TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

TAKE CARE OF TEXAS

Lone Star Activity Book

Take Care of Texas™

It's the only one we've got.

TakeCareOfTexas.org

How Do You Take Care of Texas?

2018 Art Contest Winner

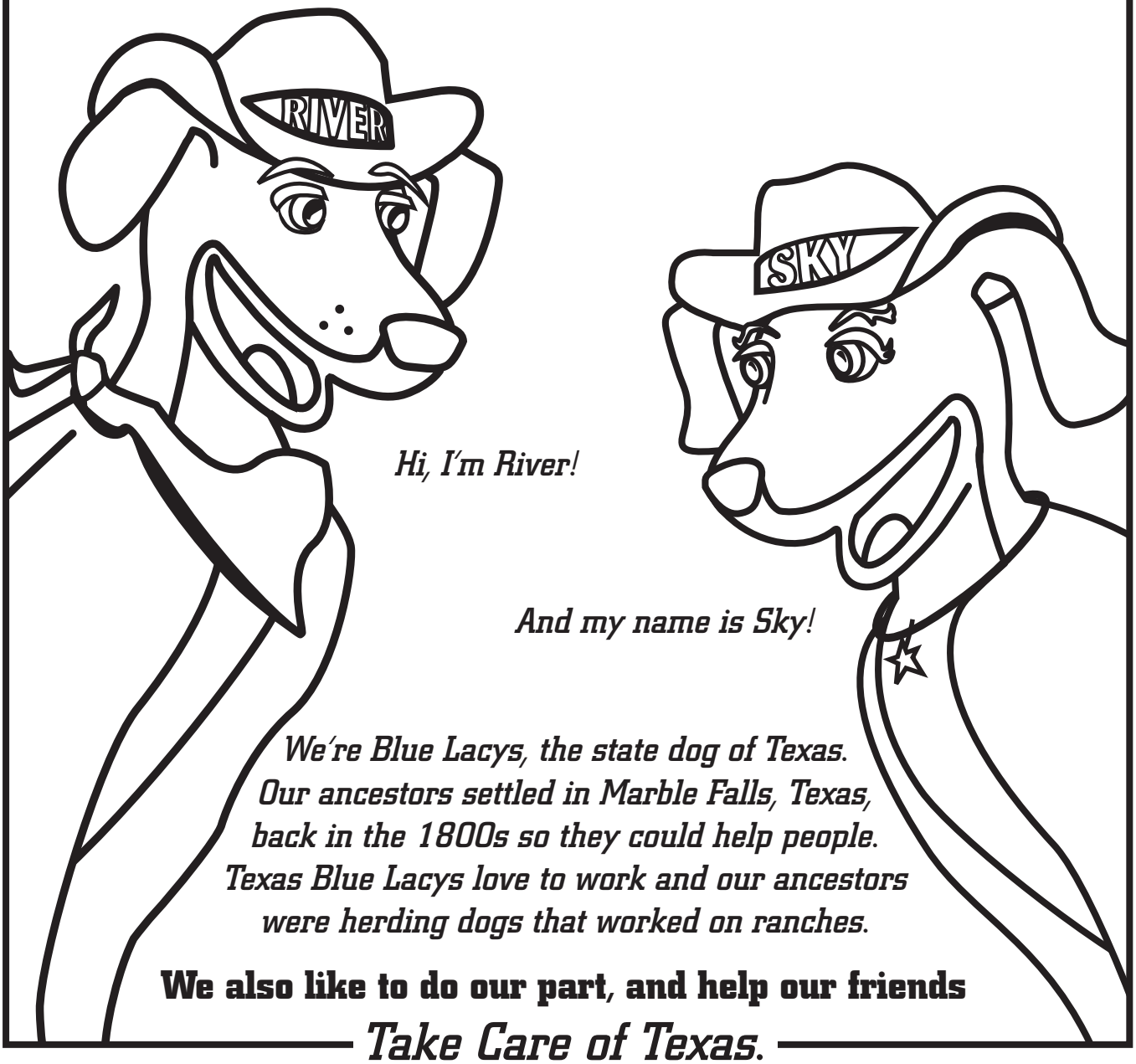
Congratulations to Abigail Valdez, a 4th grader from Resaca Elementary in Brownsville, Texas! Abigail's artwork is featured below. She also won a laptop courtesy of Samsung Austin Semiconductor!

Kids Art Contest

See how you can enter the next art contest by visiting <TakeCareOfTexas.org/art-contest>.

TAKE CARE OF TEXAS

Lone Star Activity Book



Hi, I'm River!

And my name is Sky!

We're Blue Lacys, the state dog of Texas. Our ancestors settled in Marble Falls, Texas, back in the 1800s so they could help people. Texas Blue Lacys love to work and our ancestors were herding dogs that worked on ranches.

We also like to do our part, and help our friends

Take Care of Texas.

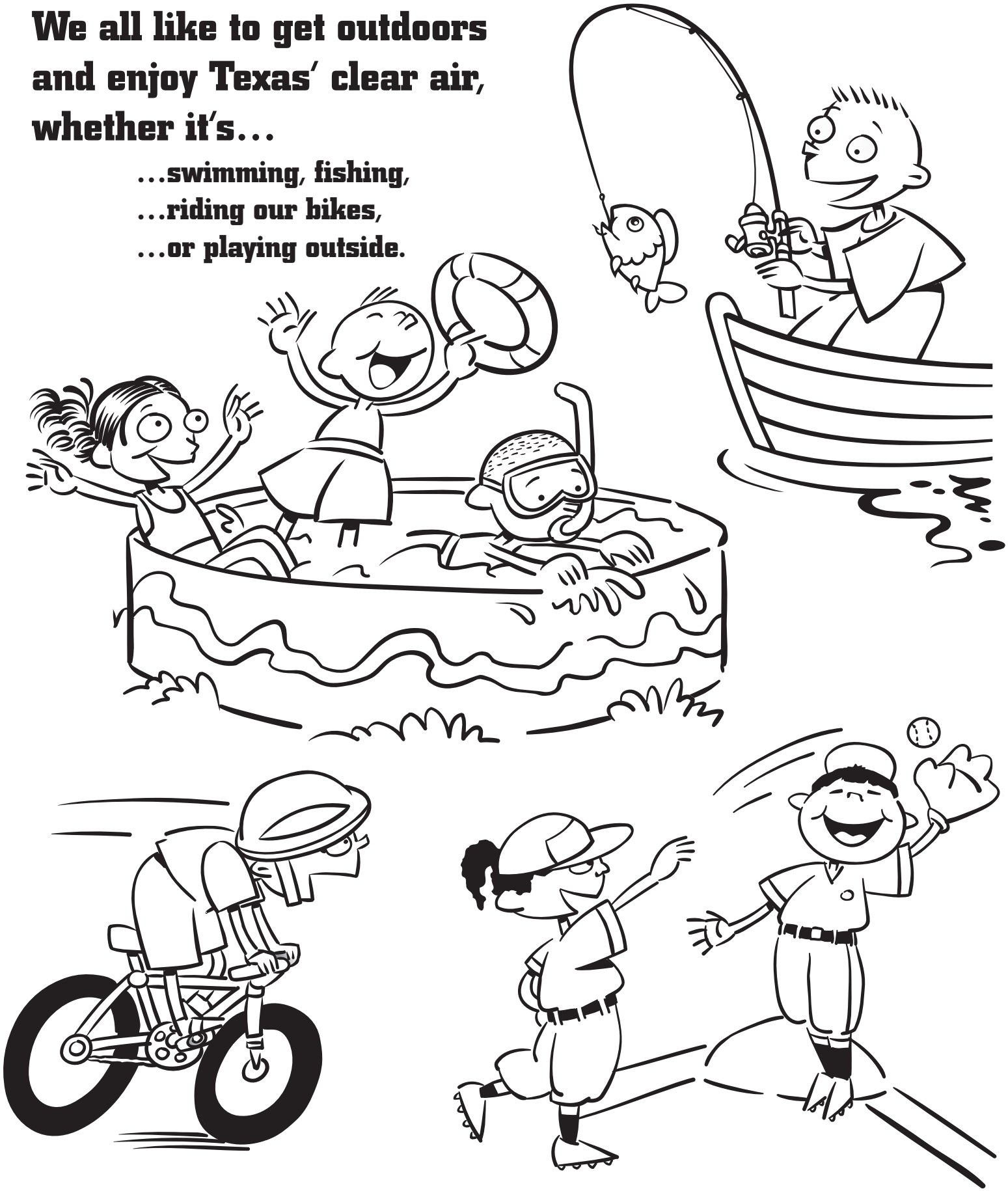
Tell us your name

_____

It is a beautiful state too.
Texas is a BIG state.
SKY
RIVER

We all like to get outdoors and enjoy Texas' clear air, whether it's...

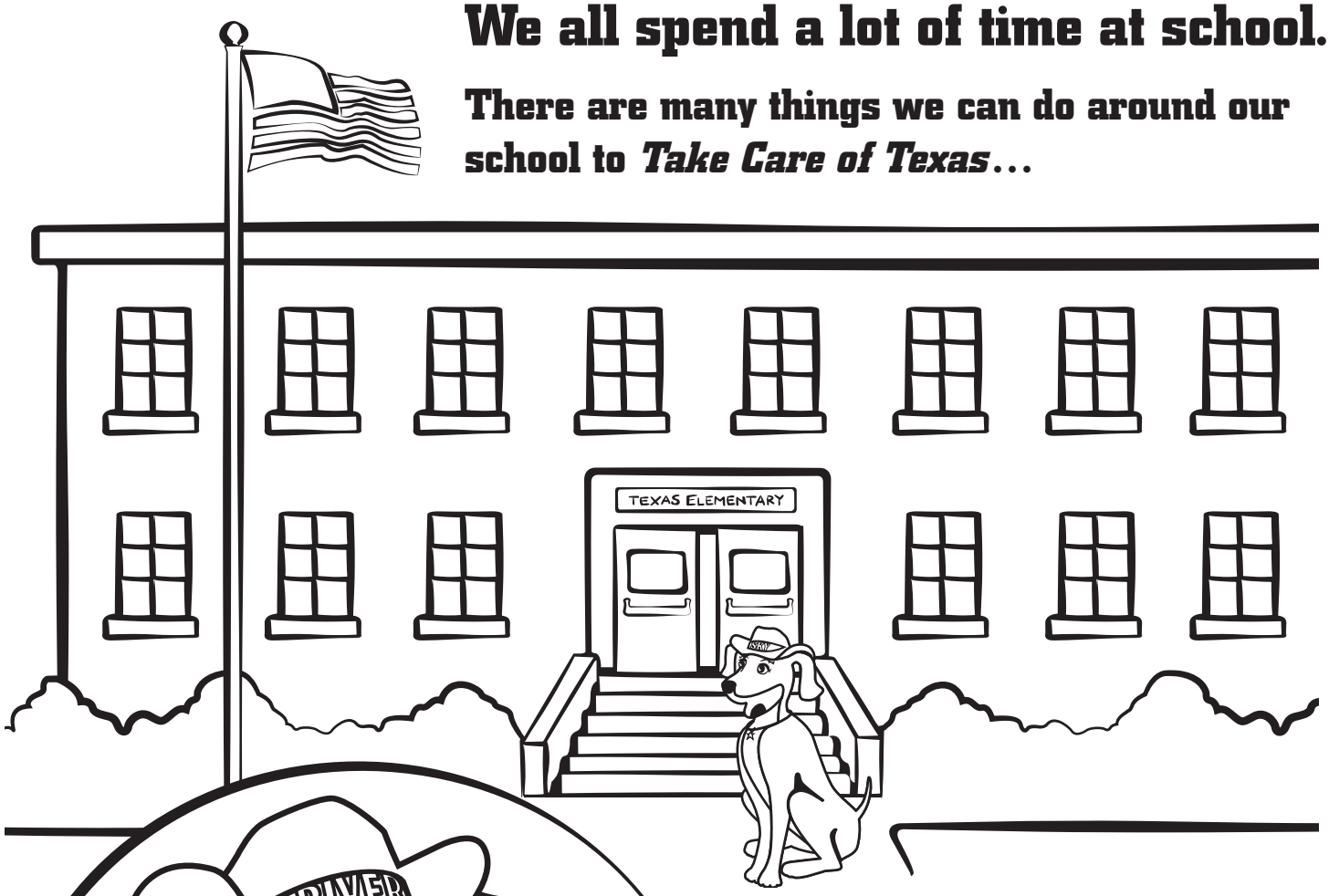
...swimming, fishing,
...riding our bikes,
...or playing outside.



If we want to keep enjoying Texas, we need to make smart choices every day to *Take Care of Texas*!

We all spend a lot of time at school.

There are many things we can do around our school to *Take Care of Texas*...



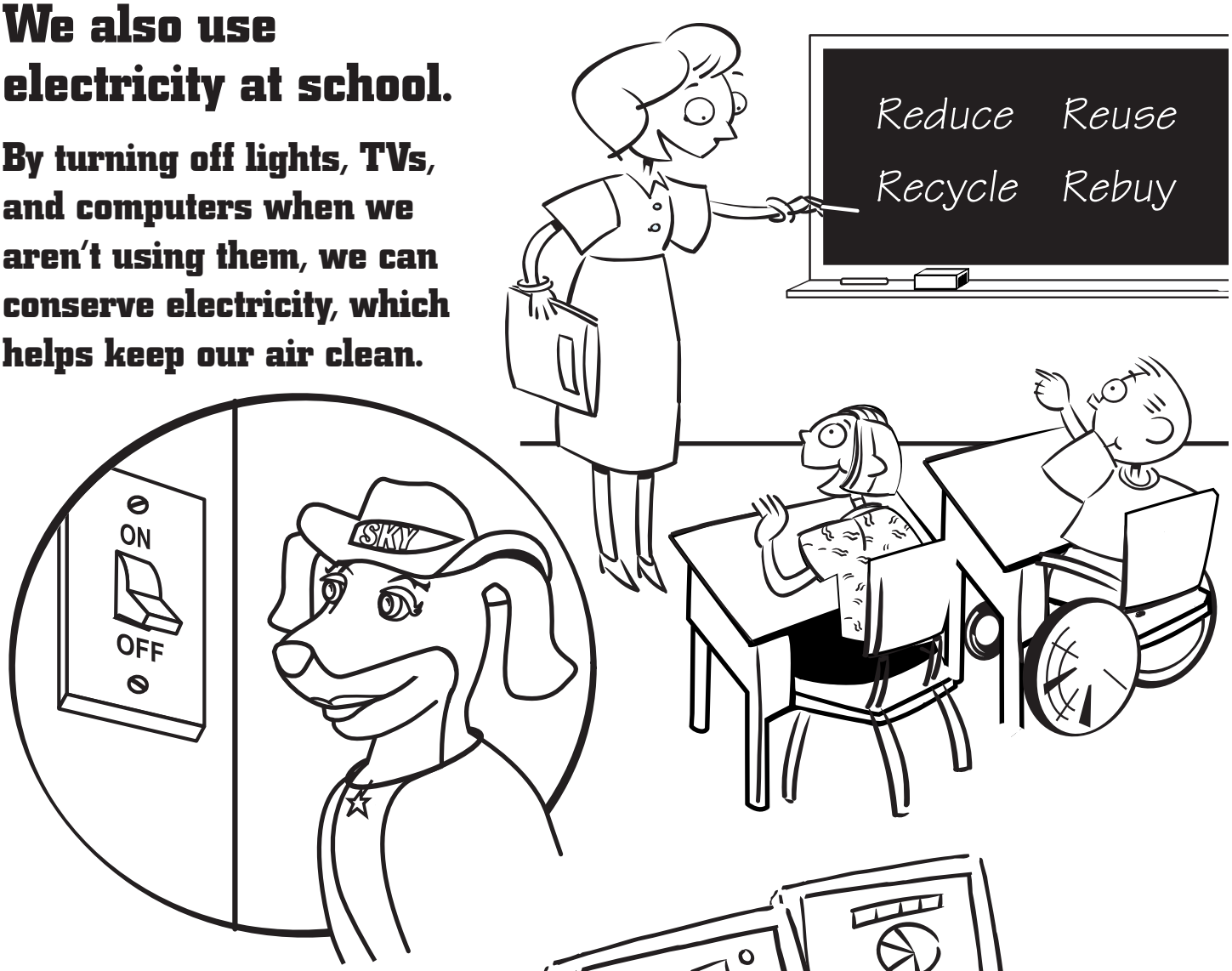
When we read and write at school, we use a lot of paper.

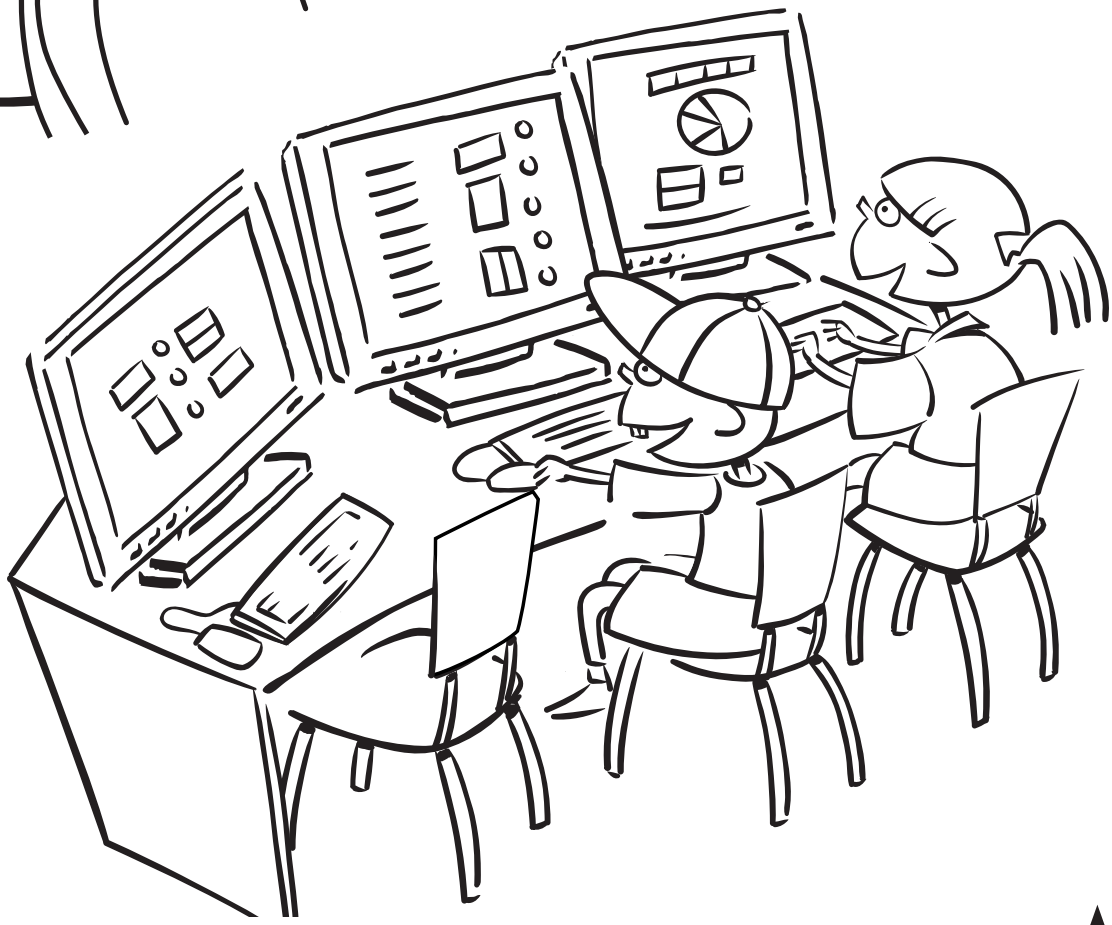
So we don't waste paper, we can...

...use both sides of a piece of paper and recycle it instead of throwing it in the trash.

We also use electricity at school.

By turning off lights, TVs, and computers when we aren't using them, we can conserve electricity, which helps keep our air clean.

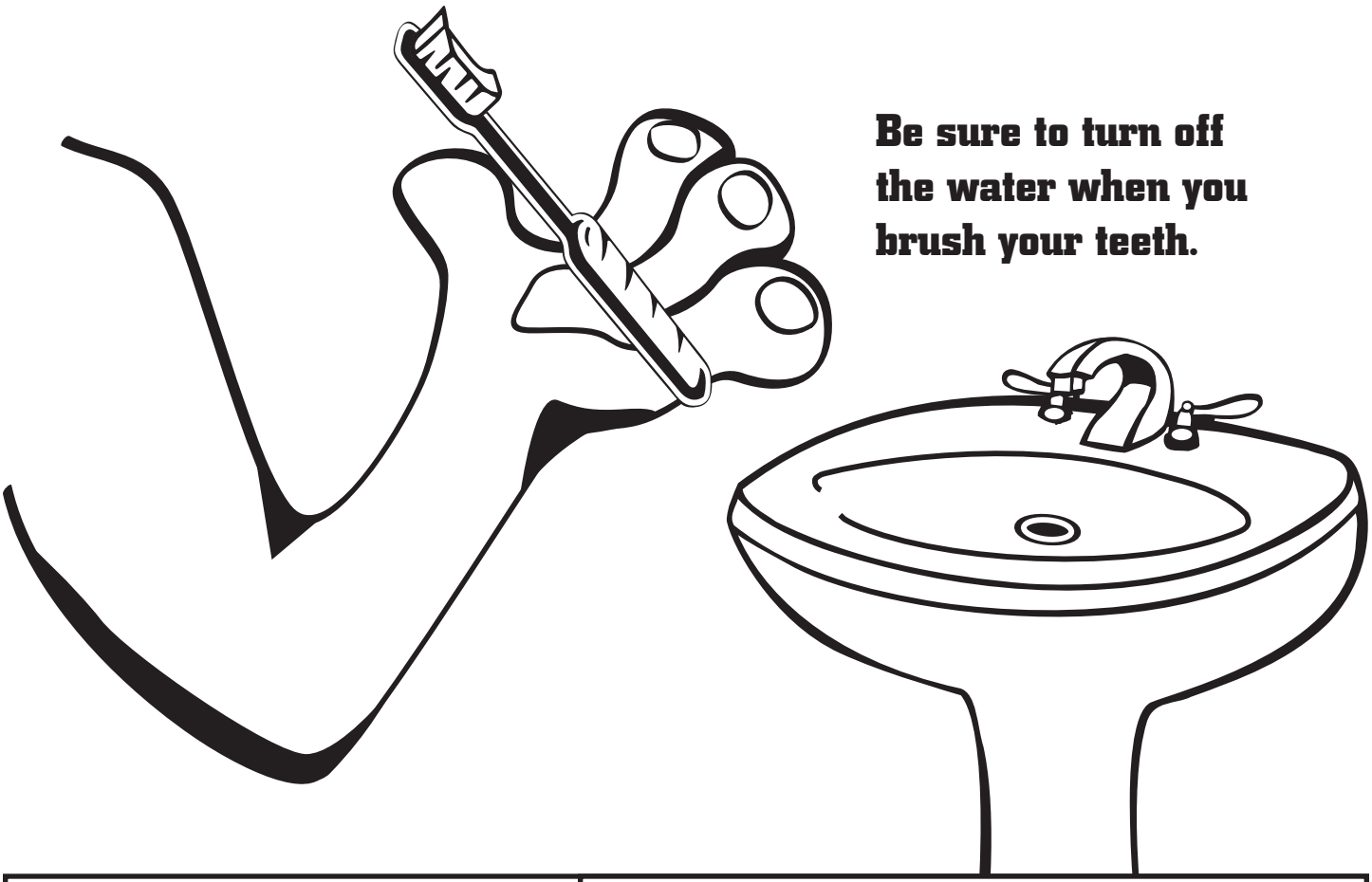




Activity: **Color any computer that should be turned off BLUE and any that should be left on GREEN.**

There are many things you can do at your home to help *Take Care of Texas!*

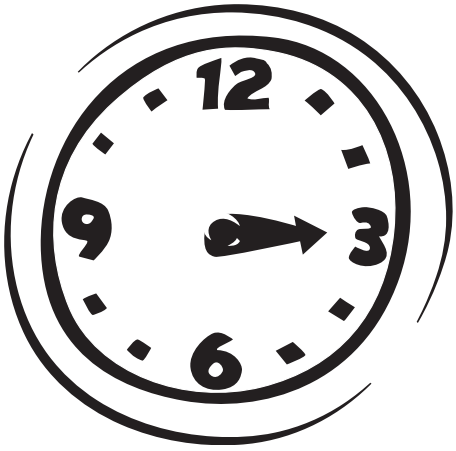
We can use less water and keep it in our lakes, rivers, and streams.



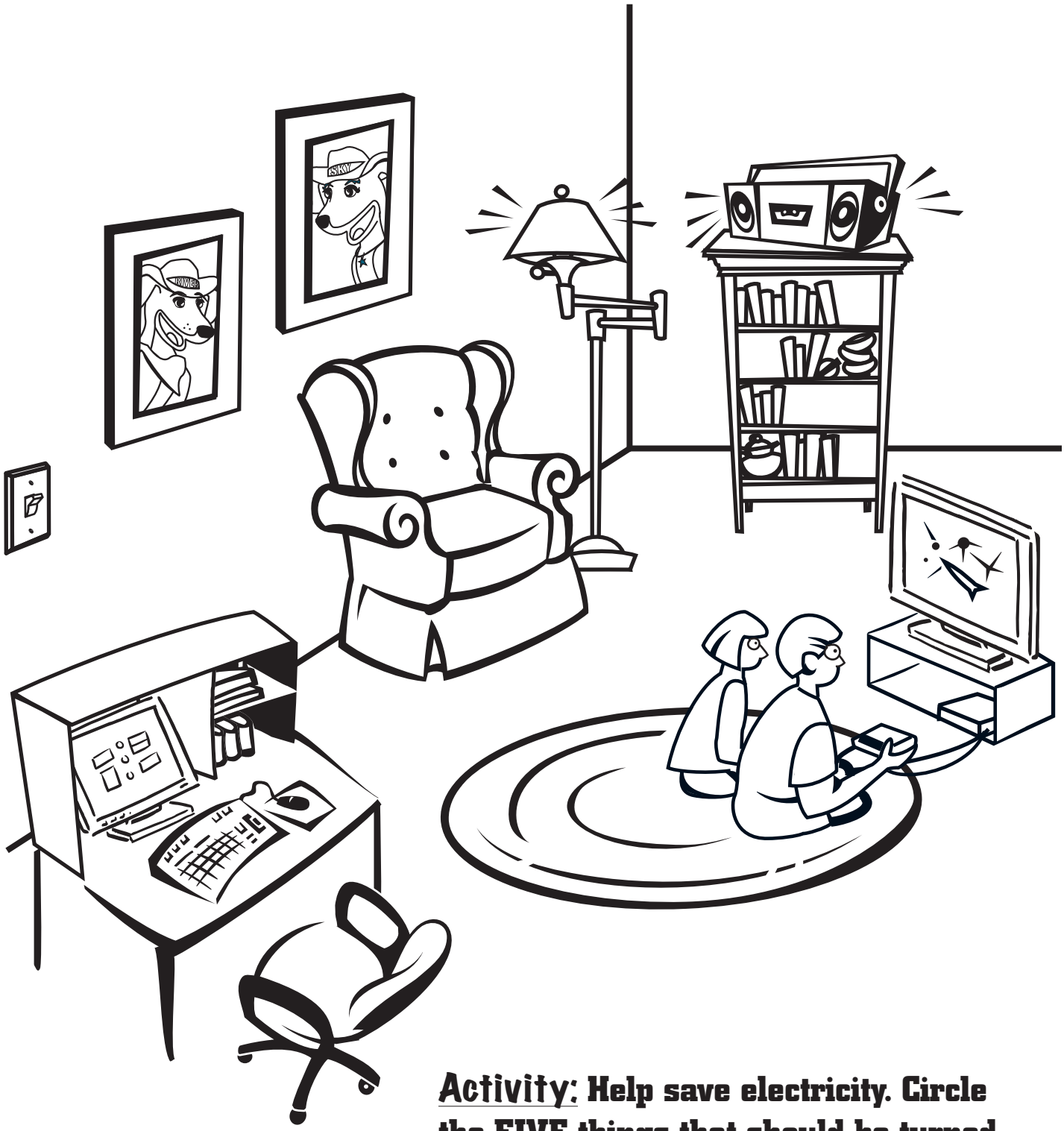
Be sure to turn off the water when you brush your teeth.

Try to take showers that only last FIVE minutes.

Activity: Draw the hand on the clock to show that five minutes have passed.



When you leave a room, turn off any lights, radios, TVs, computers, or video games that you aren't using.



<u>Activity:</u> Help save electricity. Circle the FIVE things that should be turned off when no one is using them.

There are many things in your home that you can recycle and reuse.

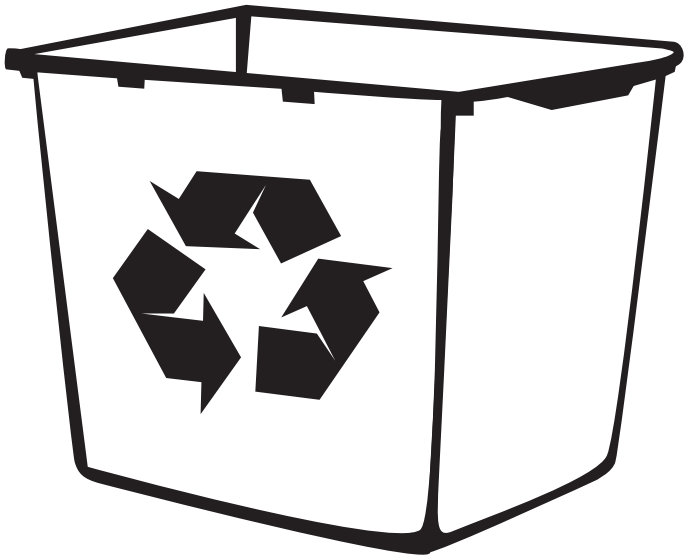
Ask an adult if you can share or donate toys, games, books, and clothes you don't need anymore.

Activity: Can you find SEVEN items in this room that can be recycled or reused when you don't need them anymore?

Not everything can be recycled. Leftovers and food wrappers should NOT go in the recycle bin.

Plastic bottles

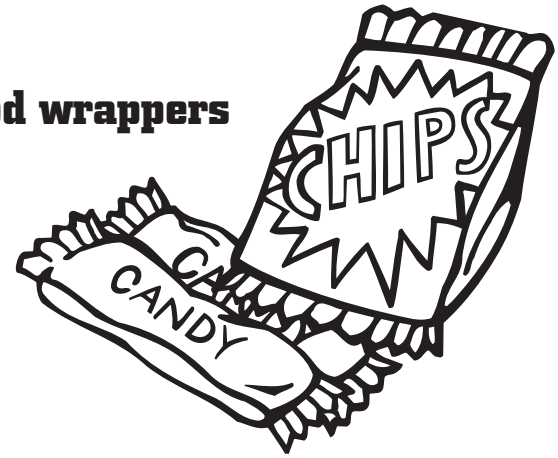
<u>Activity:</u> Draw a line between the recycling bin and the items that CAN be recycled.



Aluminum cans

Paper

Food wrappers

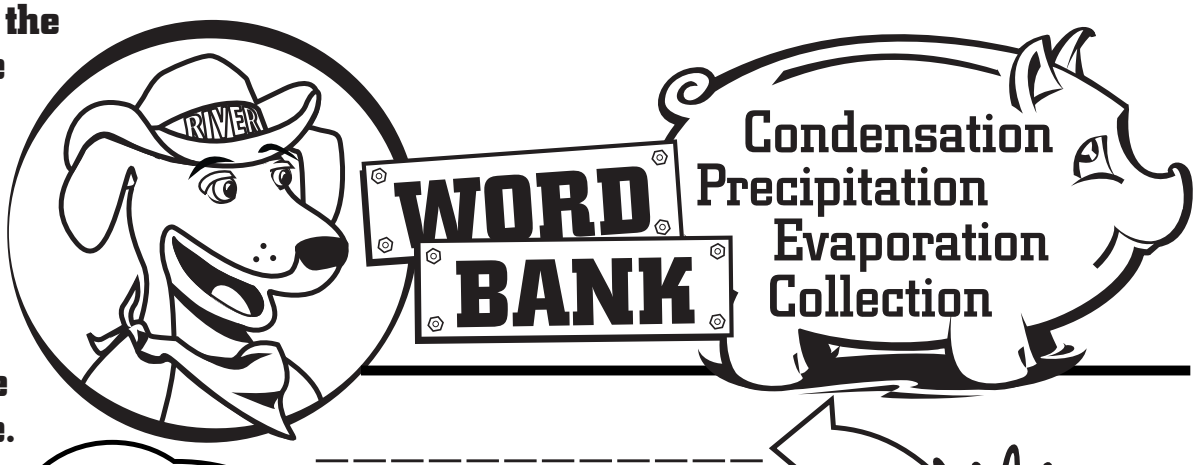


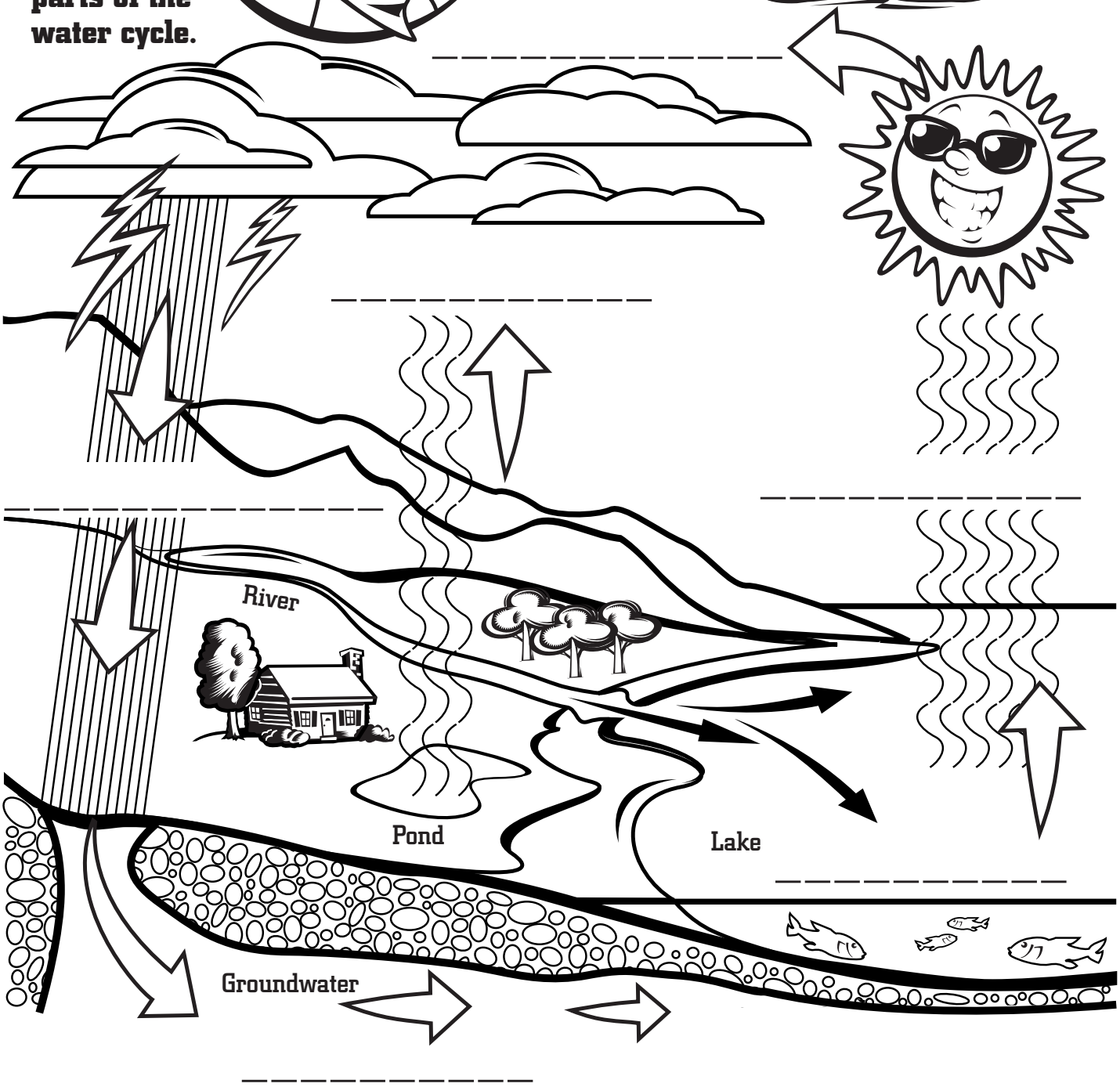
We can help *Take Care of Texas* by recycling unwanted electronics.

In Texas, you may be able to recycle an unwanted computer or TV for free. Electronics recycling is easy and a great way to conserve valuable resources.

Activity: Trace the arrows below to see how the water cycle works. Use the words in the word bank to label the parts of the water cycle.

Learn how rainwater travels.





You also can reuse the rain.

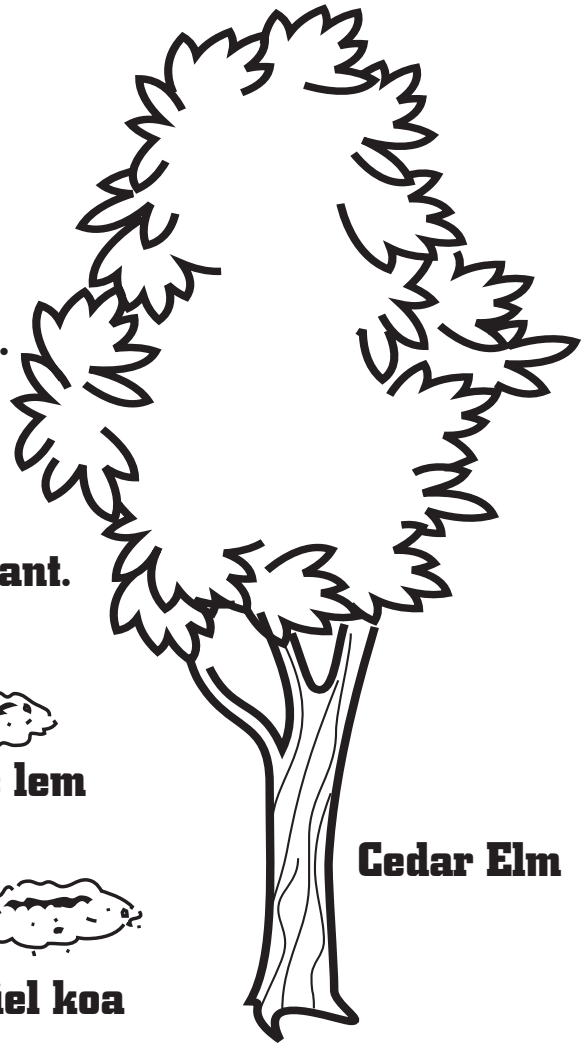
Catch the rainwater that runs off your roof in a rain barrel. Then water your plants and trees with the water you collect.

Trees, flowers, and other plants help make Texas beautiful.

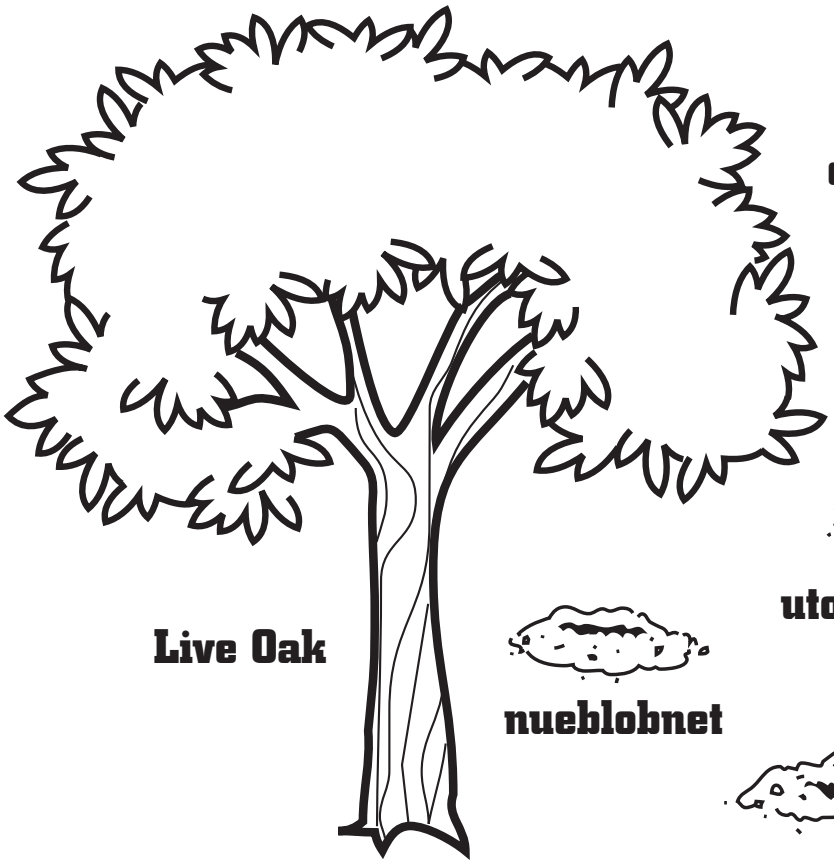
Plants that we know grow easily in Texas, called "native plants," use less water.

Like all dogs, River and Sky like to dig holes.

Activity: Unscramble each word next to the holes they've dug, and then draw a line from the hole to its matching Texas native plant.



Cedar Elm



Live Oak

darec lem

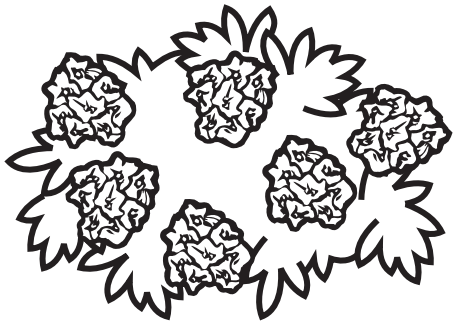
viel koa

utomanni rellua

nueblobnet

antalan

Mountain Laurel



Lantana

Bluebonnet

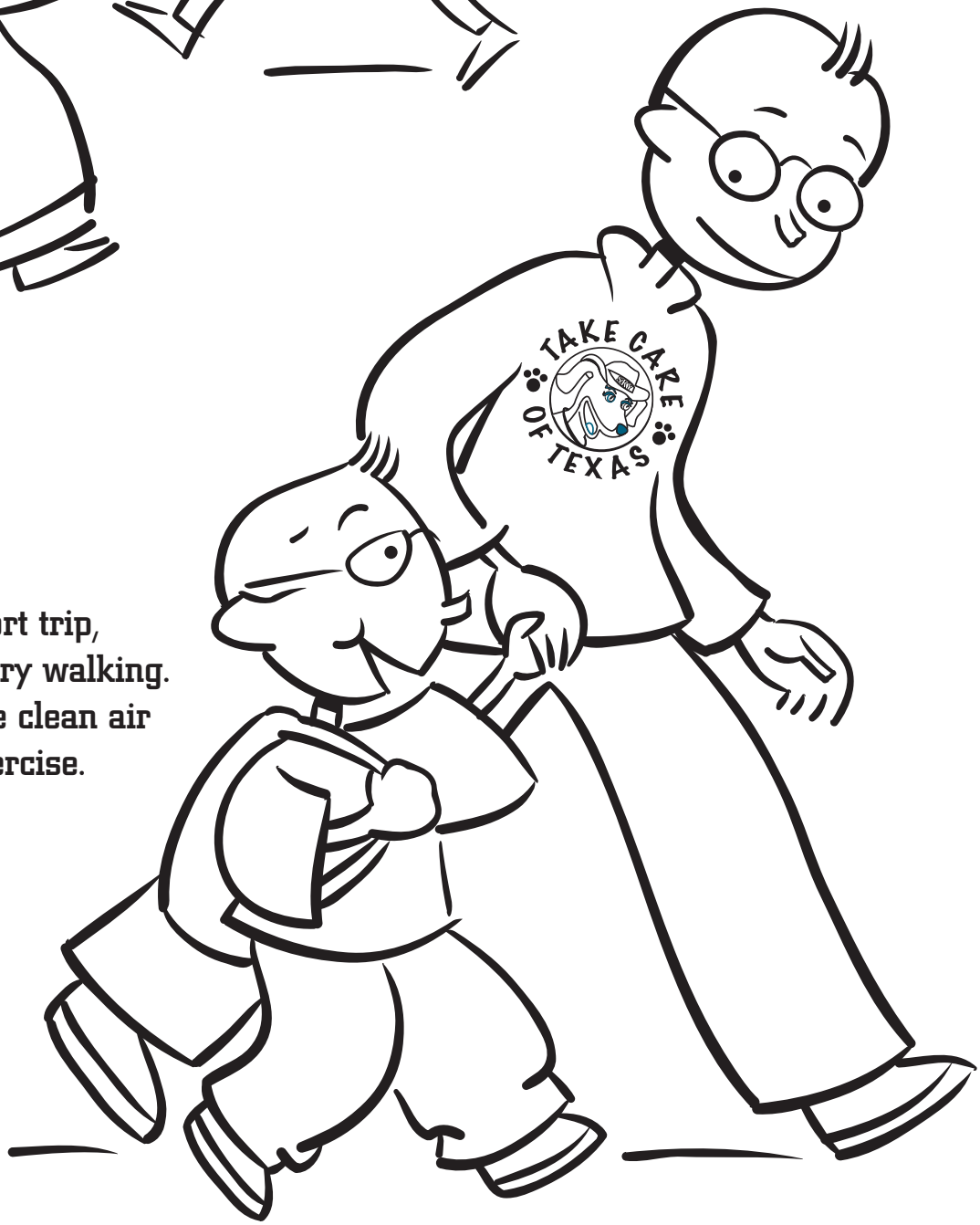
We can *Take Care of Texas* when we are out and about as well.

By doing our part, we can all keep our communities clean and beautiful!

Don't litter.
Throw your recyclables in a recycling bin and your trash in a trash can—never throw any of them on the ground!

Ride your bike.
Instead of riding in the car, try riding your bike for short trips. It's fun, and it helps keep our air clean.

Tell your friends.
Ask your family and friends to help you *Take Care of Texas*. No matter where we live, we can all make smart choices to do our part!



Take a walk.
If it's a really short trip, your family can try walking. You can enjoy the clean air and get some exercise.

How do you *Take Care of Texas?*

Activity: Use this page to draw a picture showing how you and your family *Take Care of Texas*!

Take Care of Texas™

It's the only one we've got.

TakeCareOfTexas.org

Activity: Use this page to draw a picture showing what you like to do most when you're outdoors.

PLAY THESE FUN GAMES ONLINE AT <TAKECAREOFTEXAS.ORG>.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

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Online Tips to Do Your Part!

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http://takecareoftexas.org/publications