

Zack Rabbit & Lenny Lizard's Guide to

# DESERT WASH

## SAFETY

Fun activities  
and safety tips  
about desert  
washes from  
Zack & Lenny!

You can  
color us,  
too!



*Zack Rabbit & Lenny Lizard's Guide to*

# DESERT WASH SAFETY

*Desert Wash Safety was made possible with help from  
the following students and teachers:*

*Mrs. Fleming's 4th Grade Classes at  
Saints Peter & Paul Elementary*

*Mrs. Young's 3rd Grade Class at  
Los Ranchitos Elementary*

*Ms. Waddill's 4th Grade & Mrs. Damon's 3rd Grade Classes  
at Lawrence Intermediate*

*Thank you for your help and participation!*

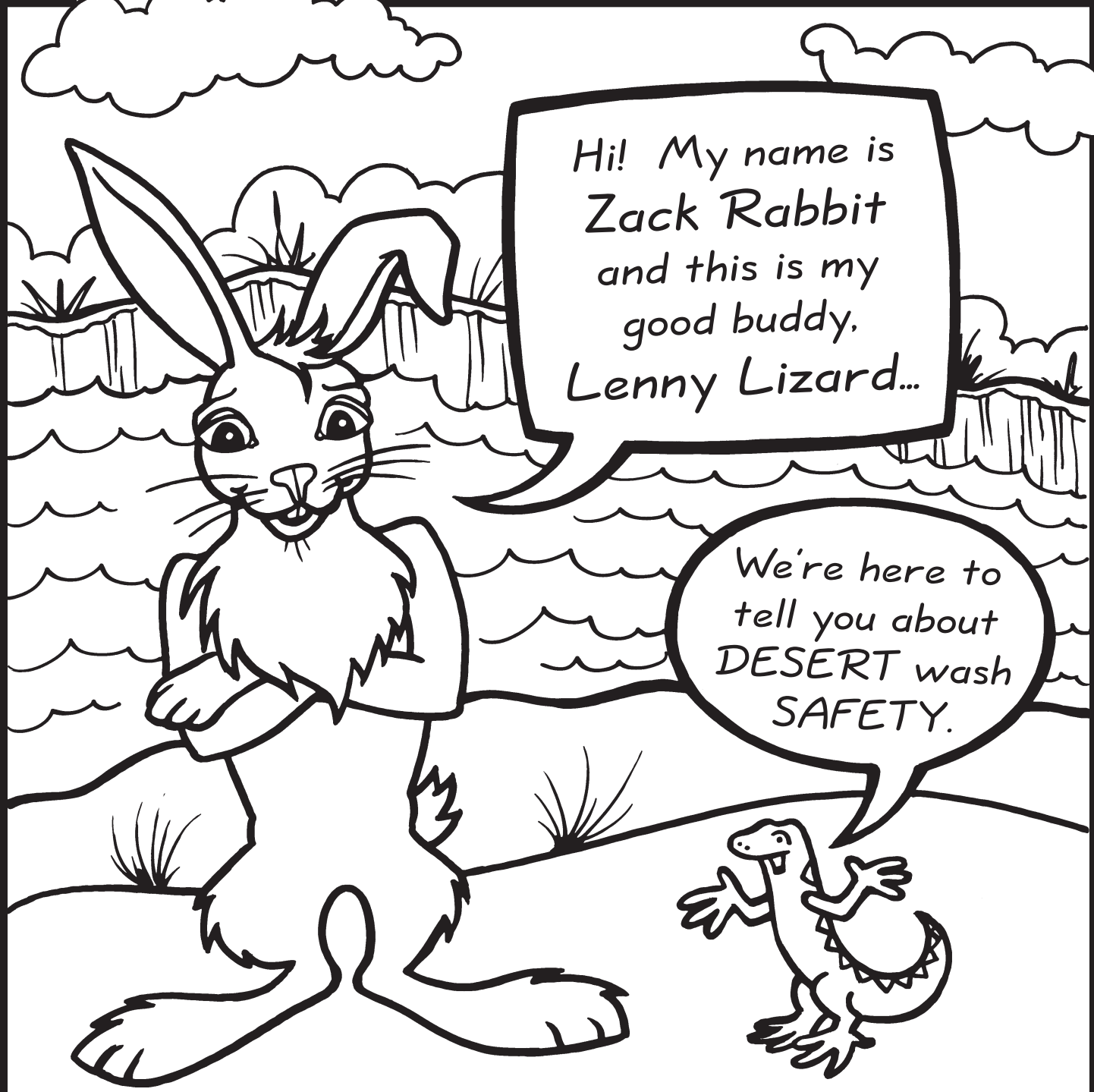


## STORMWATER SECTION

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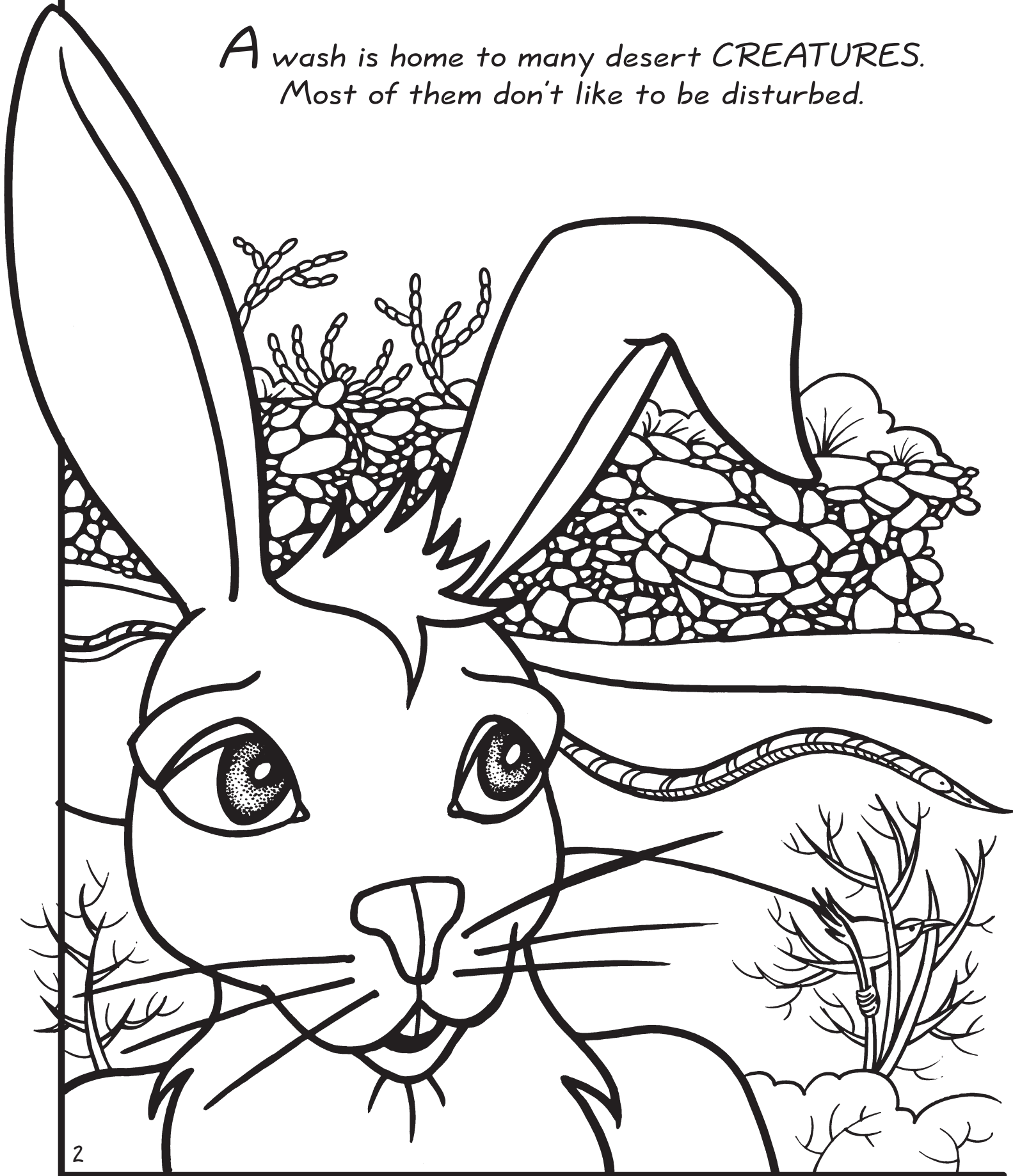


Hi! My name is  
Zack Rabbit  
and this is my  
good buddy,  
Lenny Lizard...

We're here to  
tell you about  
**DESERT** wash  
**SAFETY.**

When it rains, stormwater that doesn't soak into the ground starts to flow. This is called **RUNOFF**.  
Runoff collects in low, sandy areas called **WASHES**.  
The washes carry water to larger rivers.  
We learned that a desert wash or riverbed can be a dangerous place to play--so be very careful!

*A wash is home to many desert CREATURES.  
Most of them don't like to be disturbed.*



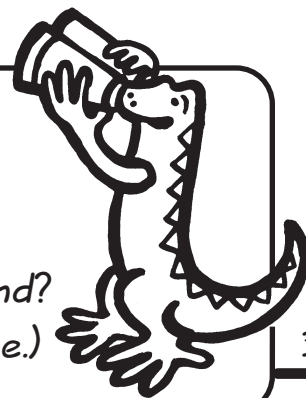
Snakes and scorpions often hide under bushes and rocks near washes. Since I don't like to get bit or stung, I don't play in the wash--it isn't safe!



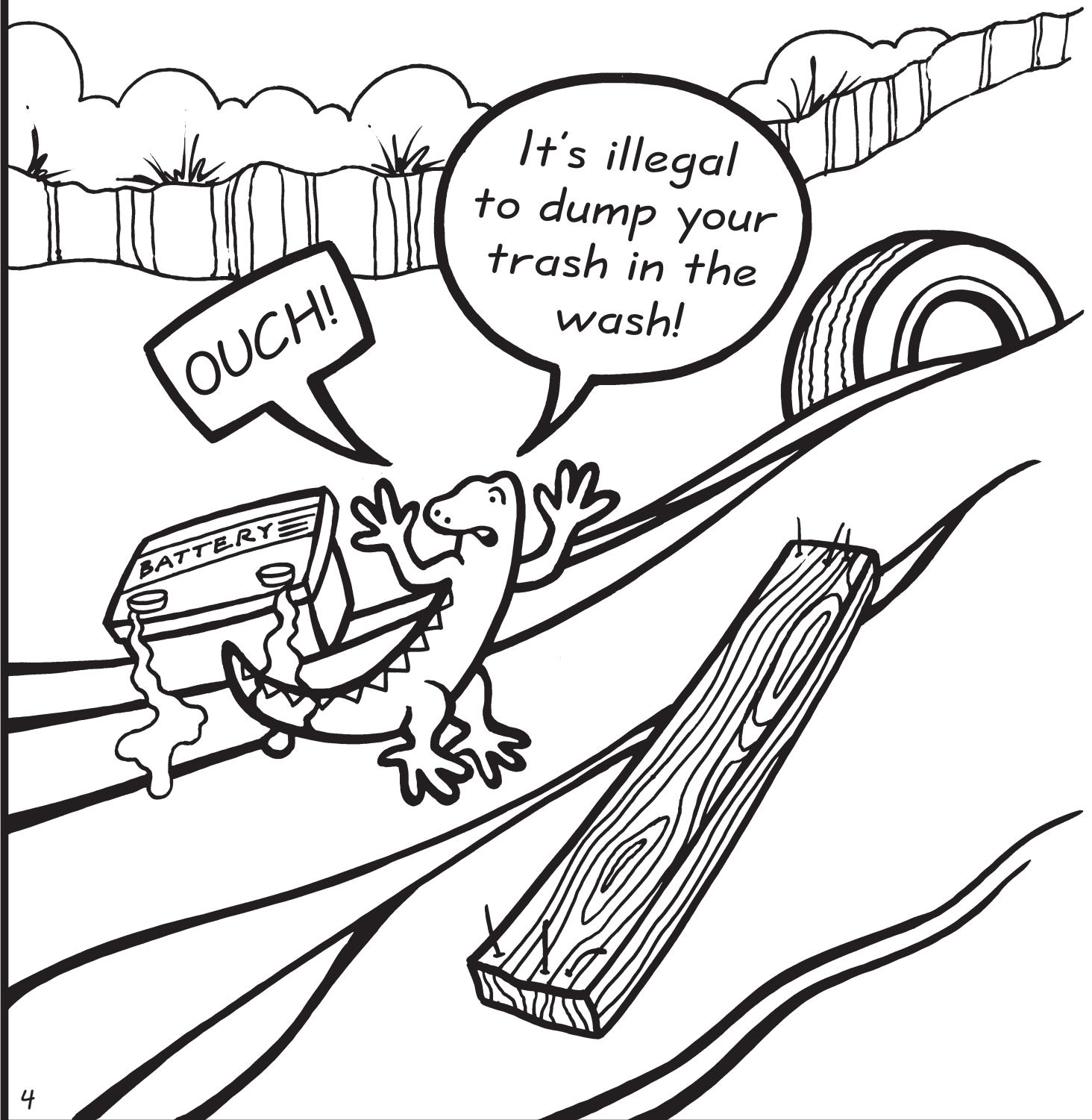
Hey Kids! Check out Lenny Lizard's

◆ **CREATURE-FIND!** ◆

How many hidden desert creatures can you find?  
(There are 7 creatures besides the rattlesnake.)



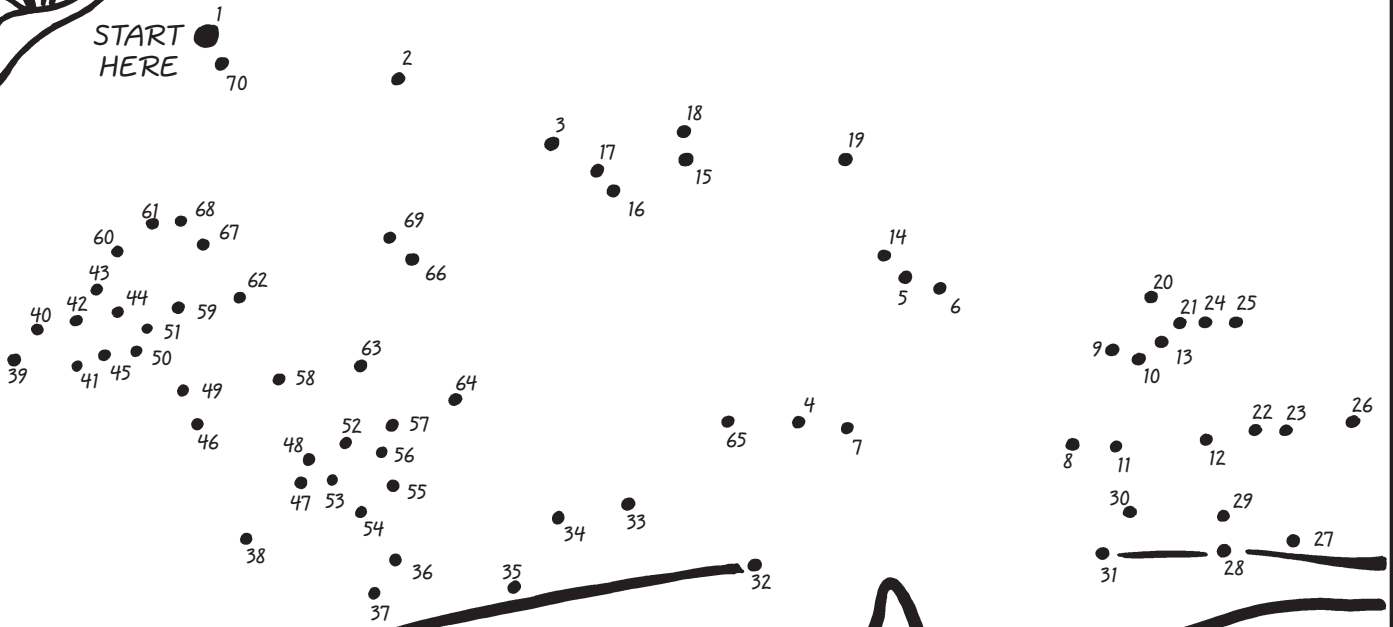
Sometimes, Lenny and I see junk in the wash--like rusty metal cans and TRASH. Once, Lenny tried to pick up an old car battery and acid leaked all over his tail. Lucky for him, lizards can grow a new tail, or it could have been a lot worse!



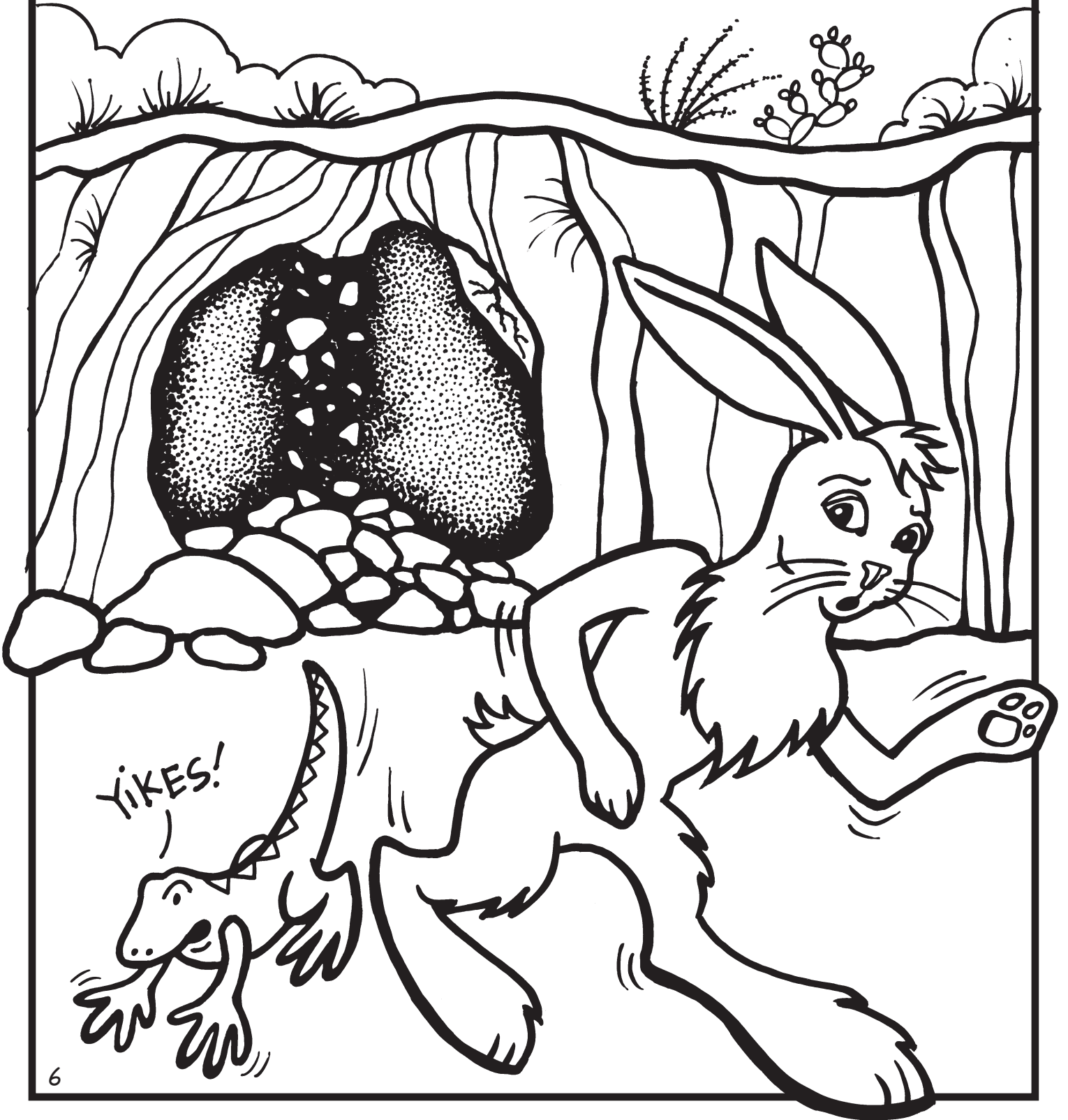
# ◆ DOT-TO-DOT ◆

Connect the dots below to see what was dumped in the wash.

START  
HERE



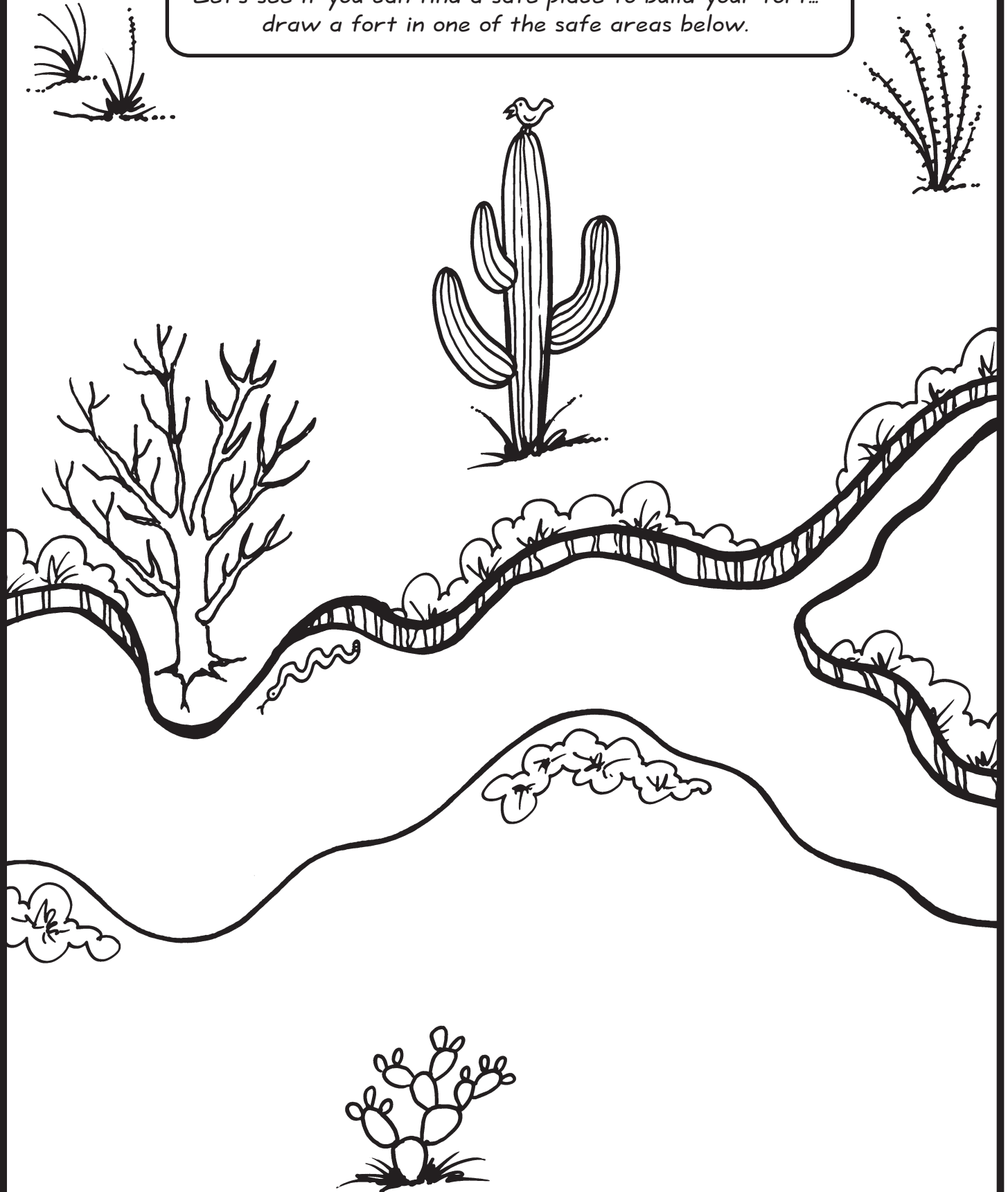
*D*igging a FORT in the banks of the wash sounds like fun, but believe us, it's not. The walls and roof can collapse and you could be trapped! Find a safer place to build your fort.



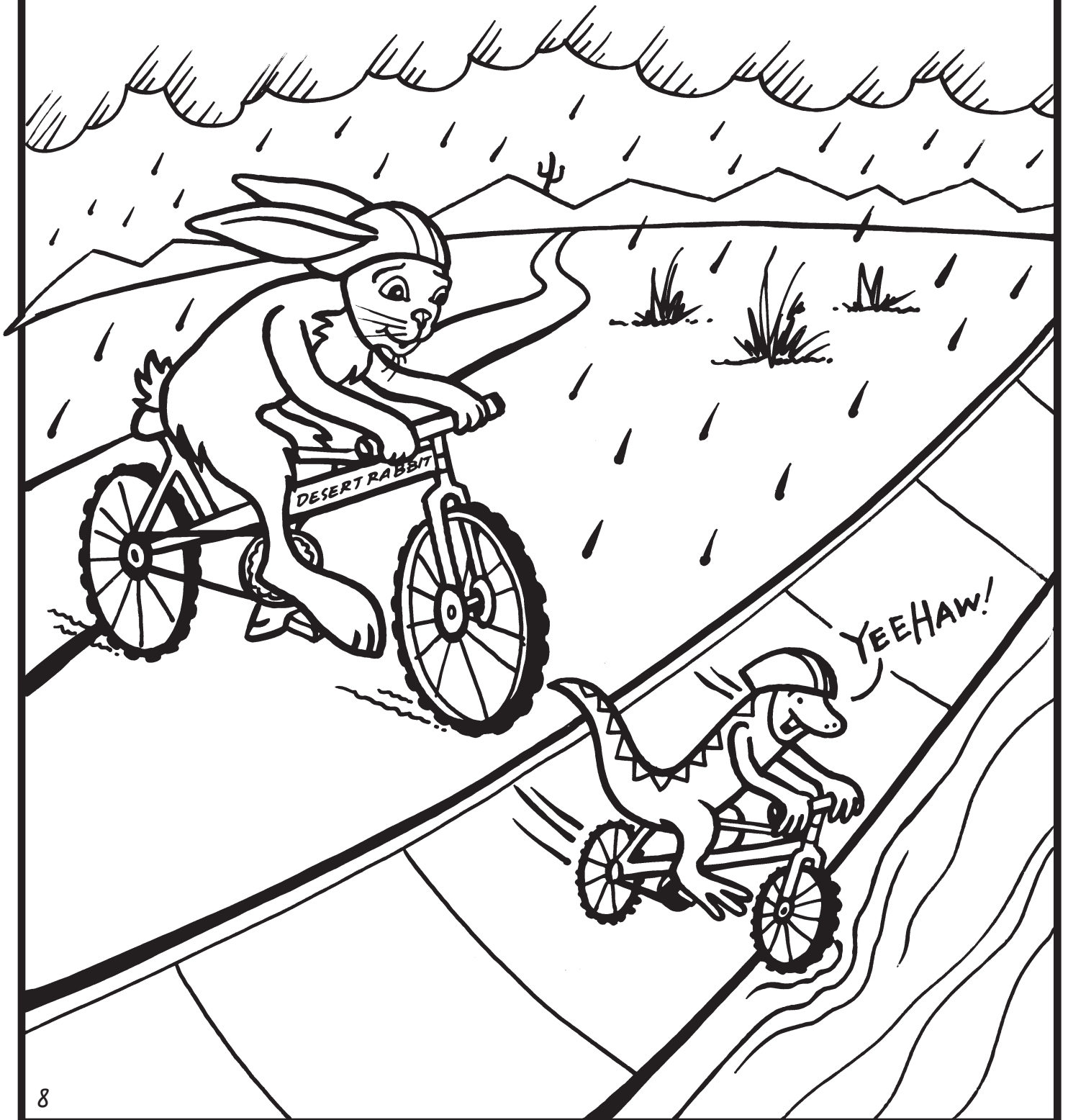


# ◆ DRAW A DESERT FORT ◆

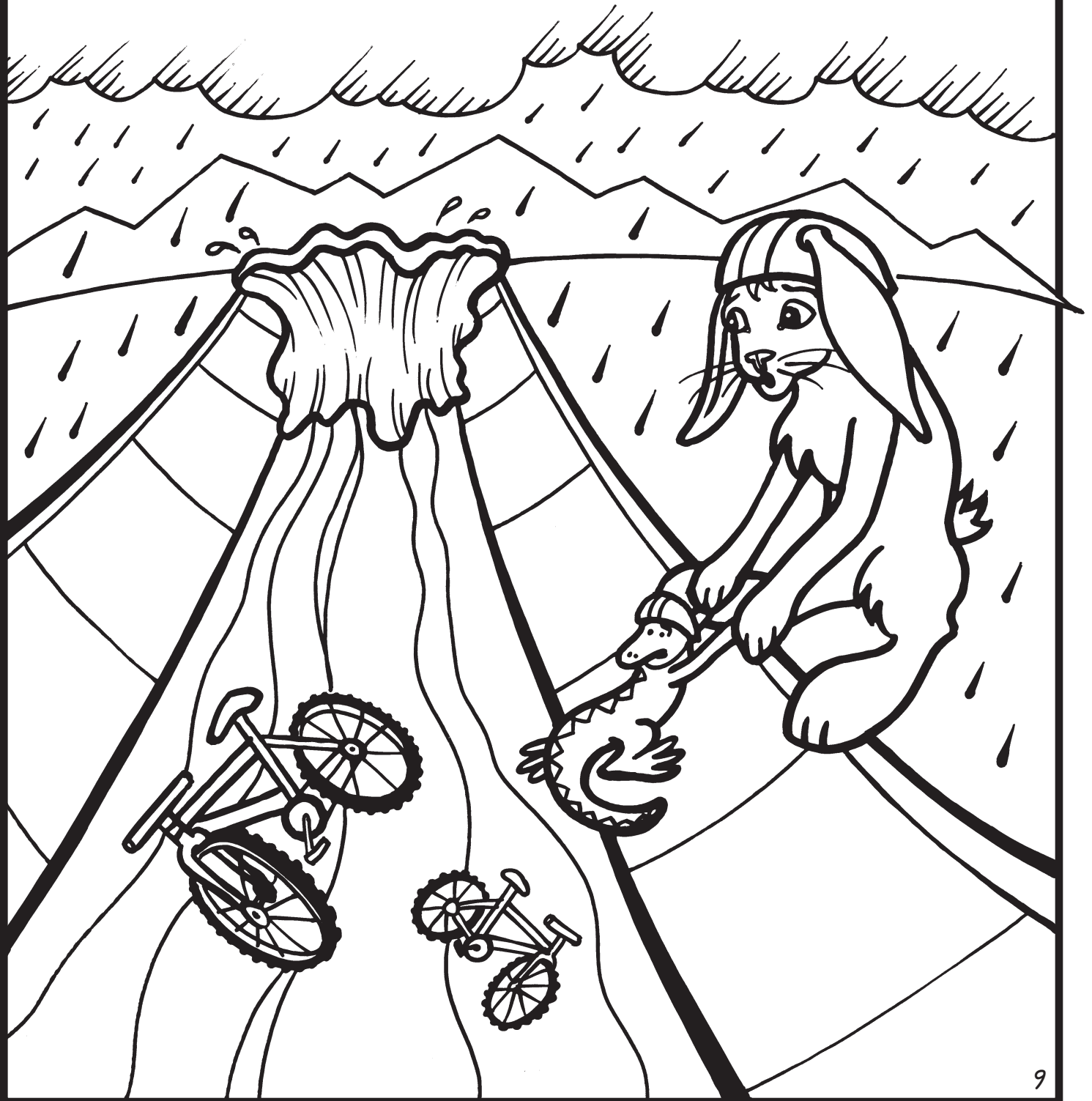
Let's see if you can find a safe place to build your fort...  
draw a fort in one of the safe areas below.

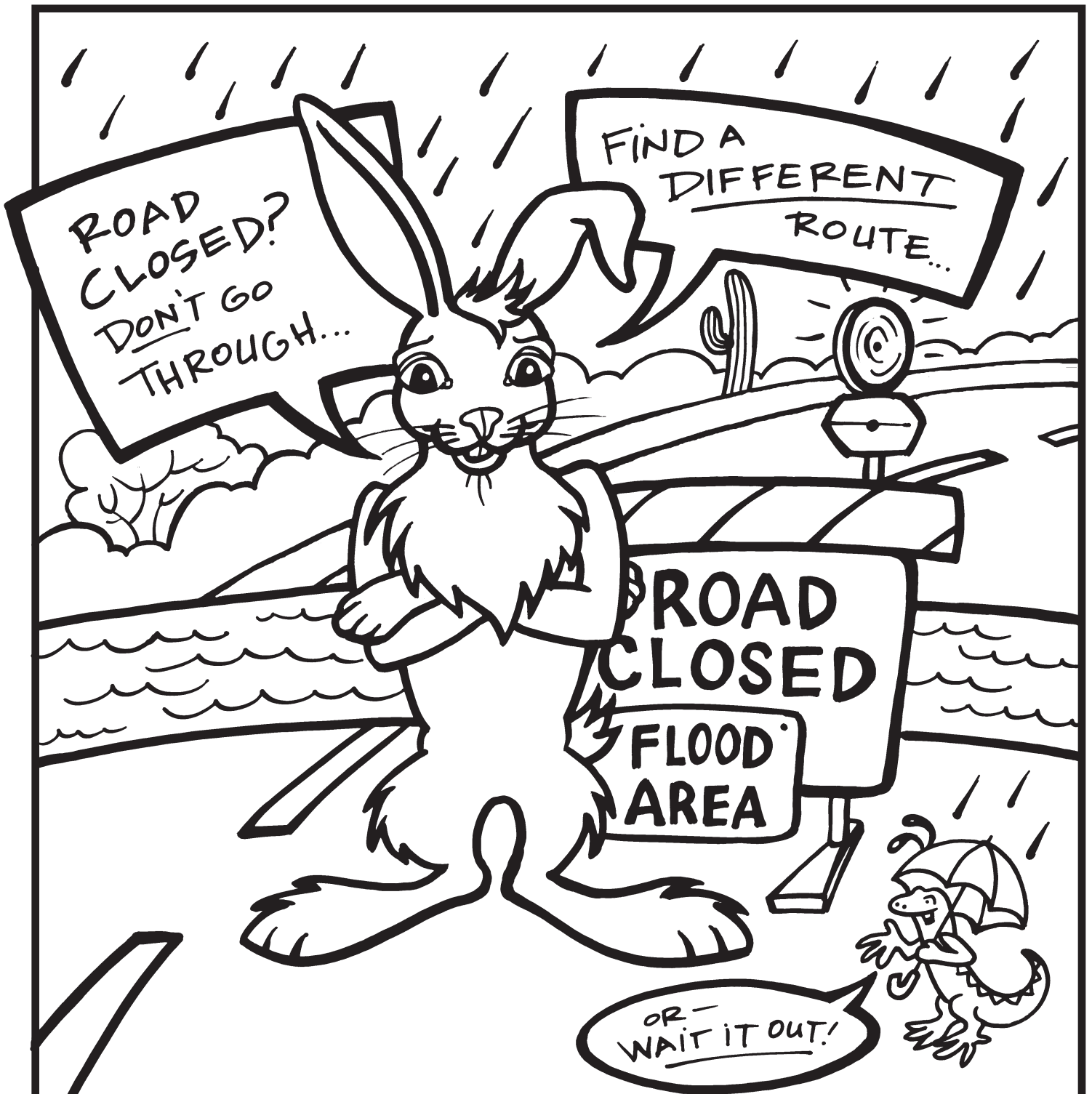


One cloudy day, Lenny and I were riding our mountain bikes on a desert trail. Lenny thought it would be cool to try and ride our bikes in the wash. It started to rain, but we went in anyway.



Suddenly, a huge wall of water was coming right toward us!  
We had to jump off our bikes and get out fast! We made it  
out, but our bikes got washed away in the FLOOD.  
After that, Lenny and I got smart and decided to  
stay out of the washes when it rains.

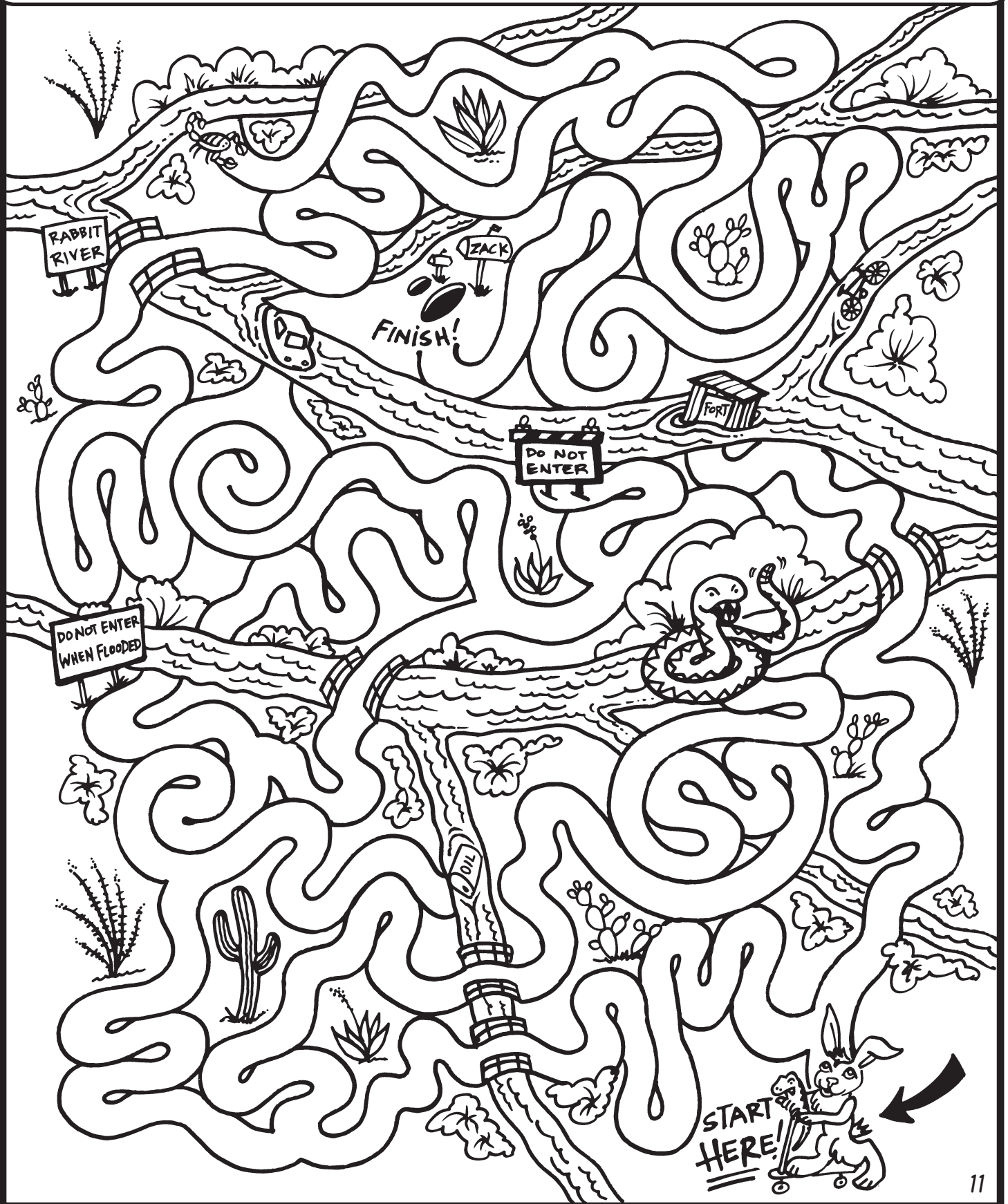




During the summer, it rains hard and washes can quickly fill with water. A summer rain is called a MONSOON. During a monsoon, the streets and washes get flooded and it's hard to tell how deep the water is. It's dangerous to drive or wade across a flowing wash-- you or your car might get stuck or washed away!

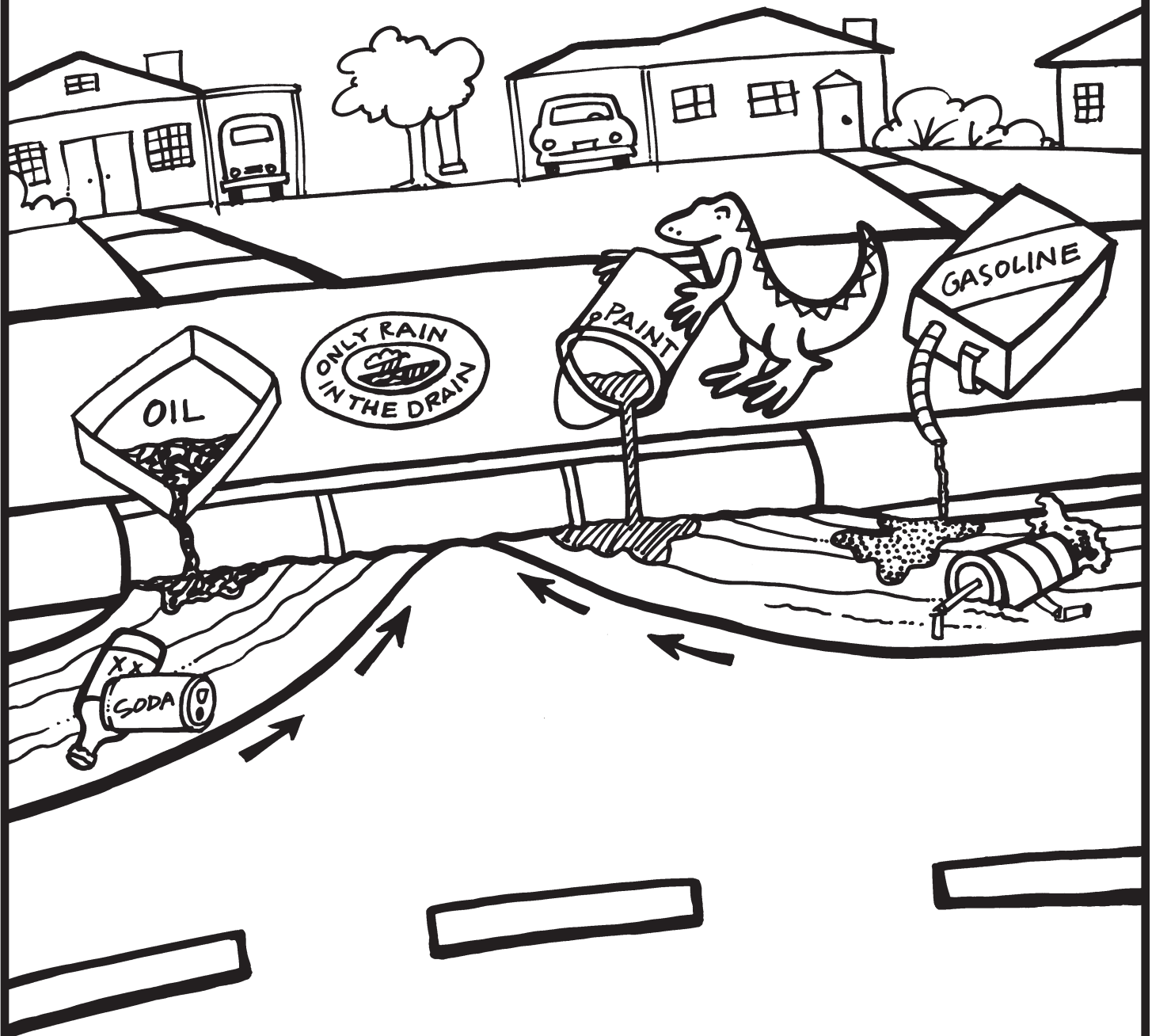
# ◆ ZACK RABBIT'S DESERT WASH MAZE ◆

Help Zack & Lenny get safely back to their homes!



Lenny and I also learned where stormwater goes after it rains...down the stormdrains!

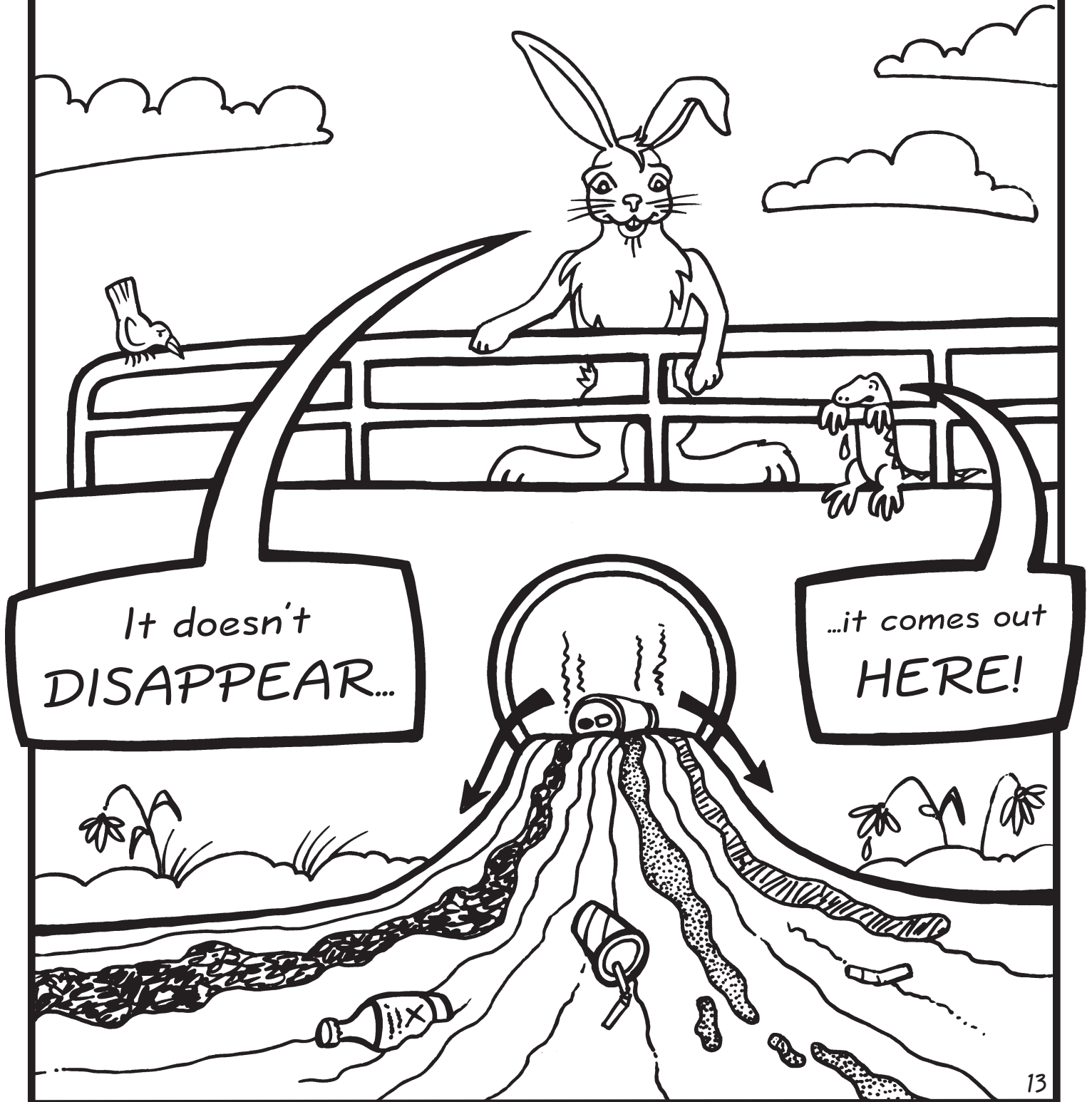
After Lenny painted his house, he dumped the leftover paint into the street and it went down a stormdrain.



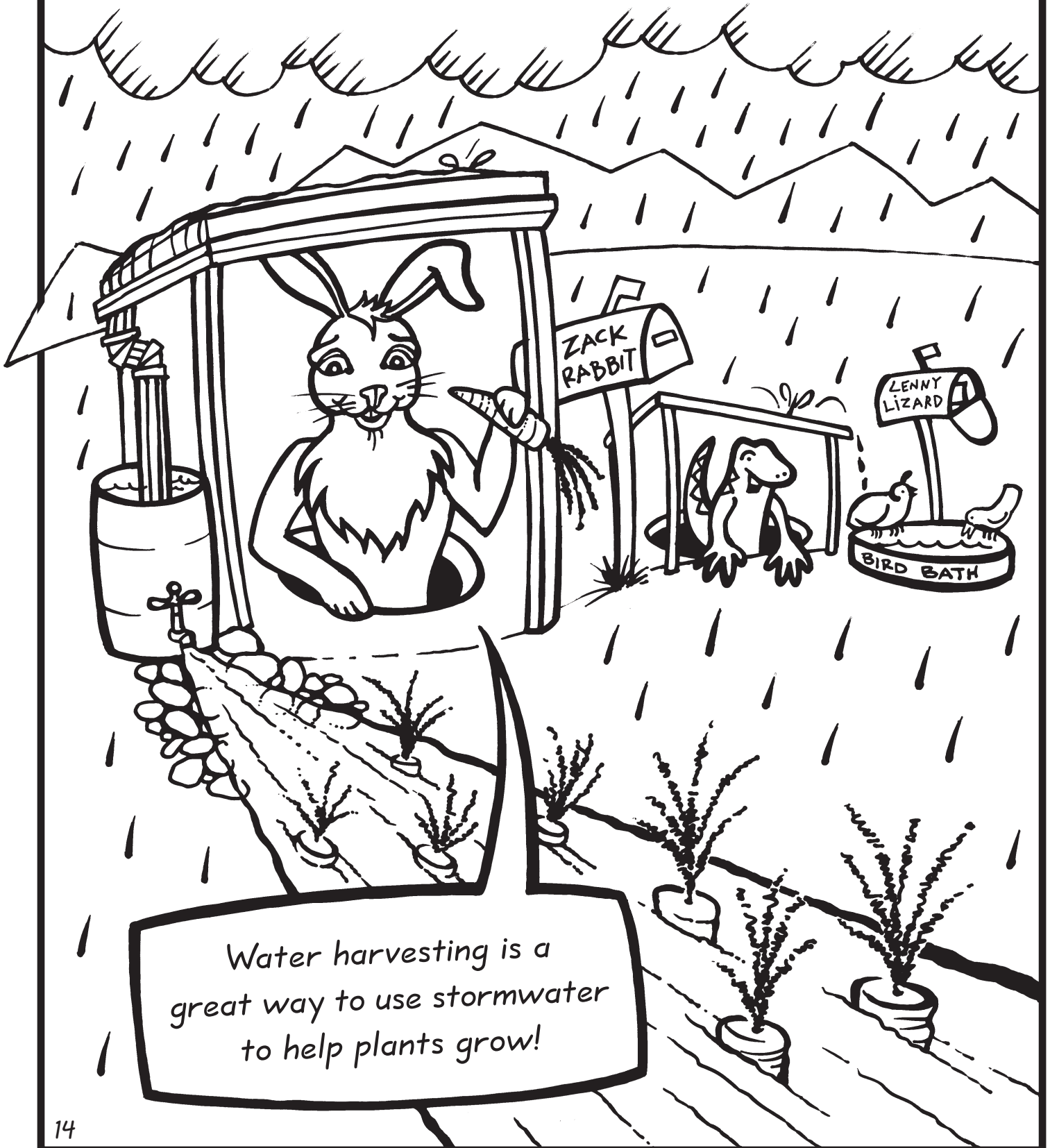
◆ FIND THE POLLUTANTS ◆

Circle all 5 pollutants that are being washed down the stormdrain.

I wish he had known that the stormdrain travels underground and comes out in a wash. When it rains, any **POLLUTANTS** dumped in the stormdrain are carried along with the rain to the wash. So remember...**ONLY RAIN IN THE DRAIN!**



Back at home, Lenny and I collect **STORMWATER** from our rooftops and use it around our houses. This is called **WATER HARVESTING**.



Water harvesting is a great way to use stormwater to help plants grow!



# ◆ DESERT WATER CROSSWORD ◆

Use the CAPITALIZED words in this book to help you solve the puzzle...

## ACROSS

1. Zack & Lenny's bikes got washed away in a \_\_\_\_\_.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ collects in low, sandy areas called washes.

3. Water Harvesting is a great way to use \_\_\_\_\_.

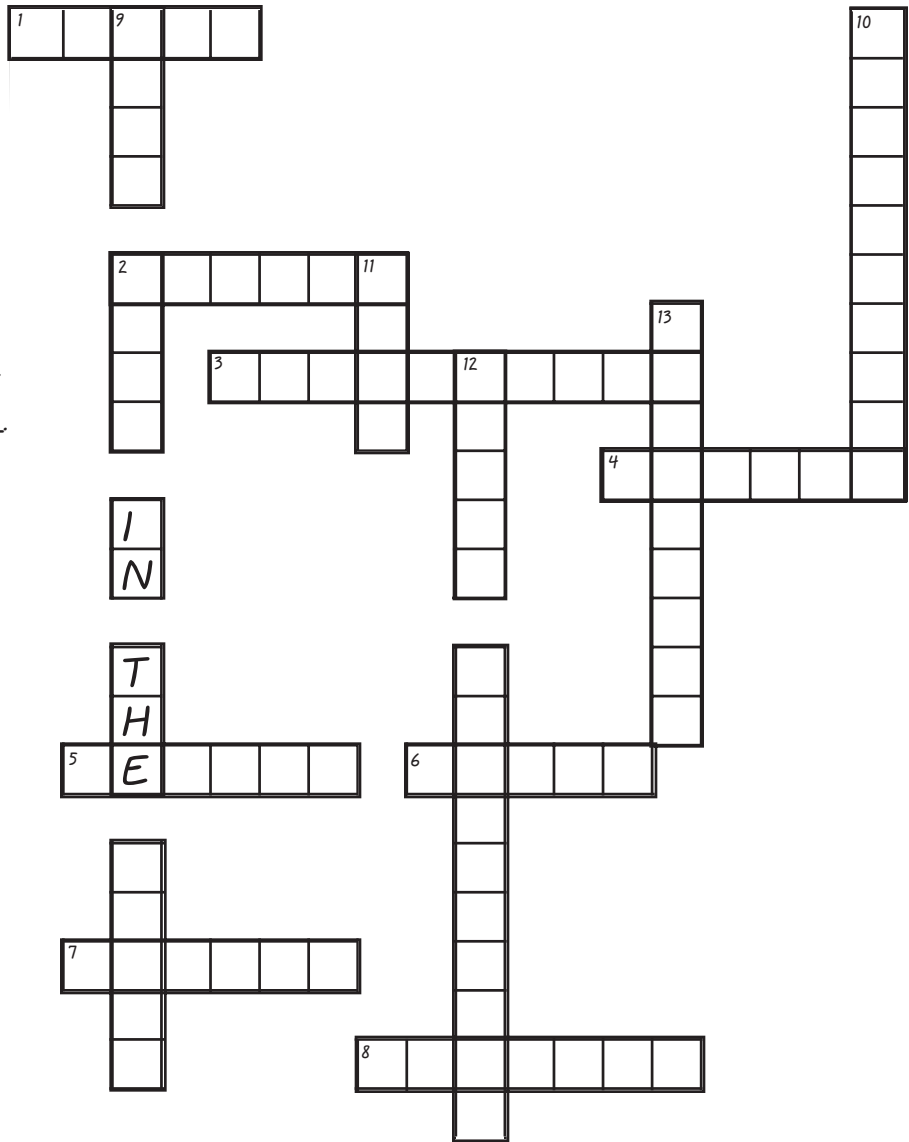
4. Be careful playing around \_\_\_\_\_!

5. We live in the \_\_\_\_\_.

6. It's illegal to dump your \_\_\_\_\_ in the wash!

7. This book is about desert wash \_\_\_\_\_.

8. A summer rain is called a \_\_\_\_\_.



## DOWN

9. Remember, \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_!

10. Keep \_\_\_\_\_ out of stormdrains.

11. Don't build your \_\_\_\_\_ in a wash!

12. Collecting and using stormwater is called \_\_\_\_\_.

13. Many desert \_\_\_\_\_ live in the wash.



Lenny and I have learned a lot about being safe around washes, especially when it rains! We know where the stormdrains go, and all the pollutants that can end up in a wash. Plus, we learned how to use stormwater wisely in the desert!





*Brought to you by the*



# STORMWATER SECTION



*Call 791-4372 for more information!*