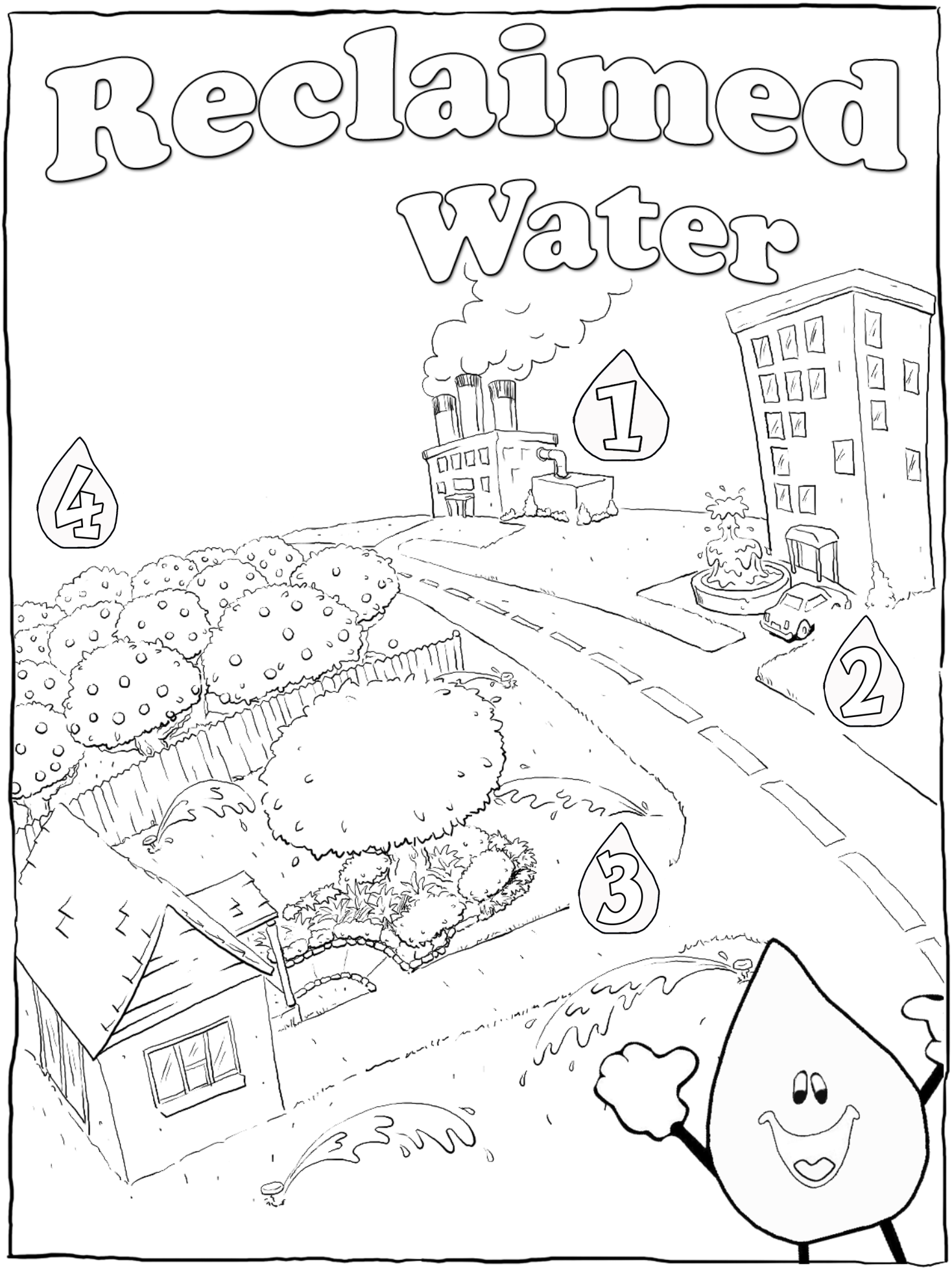
If any sludge remains, the water goes back to the grit chamber and gets aerated again. When it's clear the water goes through a sand filter.



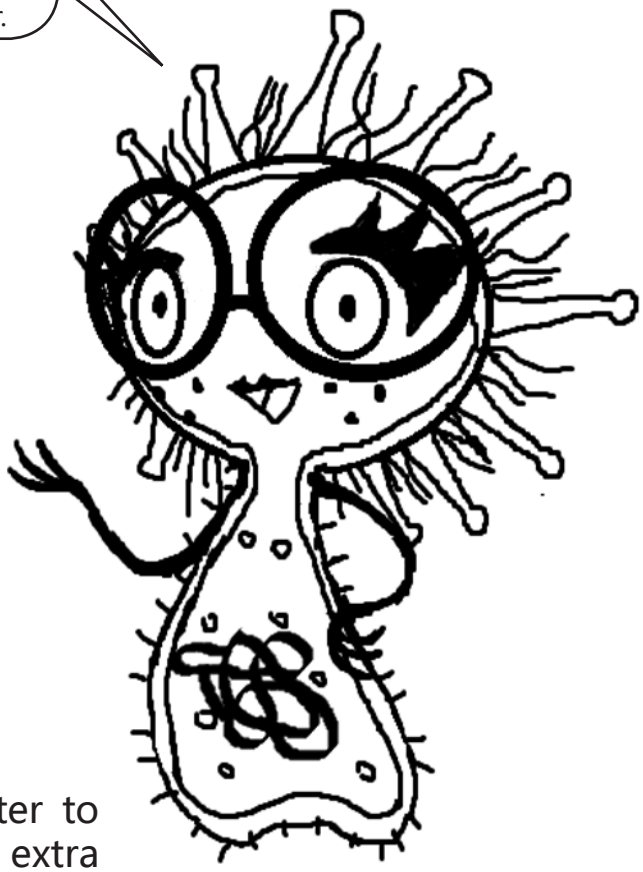
The last thing we have to do is add something called a disinfectant. This will kill any disease-causing organisms and ensure that the water is safe for the environment. It also makes sure Drippy is clean!


Of all the water on earth there is only a tiny bit that we can drink. The rest is frozen or full of salt. We will never have any more (or less) water than we have right now! Once we use it, we have to clean it and use it again.
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
FILTER &
DISINFECTANT
BUT WAIT! We can save our drinking water by using this water some more. Do you know how?

# Reclaimed Water



Reclaimed water contains lots of nutrients and things we cannot drink but plants love. So, before we send it back into the Water Cycle, let us see if you can think of some things we could use it for.



1. Factories can use reclaimed water to cool down equipment and flush out pipes.

2. Reclaimed water can be used in decorative fountains and ponds.

3. Your lawn, plants, and grass at home love reclaimed water too!

4. Farmers can use reclaimed water to water some of their crops. The extra nutrients make great fertilizer!

## And it is much less expensive to use!

List some ways that you use water in your life, at home, and in school.

# RECLAIMED WATER DO'S

Your grass and most of your plants love reclaimed water. Use it to water them.

Reclaimed water is perfect for decorative fountains and ponds!

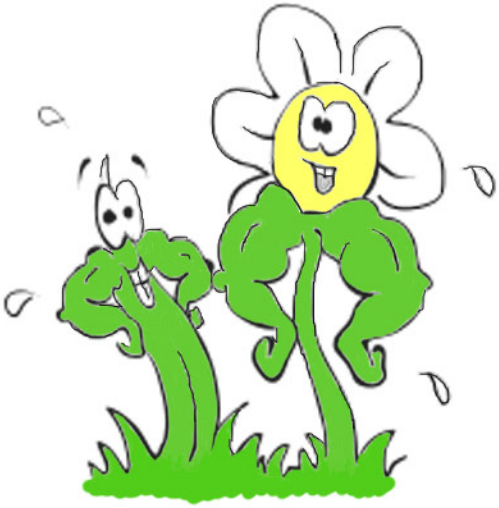
# RECLAIMED WATER DON'TS

You or your pets
should NEVER drink reclaimed water!

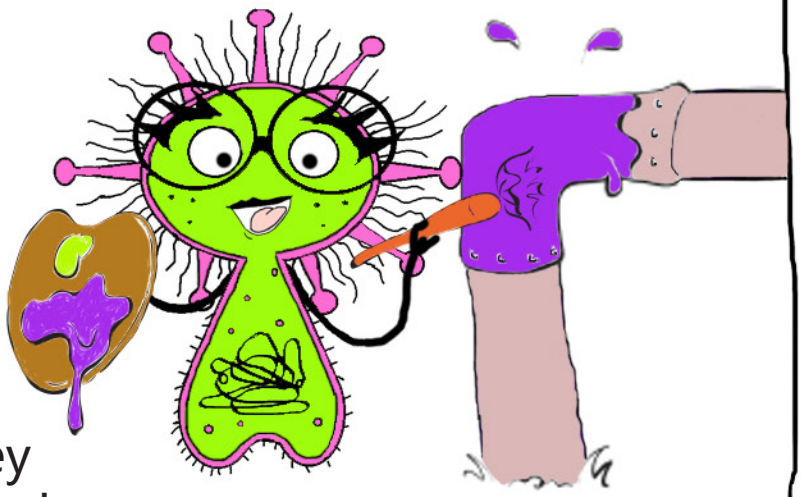
You should NEVER use reclaimed water
for swimming or bathing.

# RECLAIMED WATER FUN FACTS

It takes 4 to 5 houses to make enough reclaimed water for 1 house to use.



Reclaimed water acts like a fertilizer for plants and grass while helping everyone to save drinking water.



Purple is the universal color for reclaimed water. Whenever you see purple pipes, you know they hold reclaimed water.

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