



ANNIE!

& MAC'S ADVENTURES

ANNIE & MAC'S ADVENTURES IS
A PUBLICATION FROM UPPSALA
MONITORING CENTRE



LORD FAKE STRIKES AGAIN!

THE EVIL MASTERMIND OF FAKE MEDICINES
HAS RETURNED. WILL TEAM SAFE MEDS
BE ABLE TO STOP HIM?

TEAM SAFE MEDS



ISAAC

WANTS TO BE A SCIENTIST, JUST LIKE HIS MUM. A SKILLED BASKETBALL PLAYER (WITH A SECRET PASSION FOR KNITTING). ANNIE'S FRIEND SINCE KINDERGARTEN.

ANNIE

OUR HEROINE. HELPS PEOPLE TO BE SAFE AROUND MEDICINES. ENJOYS BIKING, TV GAMES, READING, RUNNING, CLIMBING, SINGING, KNITTING, AND A GOOD CURRY. FAMILY: MUM, DAD, OLDER BROTHER. BEST FRIEND: MAC, HER PET HUMMINGBIRD.

AISHA

HAMAD'S TWIN SISTER. ELITE GYMNAST. HER DAD SAYS SHE HAS "A HEART OF GOLD, AND A WILL OF STEEL". PLAYS THE PIANO AND SPEAKS FIVE LANGUAGES.

MAC

SHORT FOR "MACH ONE". A HUMMINGBIRD. FAST FLYER. FAVOURITE HOBBY: INVENTING COOL MOVES TO KNOCK OUT BAD GUYS (SHOULD HE MEET ONE), SUCH AS "THE FEARFUL FLUTTER" AND "THE DIVE OF DEATH".

HAMAD

REGIONAL RUBIK'S CUBE CHAMPION SINCE HE WAS FOUR. ENJOYS OUTDOORS ACTIVITIES (IF THEY'RE ON TV). WISHES HE WAS A BIT TALLER.

LORD FAKE AND THE BAD PILLS



LORD FAKE

STARTED HIS CAREER WHEN HE WAS FIVE, BY SELLING FAKE CANDY (CHERRY STONES IN MUD BALLS). HAS SINCE MADE A FORTUNE BY SELLING FAKE MEDICINES. HIS MEDICINES HAVE POISONED 12,395,344 PEOPLE (AND COUNTING). BAD BREATH. SHOE SIZE: 55. KEEPS A PET CROCODILE - STEPHEN - DISGUISED AS A SQUIRREL.

STEPHEN

POSSIBLY THE LARGEST SQUIRREL IN THE WORLD. GOOD SWIMMER, BIG TEETH. FAVOURITE ICE CREAM FLAVOUR: ZEBRA SWIRL.

THE BAD PILLS

BAD GUYS, BAD NEWS, BAD MEDICINE. THIS CREW WILL COOK UP (AND SELL) THE FOULEST FAKE MEDICINE TO MAKE A BUCK.

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IT TAKES A KEEN EYE TO SPOT FAKE MEDICINES. SAFETY TIPS FROM ANNIE AND AMAZINGLY AWESOME ACTIVITIES!

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ANNIE'S MEDICINES SAFETY FACTS

WHAT'S A SIDE EFFECT? AND WHAT DO YOU DO IF YOU GET ONE? ANNIE TALKS US THROUGH THE BASICS (AND GETS ON HER FAMILY'S NERVES).

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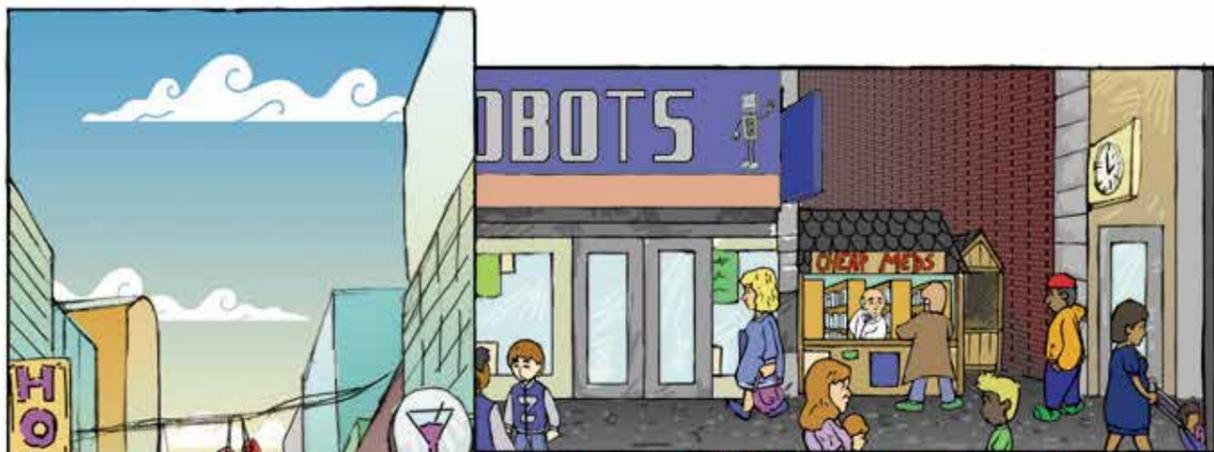
COMING SOON ...

COMING IN THE NEXT ISSUE ...



ANNIE AND MAC IN: LORD FAKE STRIKES AGAIN





Here's the medicine.



The medicine isn't working.

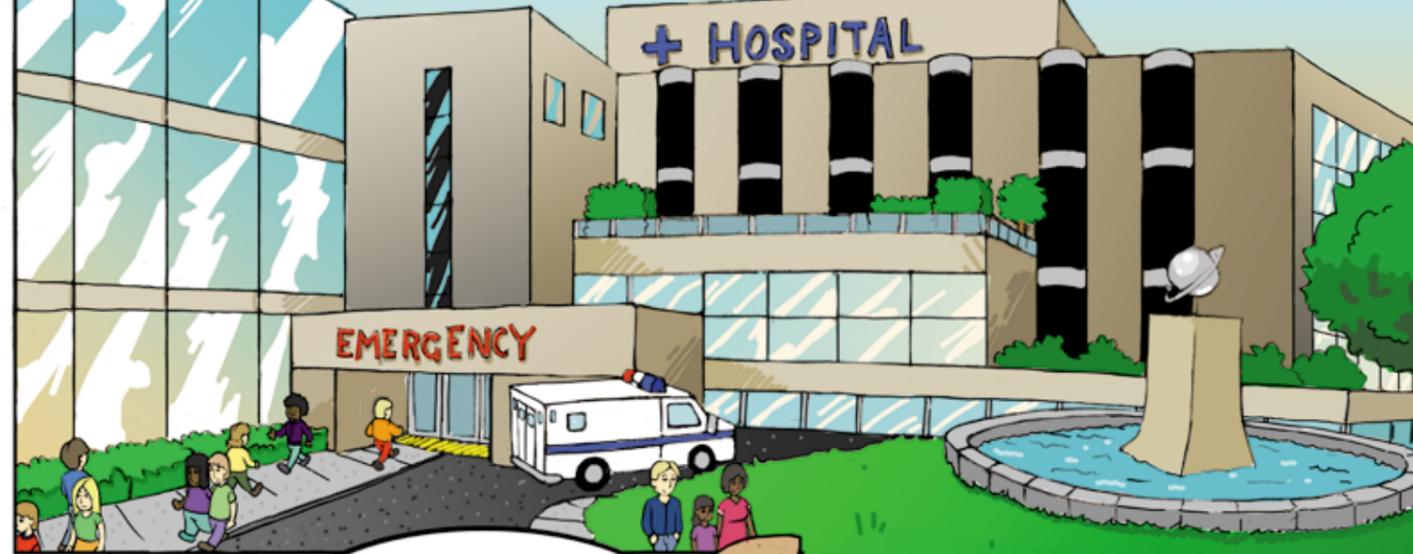
She isn't getting any better.



Perhaps we have to give her more.



We need to take her to the doctor.



Your daughter will be fine. But she needs to stay in the hospital for a few days.

Will she need more of her medicine?

This medicine isn't real. Where did you get it?

At the market. It looks real to me.



Oh yes, they're good at making it look real.



Who?

The Pirates.





The medicine pirates make fake medicines. The fakes can contain anything, even poison! Thousands of people are hurt by fake medicines every year. Some even die!

The pirates sell the fakes in markets and on the internet.



Sometimes they even sneak them into hospitals and pharmacies!



Come on, Mac! It's time for Team Safe Meds!

Let's go!



The fake medicines are hurting people. We have to do something.

Come on, Hamad! Wait up, guys.

Okay, so this is where the dad bought the fake medicine for his daughter. Yup. Keep an eye out for medicine stalls, team.

Hey - over here!

CHEAP MEDS Cheap and dirty. Look at all these cheap medicines. Where did you get these? From a truck. The nice man said they are really good.





Nice man, eh? What did he look like?

Squirrel! It must be Lord Fake who's behind all this.

Fancy hat. Expensive coat.

Special Today

Oh, and he had a really big squirrel in the passenger seat.

Lord who?

I know he deserves it, but it wouldn't do any good.

But I've been working on my new move...

Whoa!

Lord Fake! The duke of dirty drugs. We have to move fast, Mac.

Yeah! I can't wait to give his head a good pecking!

The Super Speedy Beak of Revenge!



Very nice, Mac. But then another crook will sell the fake medicines. The best way to help people is teaching them how to avoid the fakes.

Yeah, I'll do the Super Speedy Beak of Revenge on anyone who buys a fake medicine. That will scare them straight.

Aw, he's so cute when he's angry.

Well ... maybe. But I say we just teach them about the dangers of fake medicines.

Come on, let's go!

Great! And then I do the Super Speedy Beak of Revenge on them?

No. No Super Speedy Beak of Revenge. We just teach them.



Meanwhile, in Lord Fake's office



What is this? Why are sales going down?



Dunno, boss. People just don't want to buy your fake meds anymore.

But why? Why?

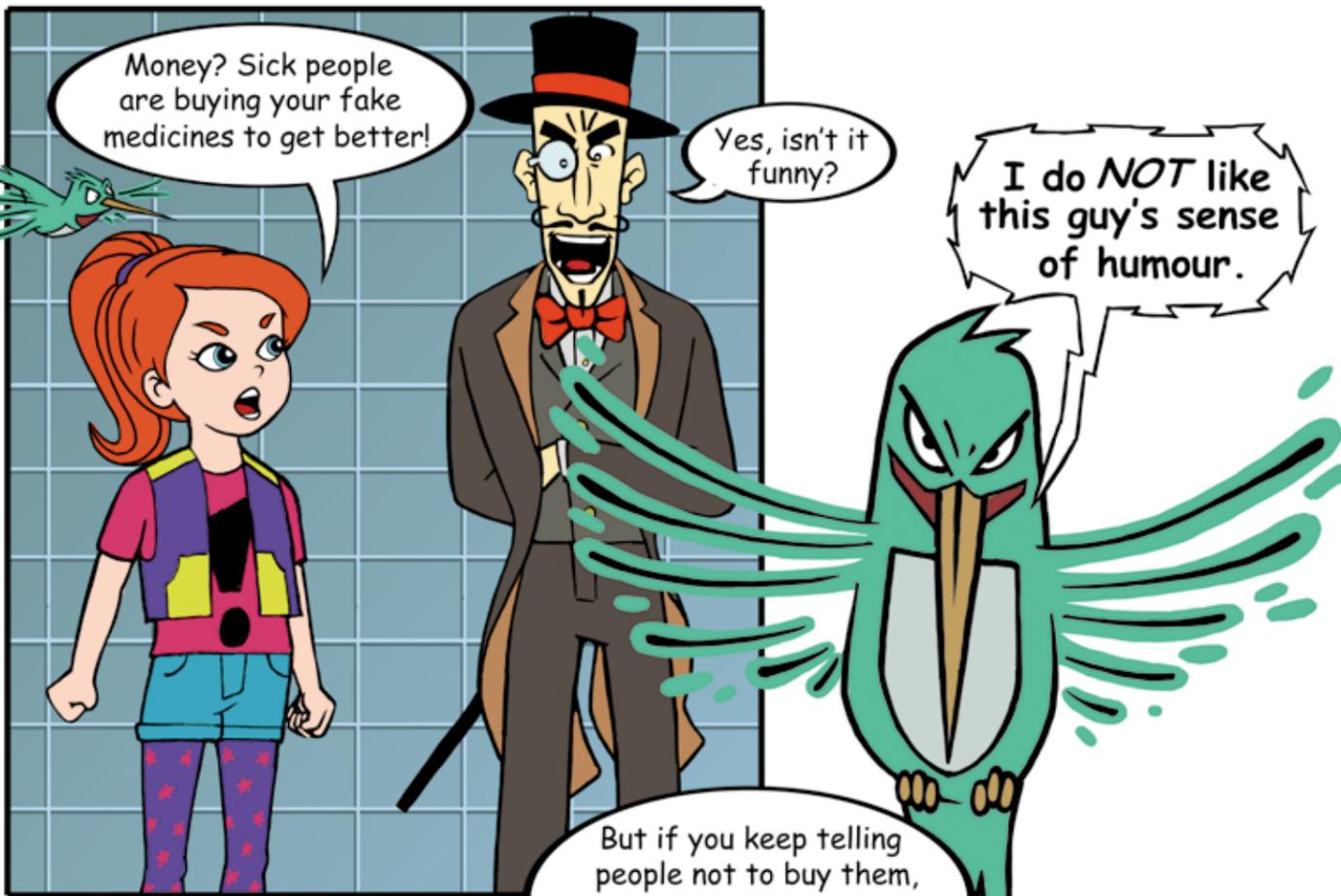
They are so cheap. So good! For me, I mean.

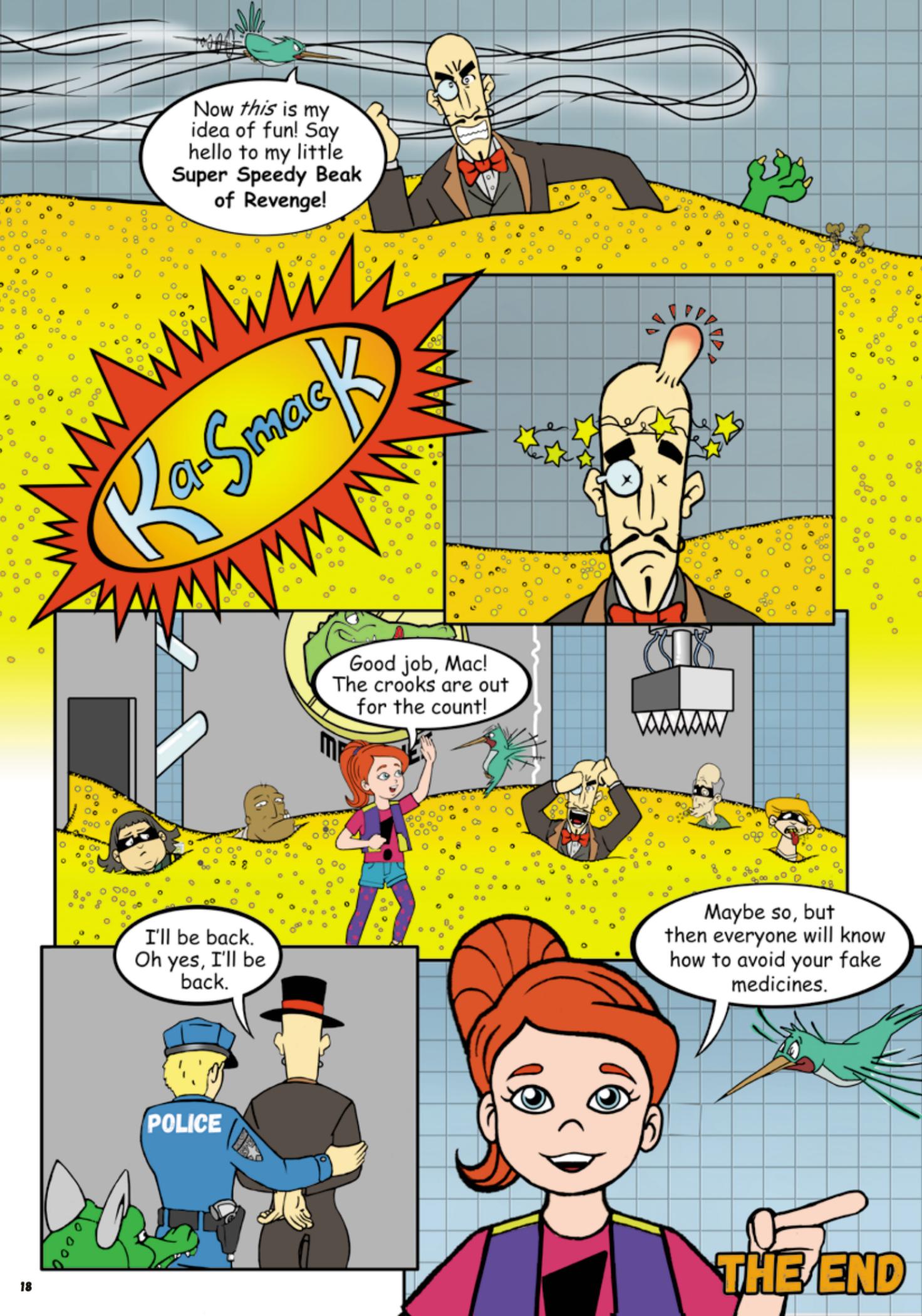


Hey boss, look at that!

Oh I see! They think they can outsmart me, eh? Gather the gang! Let's go and pay these do-gooders a visit, shall we?







Now *this* is my idea of fun! Say hello to my little Super Speedy Beak of Revenge!

Ka-Smack

Good job, Mac! The crooks are out for the count!

I'll be back. Oh yes, I'll be back.

Maybe so, but then everyone will know how to avoid your fake medicines.

THE END

WORK ON YOUR FAKE-MEDS SPOTTING SKILLS

How do you avoid fake medicines? Here are a few tips.

There are some medicines that you can only buy if a doctor has given you a "prescription". A prescription is a permission for you to buy the medicine from the pharmacy. Real pharmacies will never sell a prescription medicine unless a doctor has told them to. But fake pharmacies will give you any fake medicine as long as you pay them!

Be careful if you buy medicines on the internet! Fake internet pharmacies often have no real street address on their webpage, only phone numbers or email. You can tell it's a fake pharmacy if it sells prescription medicines without prescriptions.

Does the medicine package look like it's been opened? Are the colours weak or the text misspelled? Beware! Real medicines have strong, clean packaging with clear text and colours. Also remember to check the expiry date!



Don't use the medicine if it looks, smells or tastes strange. Watch out for cracked or smudged pills!



Never buy medicines from market stalls. Medicines in market stalls are often fakes.



Ask a pharmacist or a doctor if the medicine is real.

THE EVIL LORD FAKE HAS HIDDEN HIS FAKE MEDICINES THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE COMIC. HELP ANNIE AND MAC FIND ALL THE FAKE MEDICINES AND CLEAN UP LORD FAKE'S ACT! EACH PAGE HAS A FAKE MEDICINE HIDDEN ON IT!

COLOUR ME!

LORD FAKE AND STEPHEN BOTH NEED A BIT OF COLOUR. AND WHILE YOU'RE AT IT: LORD FAKE WOULD ALSO LIKE A FAKE BEARD, AND STEPHEN A BIG CONE OF ZEBRA SWIRL ICE CREAM.



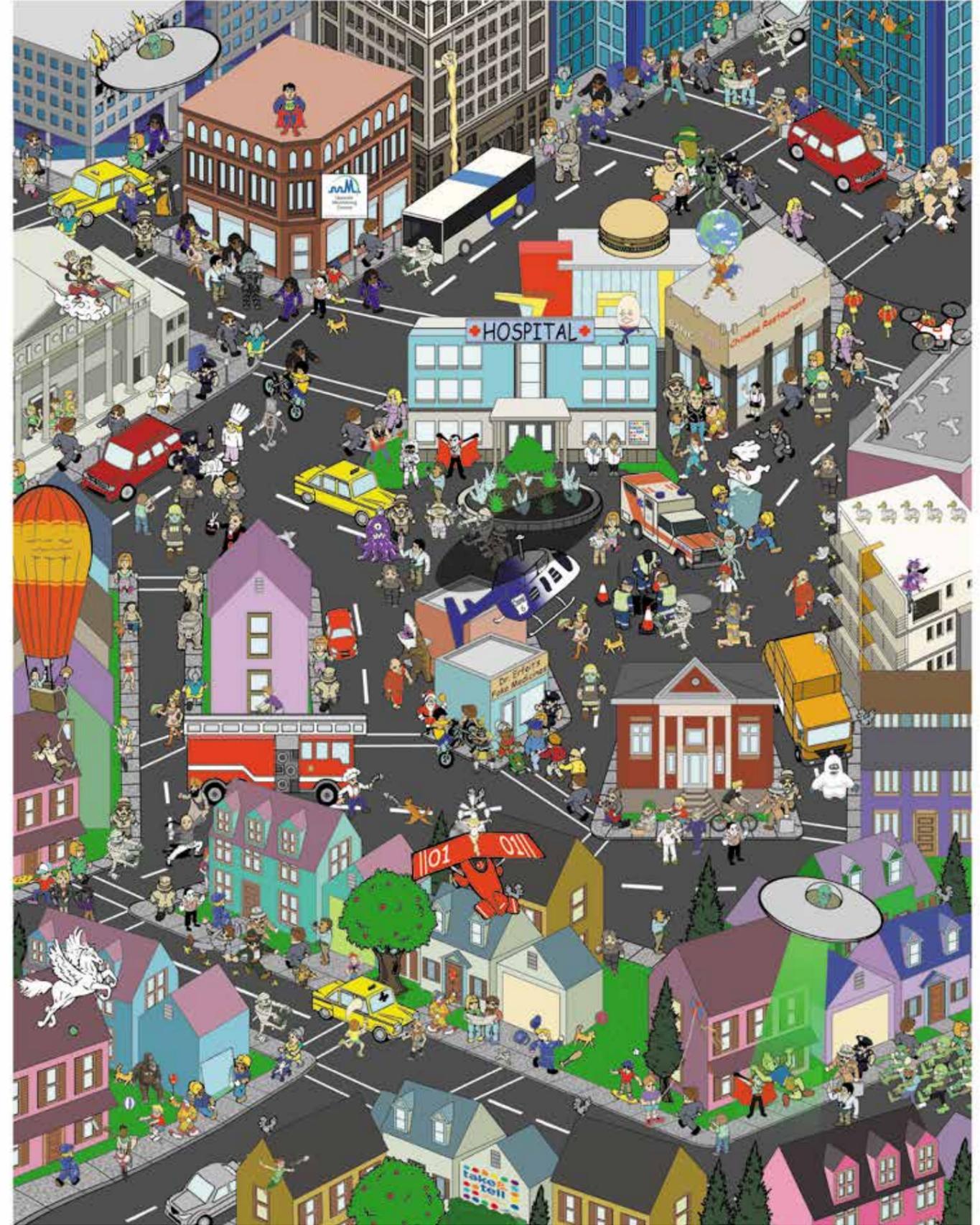
SPOT THE DIFFERENCE!

LORD FAKE IS EVEN FALSIFYING HIS OWN PHOTOS. CAN YOU SPOT ALL 20 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THESE TWO IMAGES?



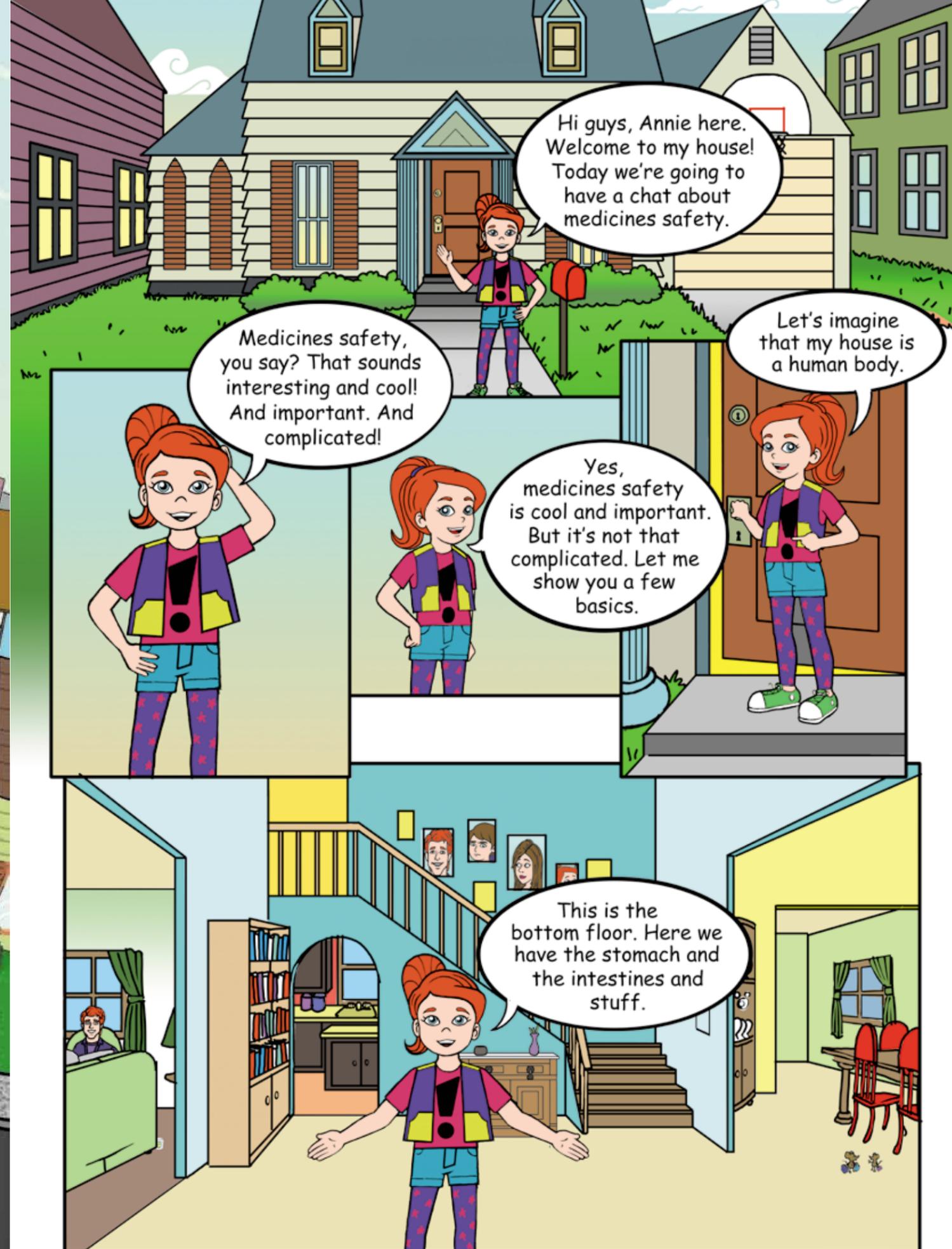
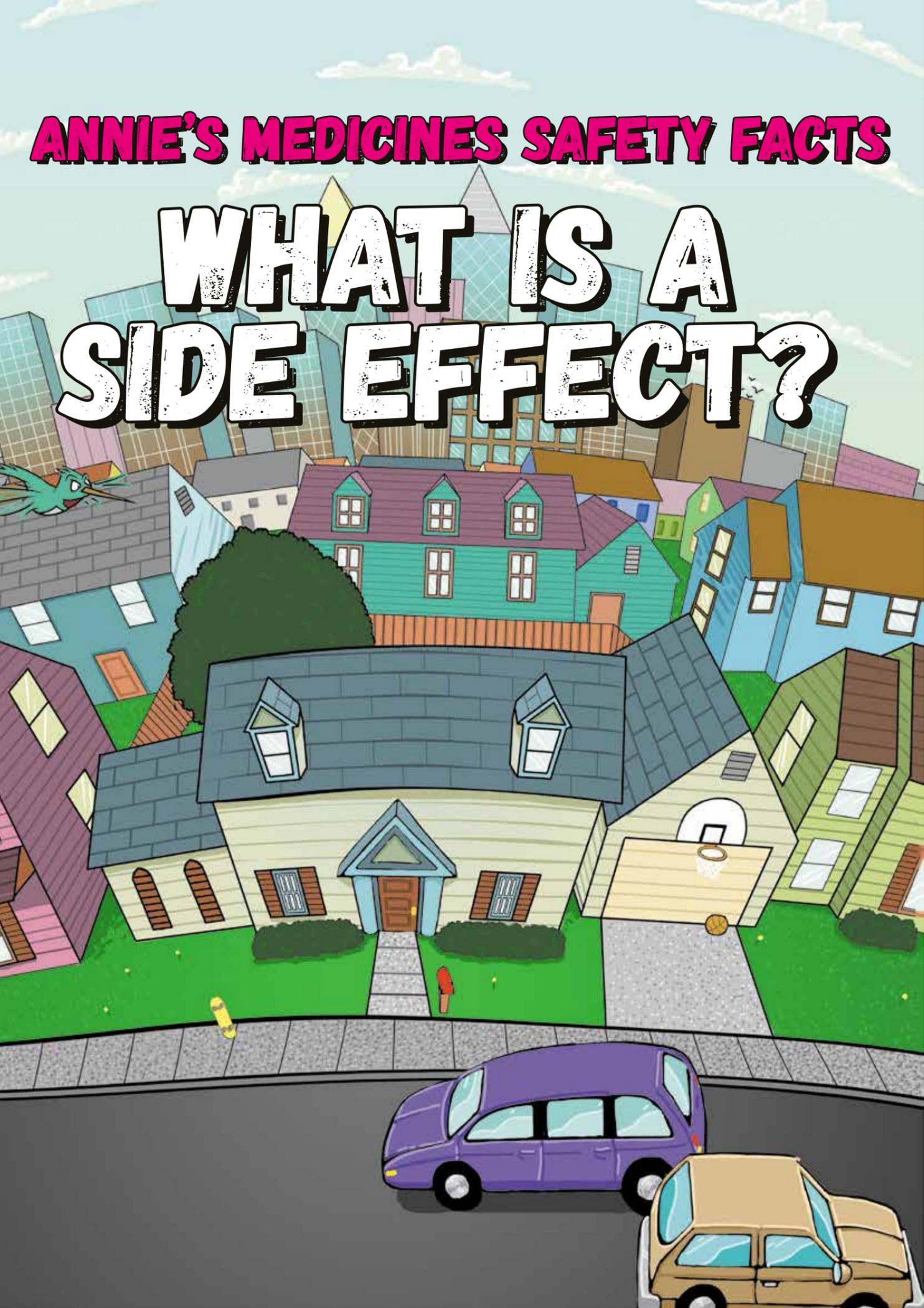
HELP MAC!

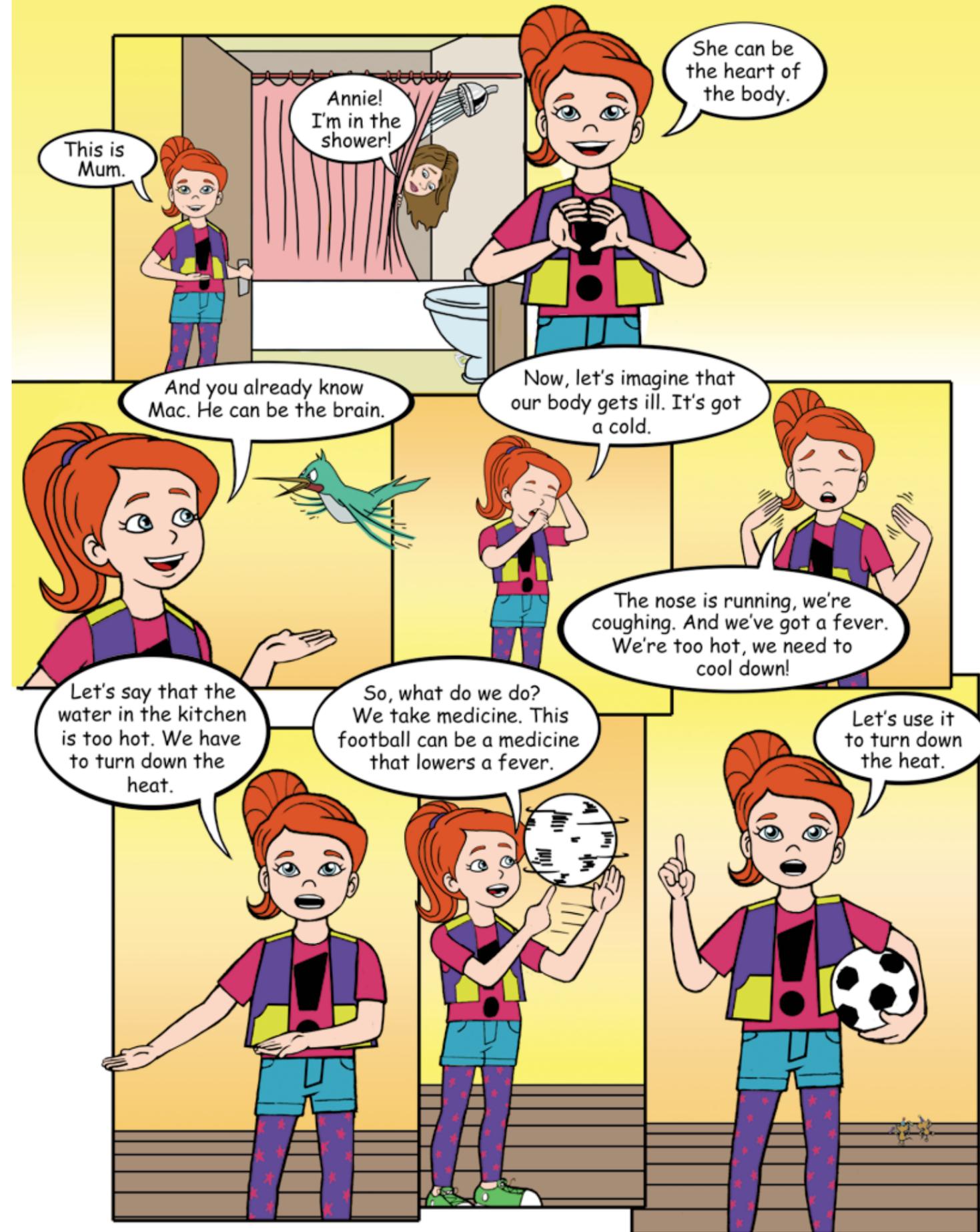
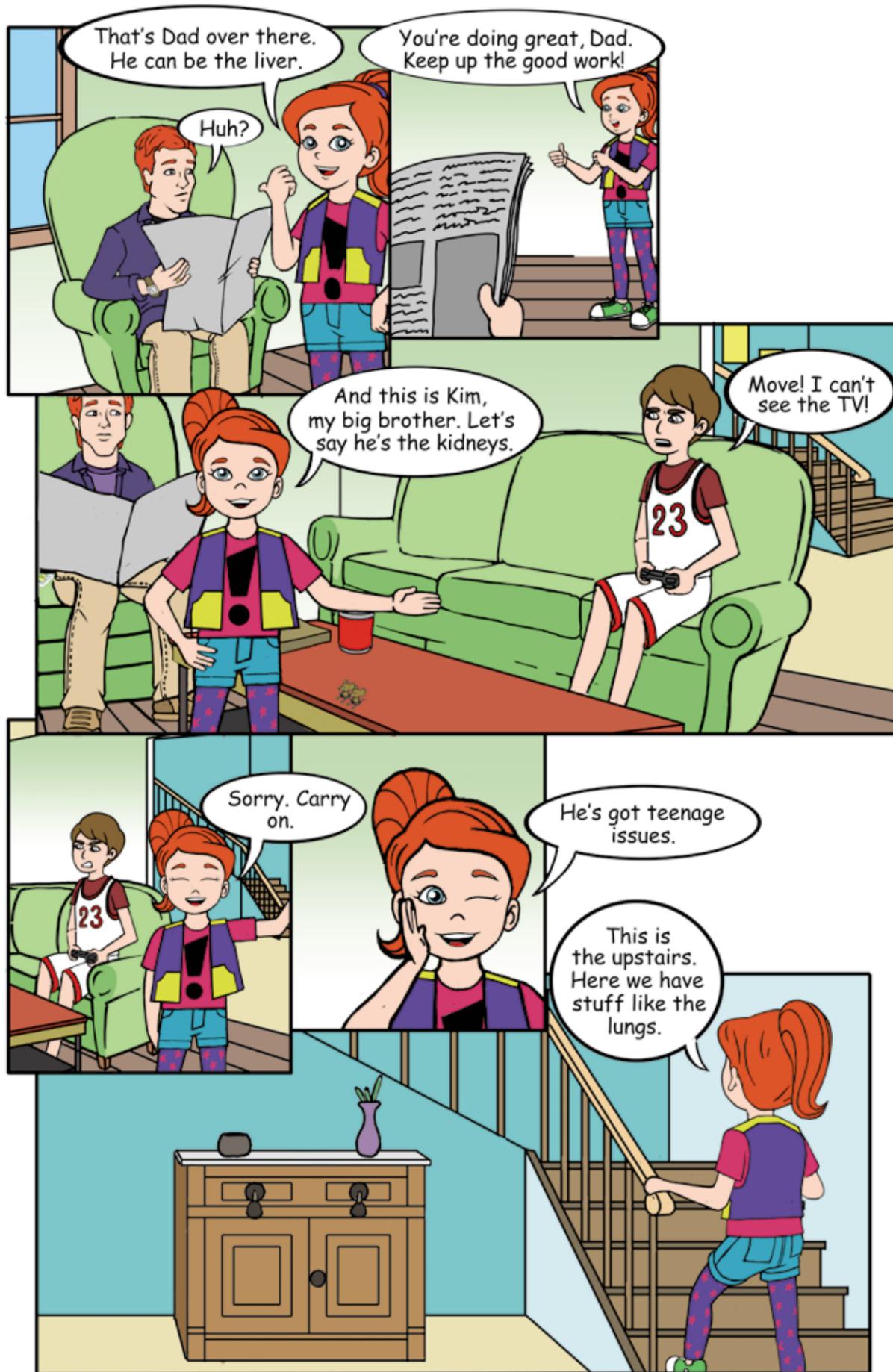
MAC IS HAVING A WEIRD DREAM (TOO MUCH PINEAPPLE JUICE BEFORE BEDTIME). HELP HIM FIND ANNIE, LORD FAKE AND STEPHEN THE CROCODILE SO HE CAN WAKE UP!



ANNIE'S MEDICINES SAFETY FACTS

WHAT IS A SIDE EFFECT?





The medicine comes in through the mouth.

Then it needs to go down into the stomach and the intestines before it can get to work.

There's a switch downstairs that turns off the hot water. Let's use the medicine to hit it!

CRASH!
BANG!

But the medicine didn't just lower the fever.

Your stupid ball knocked over my drink! And I missed the high score.

HEY!
WHAT THE..!

What's the meaning of this, Annie?

It made other things happen as well. Look at what it did to the kidneys and the liver.

This is a "side effect". It's when a medicine does something that you don't want it to do.

And maybe the medicine doesn't just turn off the heater for the water downstairs.

EEEEEEK!! C-C-C-COLD!

Don't worry, Mum! I'm just showing what a side effect is.

And what do you do when you get a side effect?

Call the plumber!

Interesting answer, Mum! But with a side effect you tell the doctor, or someone at the pharmacy.

Here are a few examples of side effects.

- Stomach ache
- Diarrhoea
- Dry mouth
- Headache
- Itchy skin

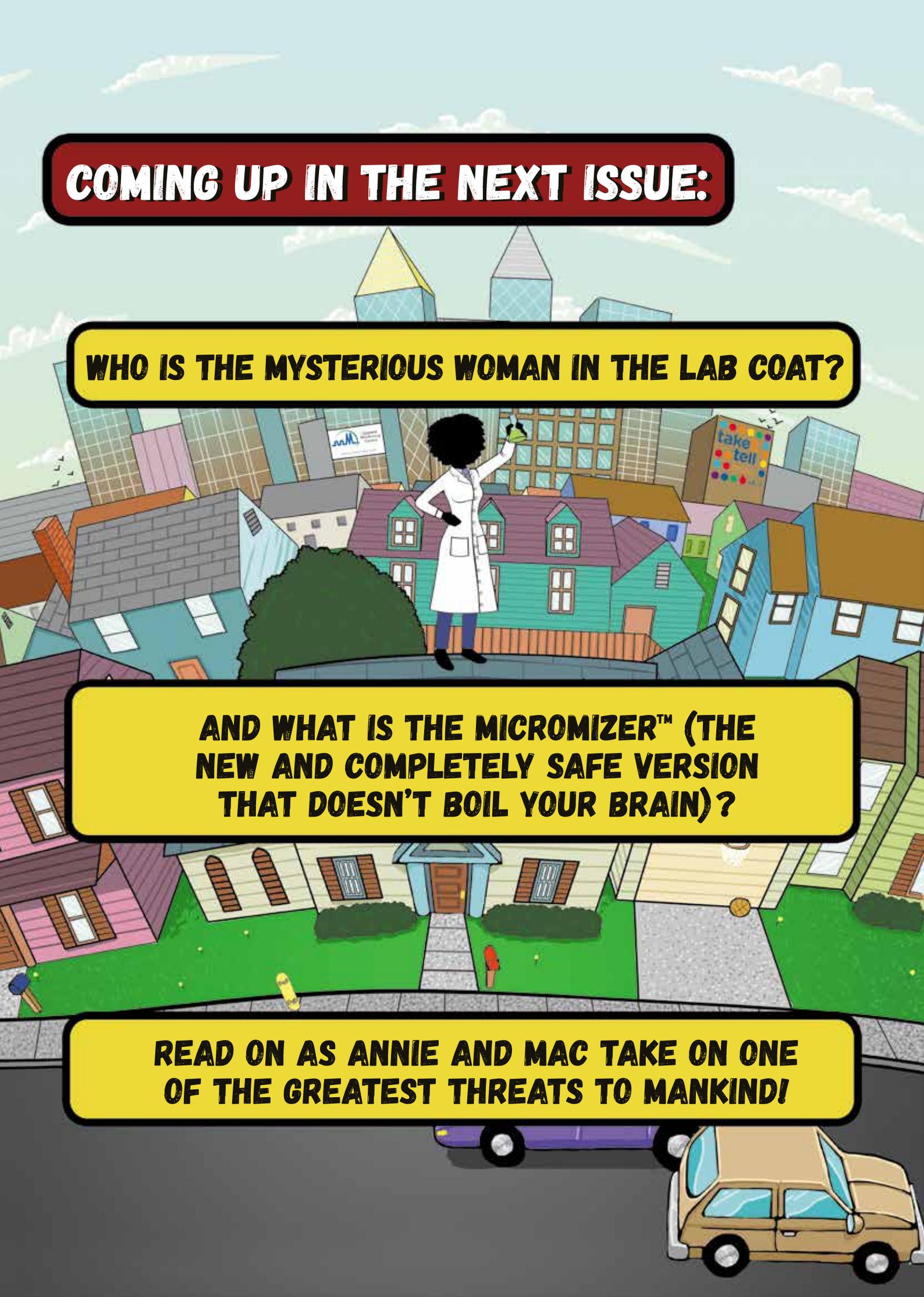


THIS COMIC IS PRODUCED BY UPPSALA MONITORING CENTRE (UMC). UMC IS A NON-PROFIT FOUNDATION (WE DO NOT SELL THINGS TO MAKE MONEY). WE DO RESEARCH AND KEEP AN EYE ON HOW MEDICINES ARE USED. BY WORKING WITH DIFFERENT TEAMS AROUND THE WORLD, WE HELP PEOPLE MAKE GOOD AND SAFE DECISIONS ABOUT WHICH MEDICINES TO USE, AND HOW TO USE THEM. AND WE HAVE BEEN DOING THIS FOR MORE THAN 40 YEARS. OUR GOAL IS A WORLD WHERE EVERYONE – PATIENTS, DOCTORS, NURSES, PHARMACISTS – MAKE WISE DECISIONS IN THEIR USE OF MEDICINES. THIS COMIC IS THE FIRST IN A SERIES THAT WILL EXPLORE AND EXPLAIN IMPORTANT MEDICINES SAFETY ISSUES. WE HOPE YOU ENJOY IT!

***TAKE & TELL IS A CAMPAIGN TOOLKIT DEVELOPED BY UMC, ENCOURAGING A SAFER USE OF MEDICINES. THE CAMPAIGN HAS SEVERAL CATCHY SONGS, ALL AVAILABLE AT WWW.TAKEANDTELL.ORG**

WE NEED HELP TAKING ANNIE & MAC AROUND THE WORLD. PLEASE CONTACT US IF YOU'D LIKE TO HELP OUT: INFO@WHO-UMC.ORG WWW.WHO-UMC.ORG

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: PAULA ALVARADO, TEXT: FREDRIK BRUNÉUS
ILLUSTRATIONS: PAUL CRUMPACKER, TOMAS PAULSSON**

A vibrant, cartoon-style illustration of a city. In the foreground, a woman with dark curly hair, wearing a white lab coat and dark pants, stands on a rooftop. She is holding a small green object in her right hand. The city below is filled with various houses and buildings in shades of blue, green, and brown. In the background, there are taller skyscrapers, one of which has a sign that says "take tell". The sky is light blue with some white clouds. The overall style is bright and playful.

COMING UP IN THE NEXT ISSUE:

WHO IS THE MYSTERIOUS WOMAN IN THE LAB COAT?

AND WHAT IS THE MICROMIZER™ (THE NEW AND COMPLETELY SAFE VERSION THAT DOESN'T BOIL YOUR BRAIN)?

READ ON AS ANNIE AND MAC TAKE ON ONE OF THE GREATEST THREATS TO MANKIND!

A purple van and a tan car are shown on a road at the bottom of the page. The purple van is on the left, and the tan car is on the right. They appear to be driving towards the right. The road is grey, and there are some green bushes and a red fire hydrant visible in the background.