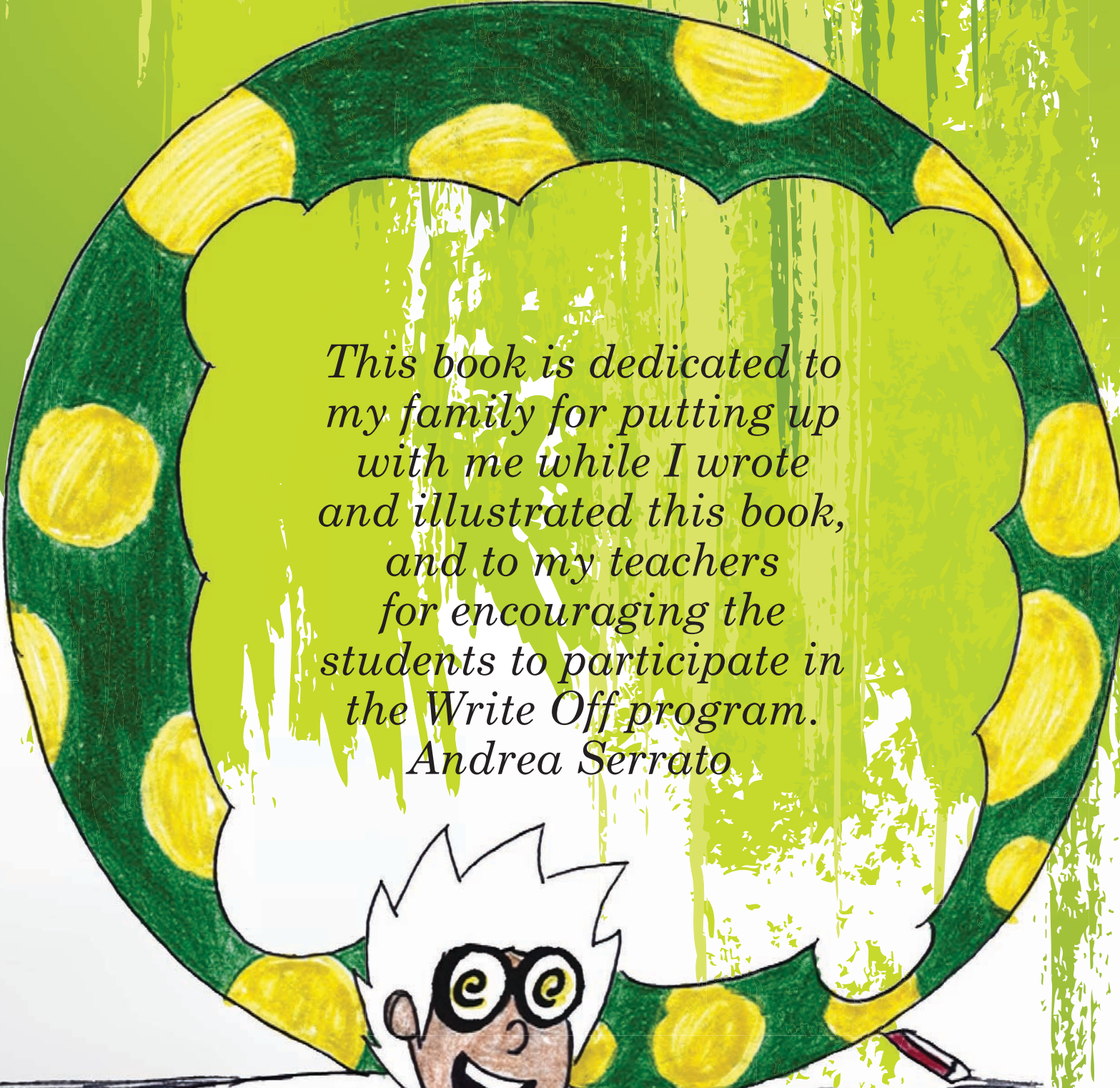


Dr. Tappenttu Teaches Timmy to Tap Into Tap H₂O

Authored and Illustrated by
Andrea Serrato

Produced by
Eastern Municipal Water District
& Rancho California Water District





*This book is dedicated to
my family for putting up
with me while I wrote
and illustrated this book,
and to my teachers
for encouraging the
students to participate in
the Write Off program.
Andrea Serrato*



Timmy's mom gave him a glass of tap water. Timmy doesn't want to drink the water because he thinks it's gross. He saw it come from the faucet, so he isn't going to drink it. His mother thinks he's being silly and won't let him leave the table until he drinks his water.

"Man, I do not want to drink this dumb water. It's full of germs and stuff," Timmy said. While Timmy stared at the yucky water, Dr. Tappentu came through the wall, smiling wonkily.





“Timmy, why do you not want to drink this splendidly delicious tap water?” Dr. Tappentu asked.

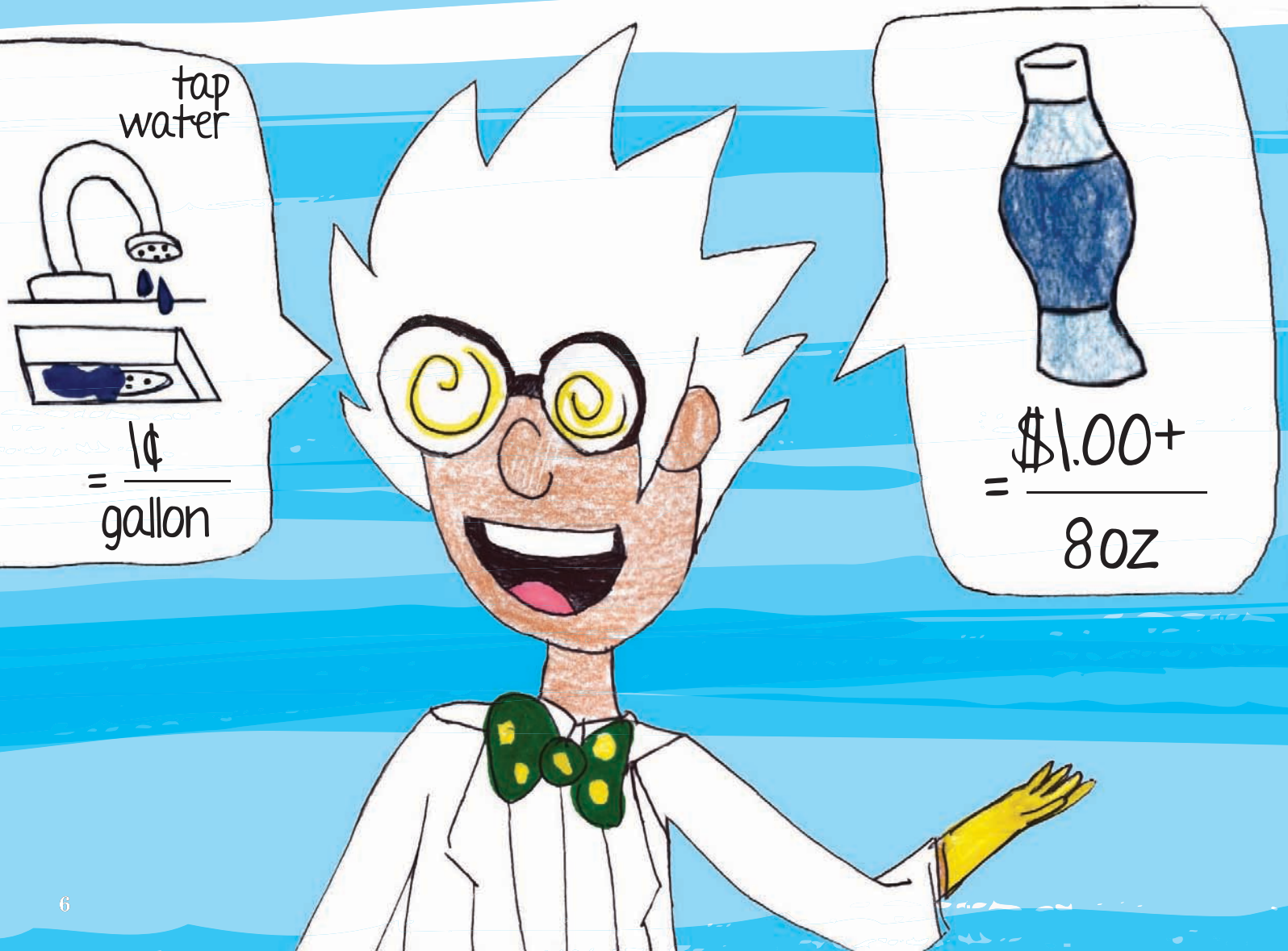
“Well, I don’t want to drink it because it came from the faucet! The tap is icky and yucky and gross!” Timmy exclaimed.

“No, no, no, no!” Dr. Tappentu proclaimed, smiling wackily. “Tap water isn’t icky or yucky! It’s delicious, and it’s like bottled water! It’s just as safe! Yup, yup, yup!”



“What do you mean, Dr. Tappentu?” Timmy asked.

“I mean, my dear boy, that bottled water and tap water are the same! Yup, yup, yup! They both come from the same source. The only difference is that bottled water costs more than tap water. Would you rather buy a gallon for about a penny or 8 oz. for more than one dollar?” he asked.

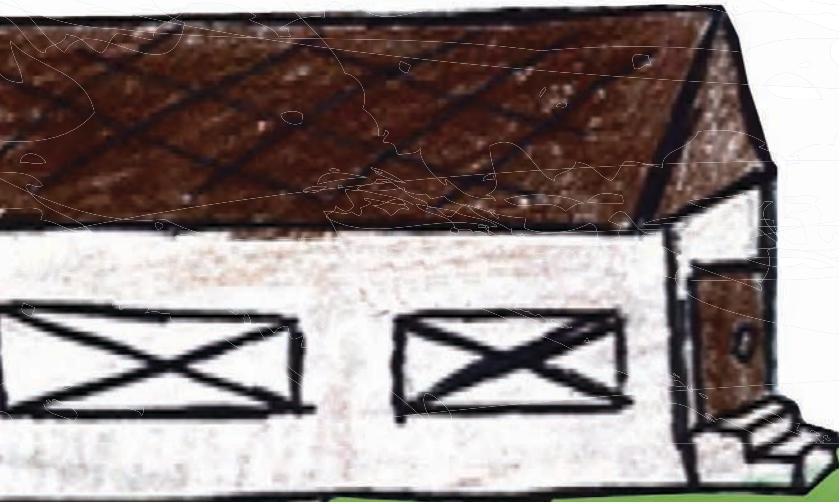


“Yeah, Dr. Tappentu, I get it. But don’t they clean bottled water more than tap?” Timmy asked.

“Nope, nuh-uh, negative, wrong. That’s not necessarily true, Timmy. In fact, tap water is monitored for more than 100 chemicals!”
Dr. Tappentu excitedly pointed out.

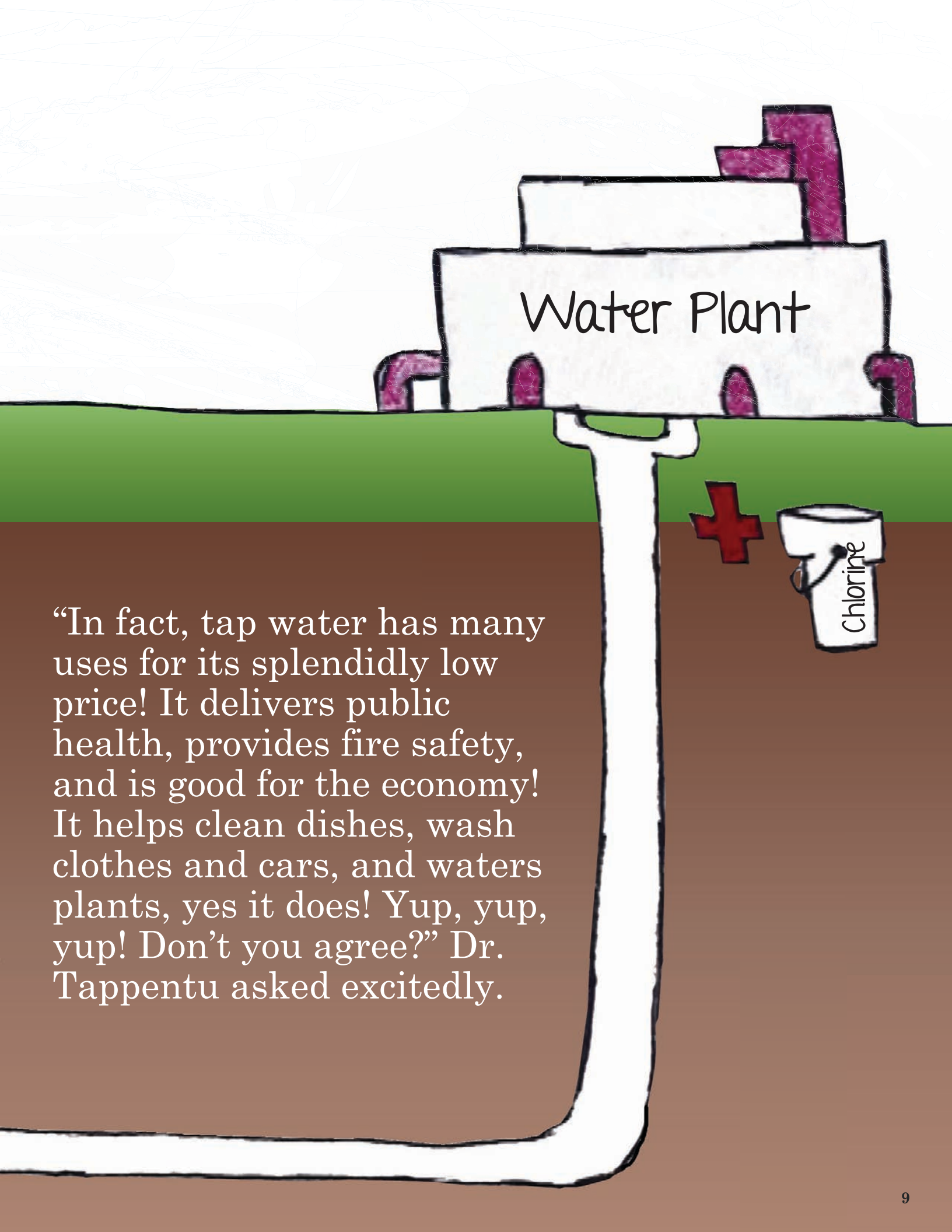


Water + Chlorine =
Clean Accessible
Water!



“I’m still not sure I should drink this water. I know tap water comes through pipes, so isn’t that bad?”
Timmy asked.

“Oh, no. They treat it and add chlorine to keep it clean! I mean, bottled water can be contaminated from the chemicals that come from the plastic bottles!”
Dr. Tappentu stated.



Water Plant

“In fact, tap water has many uses for its splendidly low price! It delivers public health, provides fire safety, and is good for the economy! It helps clean dishes, wash clothes and cars, and waters plants, yes it does! Yup, yup, yup! Don’t you agree?” Dr. Tappentu asked excitedly.

Chlorine



Timmy still looked unsure. “Are you sure?” he asked Dr. Tappentu.

“Yes, I’m positive! Now Timmy, go ahead and drink it! I’d like you to, yes I would! That tap water has many uses; many people are glad to have it! It is easy to get. Now, please take a sip, Timmy!”

Dr. Tappentu pleaded.

“Okay, if you say so,” Timmy replied, holding the glass.

“Oh, but I do!” Dr. Tappentu said gleefully.



Timmy looked at the glass for a very, very long time, preparing. He finally went for it and took a sip. A minute passed before Timmy broke into a big, giant smile. “Wow Dr. Tappentu, that wasn’t so bad after all! It tastes just like bottled water! In fact, I would say it is very yummy! That tap water is good!” Timmy exclaimed, smiling.



“Oh Timmy, my dear boy, I’m very happy that you like it! That is fantastic!” Dr. Tappentu smiled. “Now you know the joys of tap water! Tap water is good for you. Yes, it’s true. So, drink up! Drink up! I’m sure you’ll ask for more!”



Andrea Serrato is an 8th grade student attending Ethan A. Chase Middle School.

She is currently at the age where she is considered a teenager, but is still a child at heart. She lives with her family in Romoland. Andrea enjoys being the awesome person that she is and socializing is her favorite pastime. She was very surprised to learn that she was the winner of the EMWD contest.



Mrs. Melodee Morgan currently teaches 8th grade English Language Arts and 7th and 8th grade AVID. She's been a teacher for 8 years.



Mr. Shaun Bunn teaches 8th grade Mathematics and Science. He has taught for 10 years.



Vocabulary Words:

Chemical:

Produced by or used in a reaction involving changes in atoms or molecules.

Chlorine:

A common nonmetallic element belonging to the halogens; best known as a heavy yellow irritating toxic gas; used to purify water and as a bleaching agent and disinfectant.

Clean:

To remove dirt, filth, or unwanted substances from something.

Contaminated:

Rendered unwholesome by contaminants and pollution.

Economy:

The system of production, distribution and consumption.

Faucet:

A regulator for controlling the flow of a liquid from a reservoir.

Fire Safety:

Safety measures taken to prevent or lessen the probability of a fire.

Germ:

A small simple life form from which new tissue can develop into a complete organism.

Monitored:

To keep tabs on; keep an eye on; keep under surveillance.

Public Health:

The health of people in general.

Quality:

A degree or grade of excellence or worth.

Reliability:

Worthy of trust.

Safe:

Free from harm or risk.

Tap:

A faucet for drawing water from a pipe.

Value:

The importance, worth, or usefulness of something.

Wackily:

In a mildly odd manner.

Wonkily:

Turned or twisted toward one side.

Acknowledgements:

Eastern Municipal Water District Education Specialist Malea Ortloff developed the award-winning Write Off program, now in its sixth year, in an effort to encourage a greater understanding of our most precious resource, water, in both elementary and middle school students. Malea uses a cross-age approach, which allows older students to write stories focusing on water-related issues geared toward younger (elementary) students. Once the winning story is selected and published, Malea designs curriculum that is grade-level appropriate and also keeps the water message in the classroom for a longer period of time. This year the topic focused on the quality, reliability, and value of tap water. The entries were outstanding and the committee selected three winners. *Dr. Tappentu Teaches Timmy to Tap Into Tap H₂O* is an engaging, informative, and humorous narrative about how misunderstood tap water is. It is sure to be a hit with elementary school students. Check out the EMWD website (www.emwd.org) to read the other two winning stories: *Aguat's Adventure: A Tale of Two Waters* and *A Lesson From School: Tap Water is Cool*.

Eastern Municipal Water District wishes to thank the following student, teachers, graphic designer, and advisory committee members for their collaboration and contributions in the development of this book

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tapinto
Quality . Reliability . Value

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