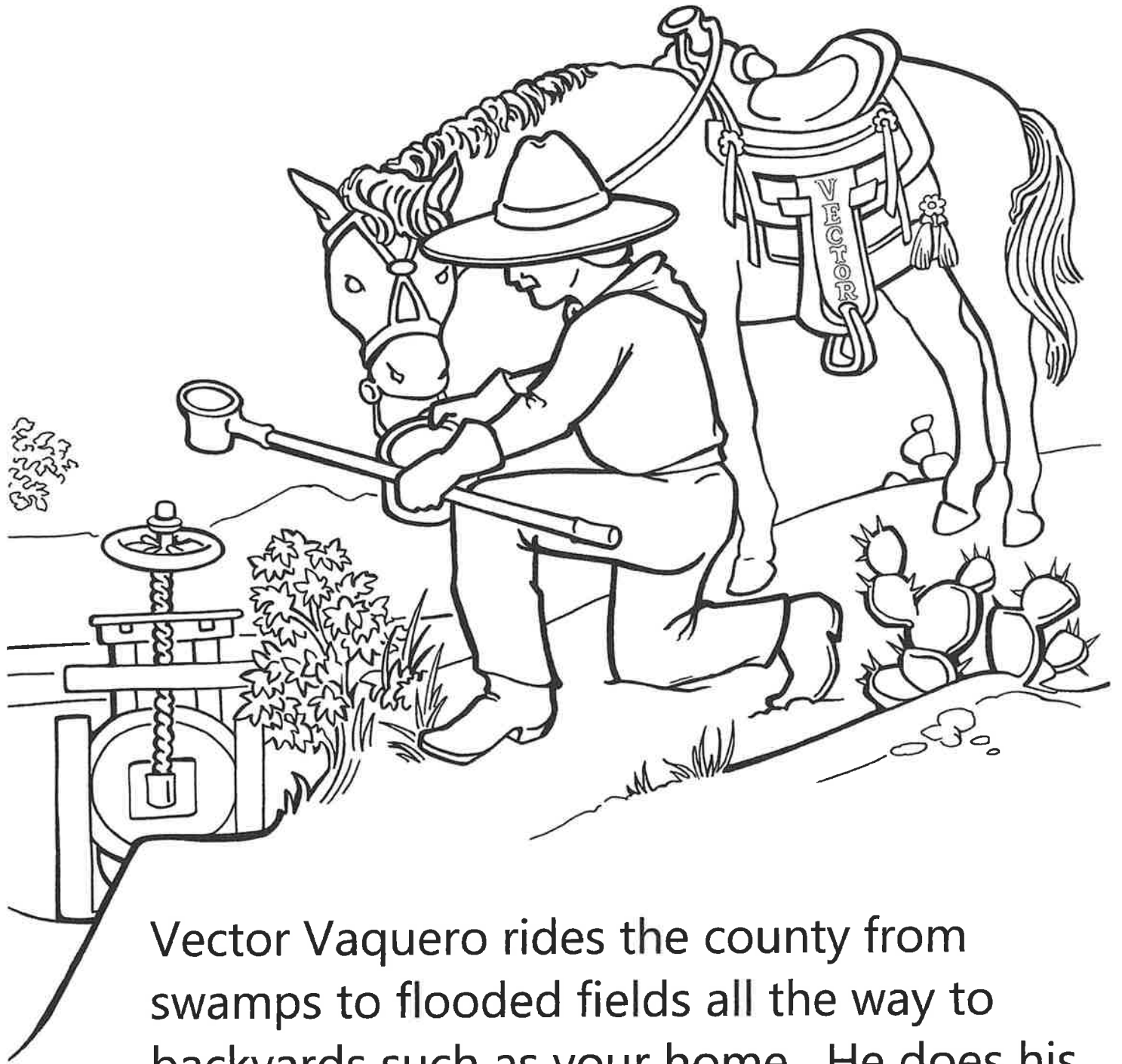


# Lila Bear

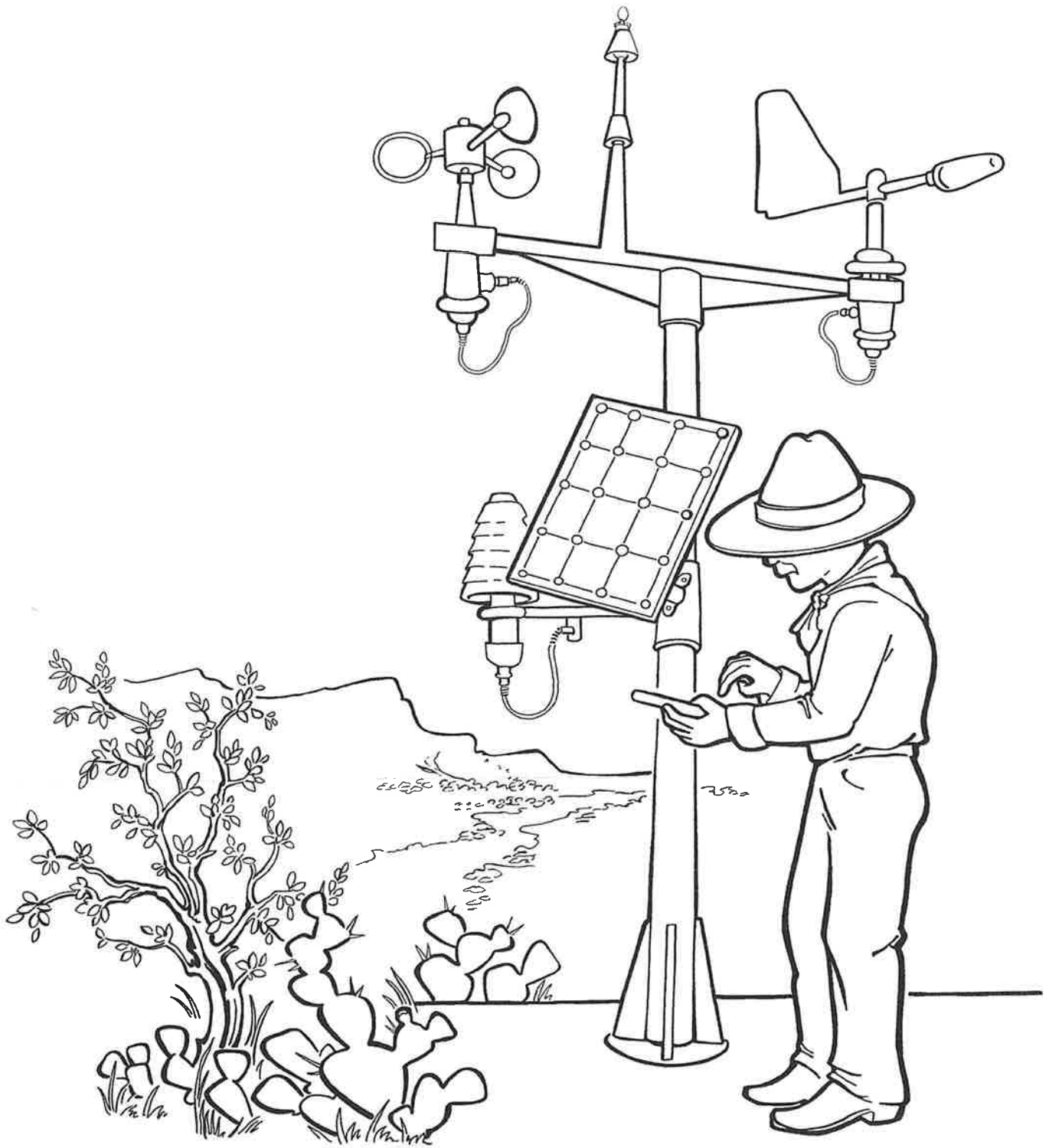
HELPS  
FIGHT THE BITE



*Illustrations by Tony Pennock*



Vector Vaquero rides the county from swamps to flooded fields all the way to backyards such as your home. He does his best work on large areas of standing water. The tool of his trade is a dipper, used to catch mosquito larvae in the water where they live.



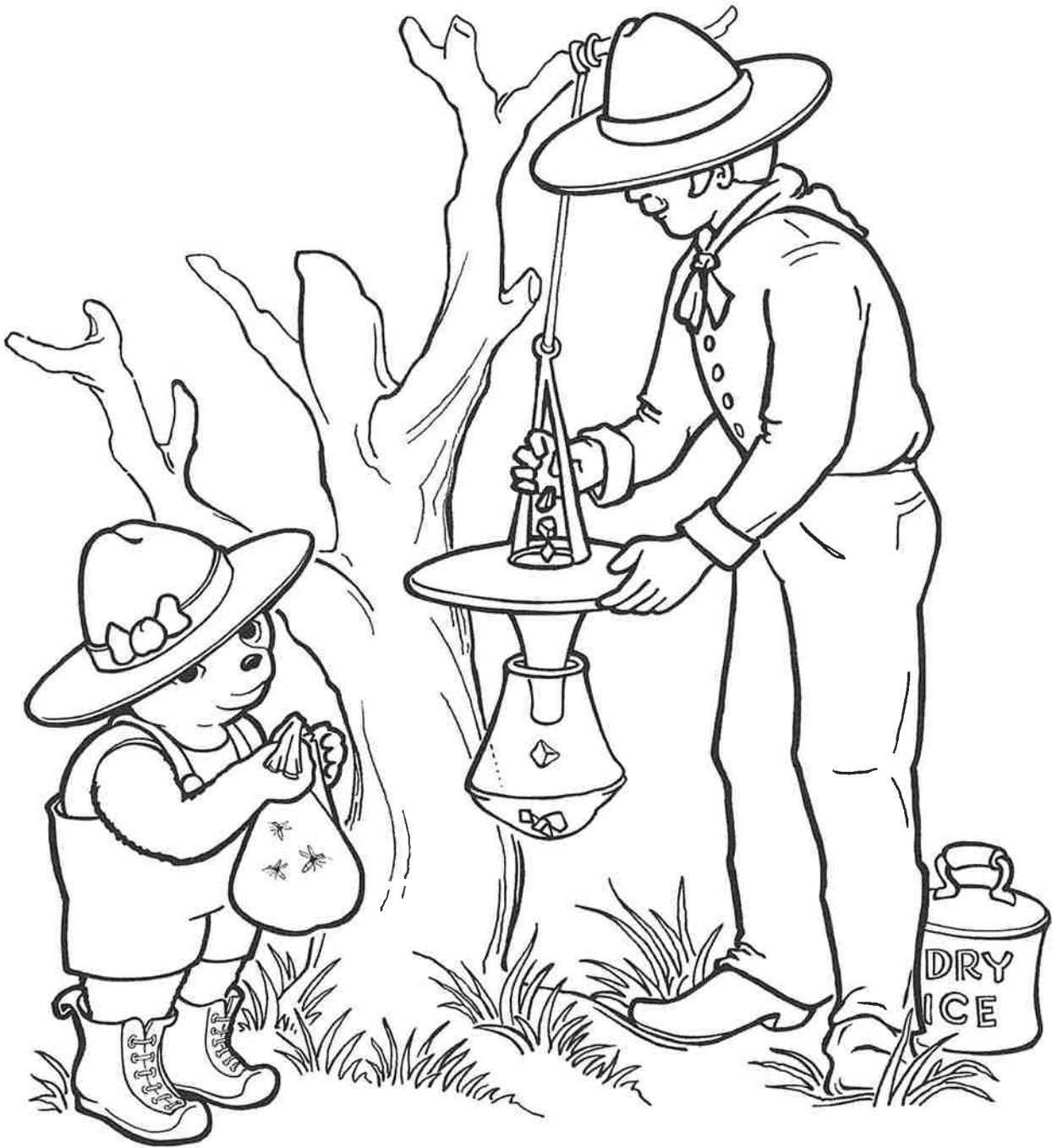
"Wow, that was some rain!" Vector Vaquero monitors weather stations throughout the county. Weather stations measure rainfall and water in the air to help predict the spread of mosquitoes.



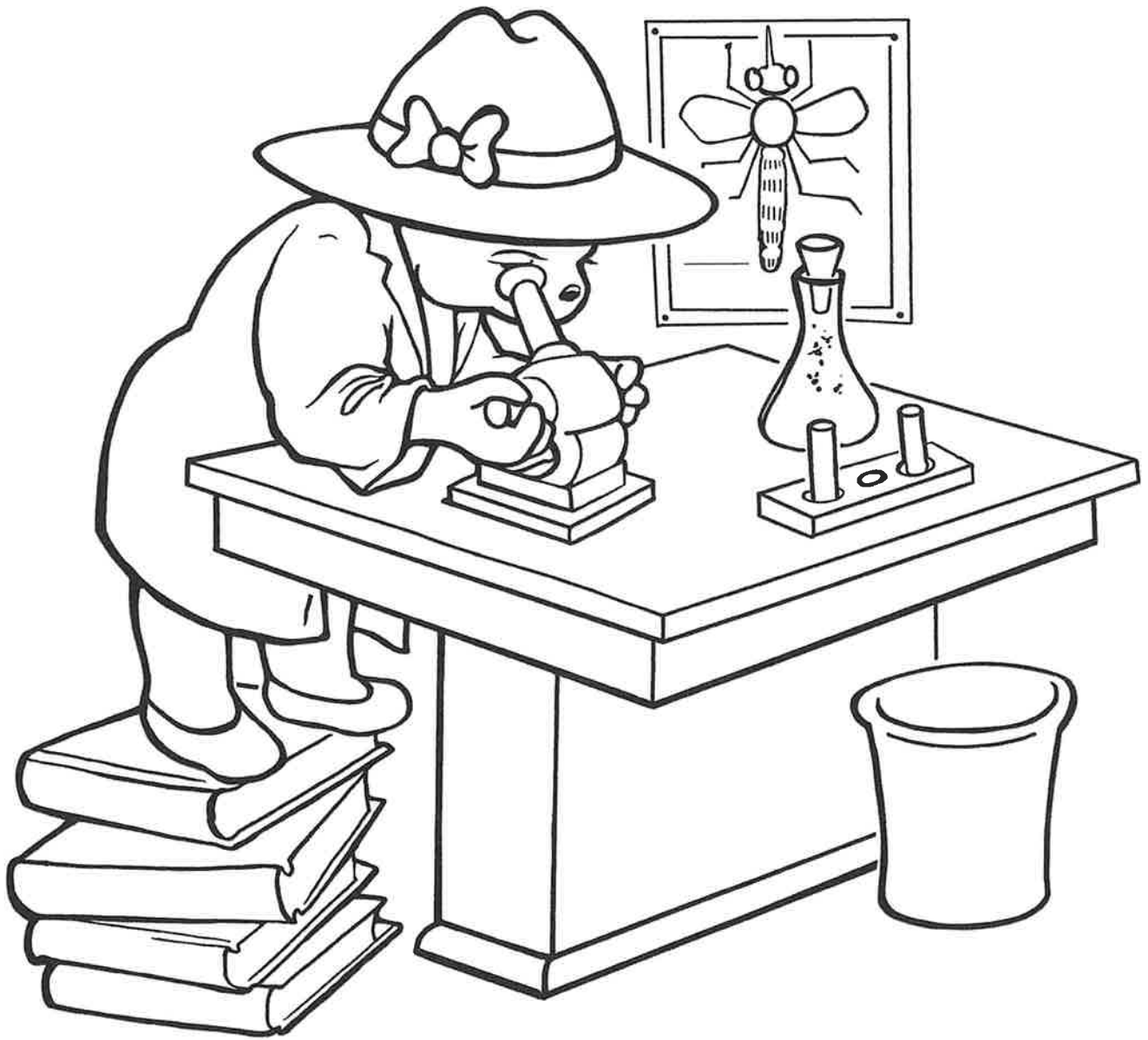
"Wow, that is one washed little bear cub!" Vector Vaquero realizes his little bear friend needs help!



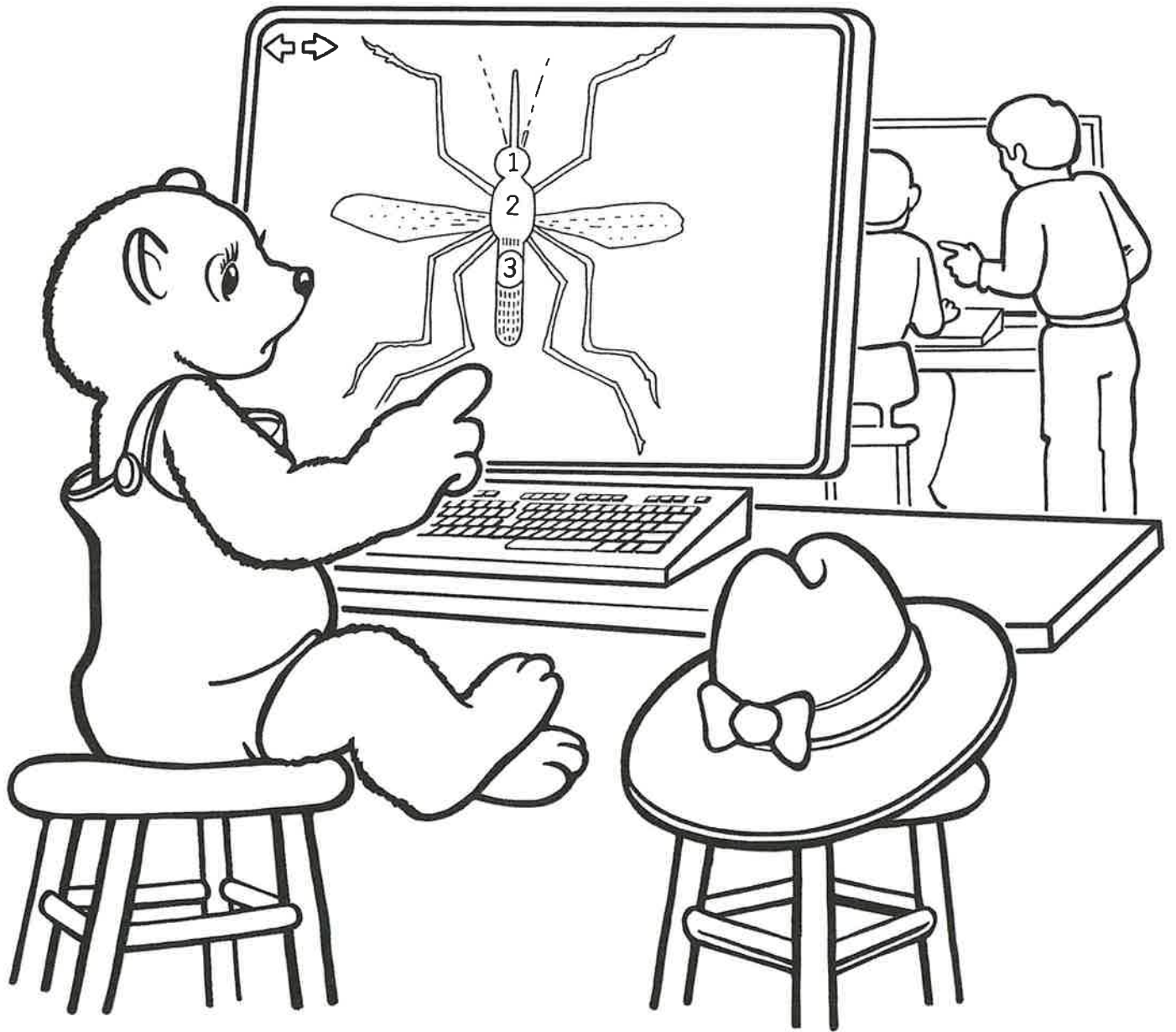
Mr Vaquero found a dipper and hat for his new partner, Lila Bear. Lila Bear goes to work in mosquito control. She will be careful and not harm the native fish or frogs.



Nice catch! We set a mosquito trap to collect flying adult female mosquitoes. They were bagged here with dry ice. Why does this work so well?

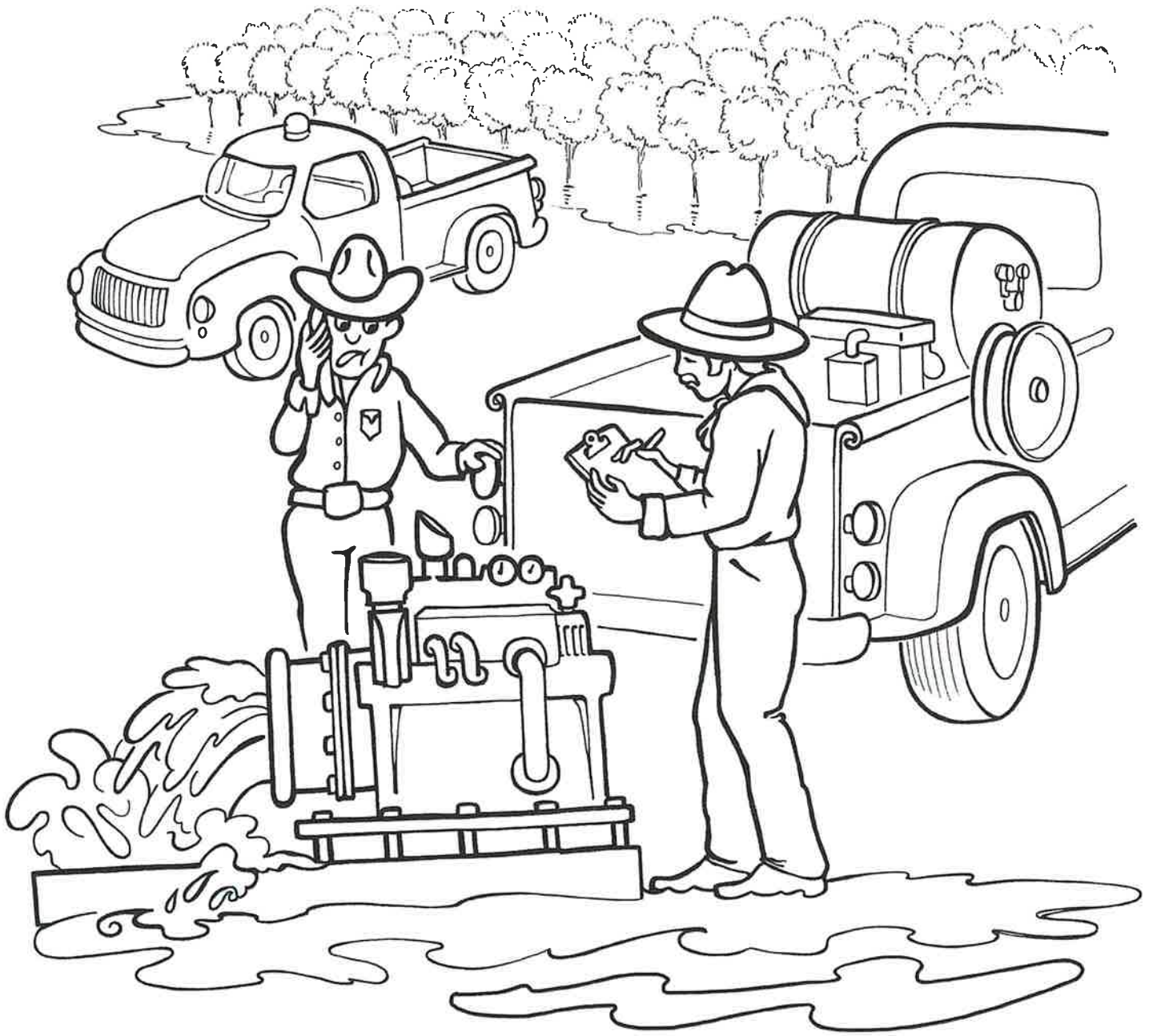


Mr. Vaquero is taking Lila Bear to the university. That is where our mosquitoes will meet the scientists (entomologists) who study insects. Did you know each mosquito species looks different from others?



Vector Vaqueras work with a team of geographic map specialists to record where chemicals are placed, and how to map water basins. Computers are the best tool to manage this much information.





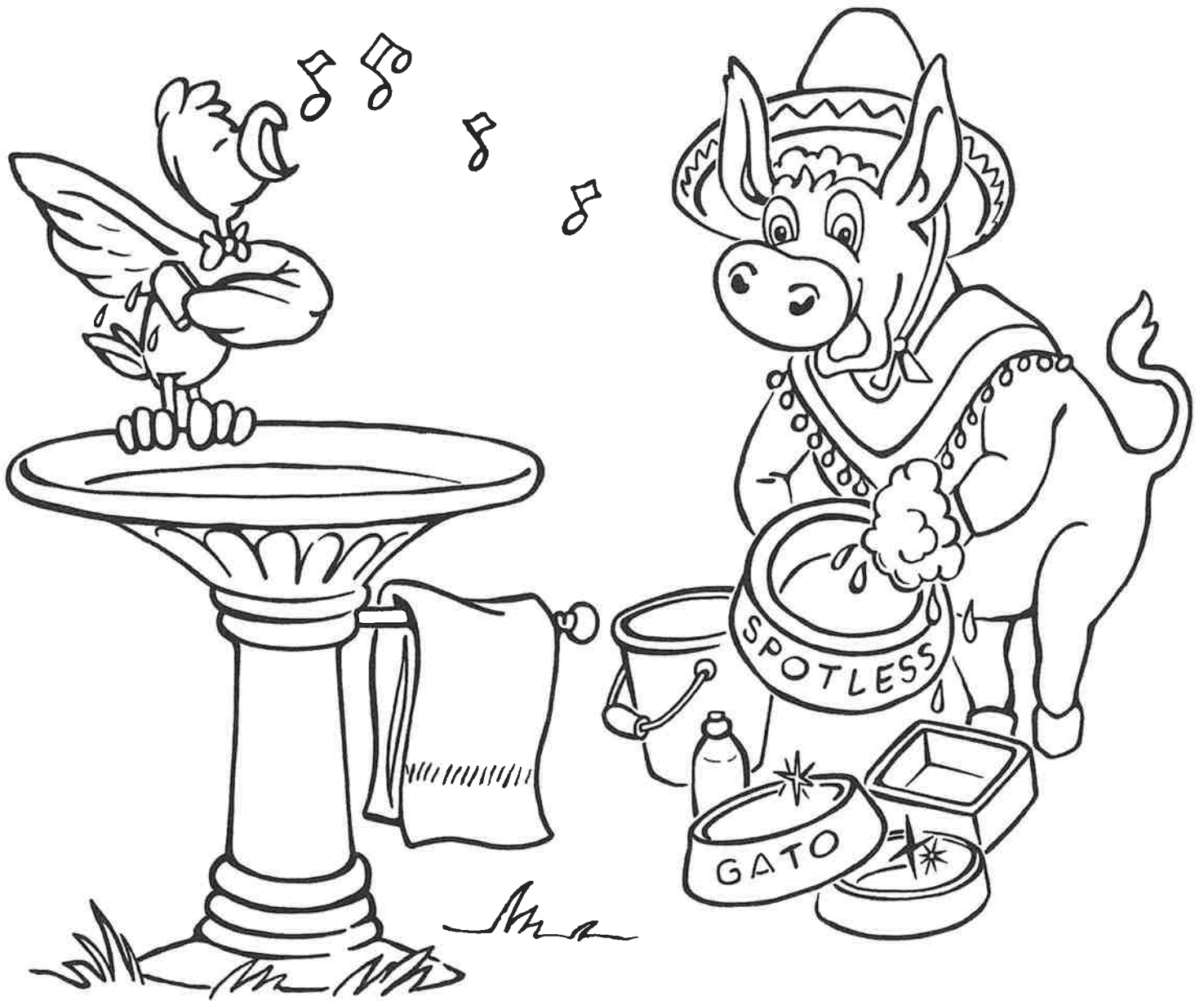
Vector Vaqueros are mosquito-control staff who study the science of minimizing mosquito populations. They will safely apply chemicals to reduce the number of mosquitoes, and they'll work with farmers to control irrigation water.



Sometimes mosquitoes spread diseases to dogs, horses and even people! How can you fight the bite and stop mosquitoes at your home?



The most important thing mosquitoes need is standing water in which to lay their eggs. Rain fills up all sorts of outside toys and containers.



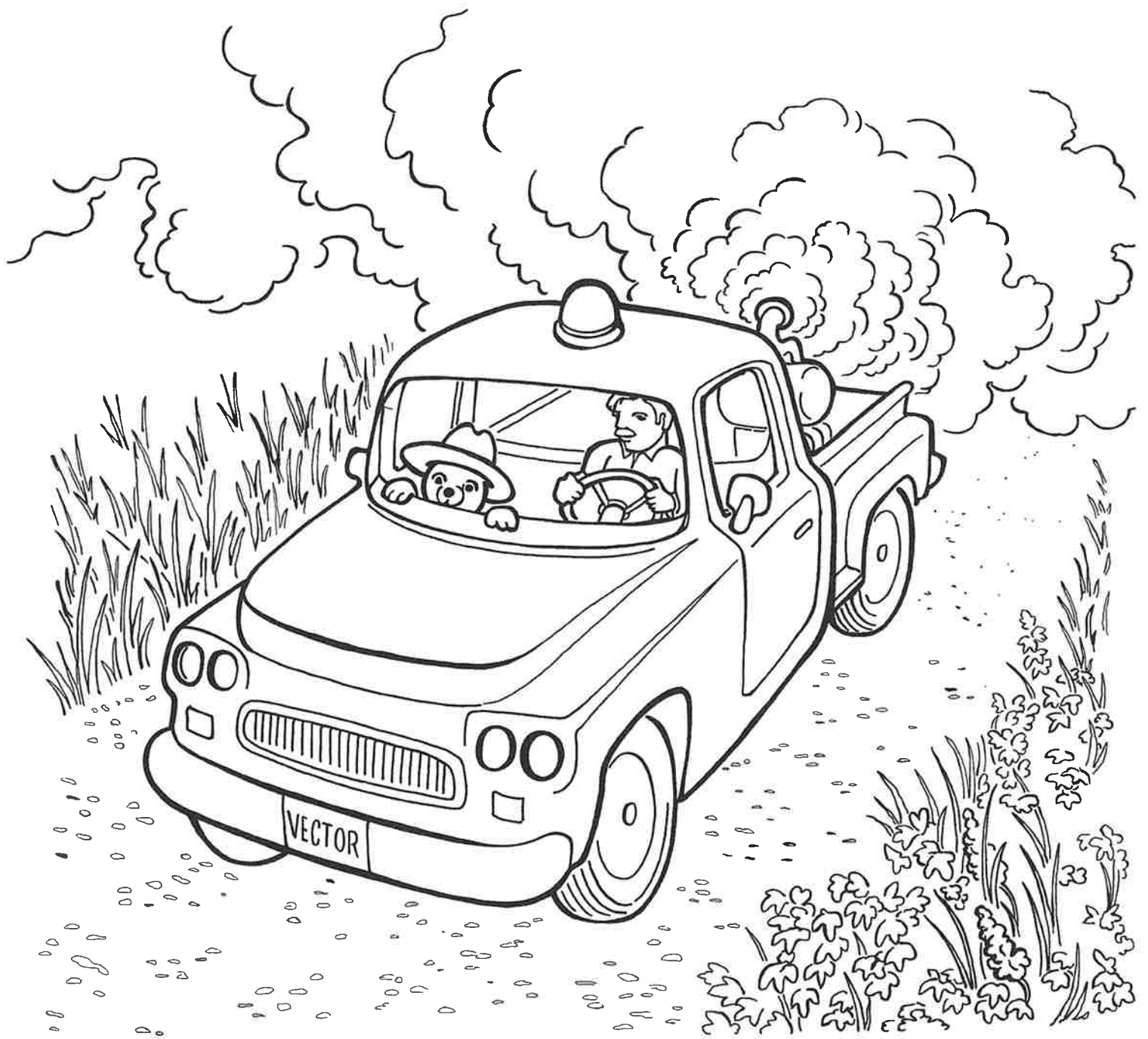
Change the water and scrub the sides of bird baths, animal troughs, and pet watering bowls often to get rid of mosquito eggs. Good healthy drinking water is what your pets need.



"Another big day! I will catch the *Gambusia* mosquito fish for visitors at our ponds. Our fish are always free to our guests."

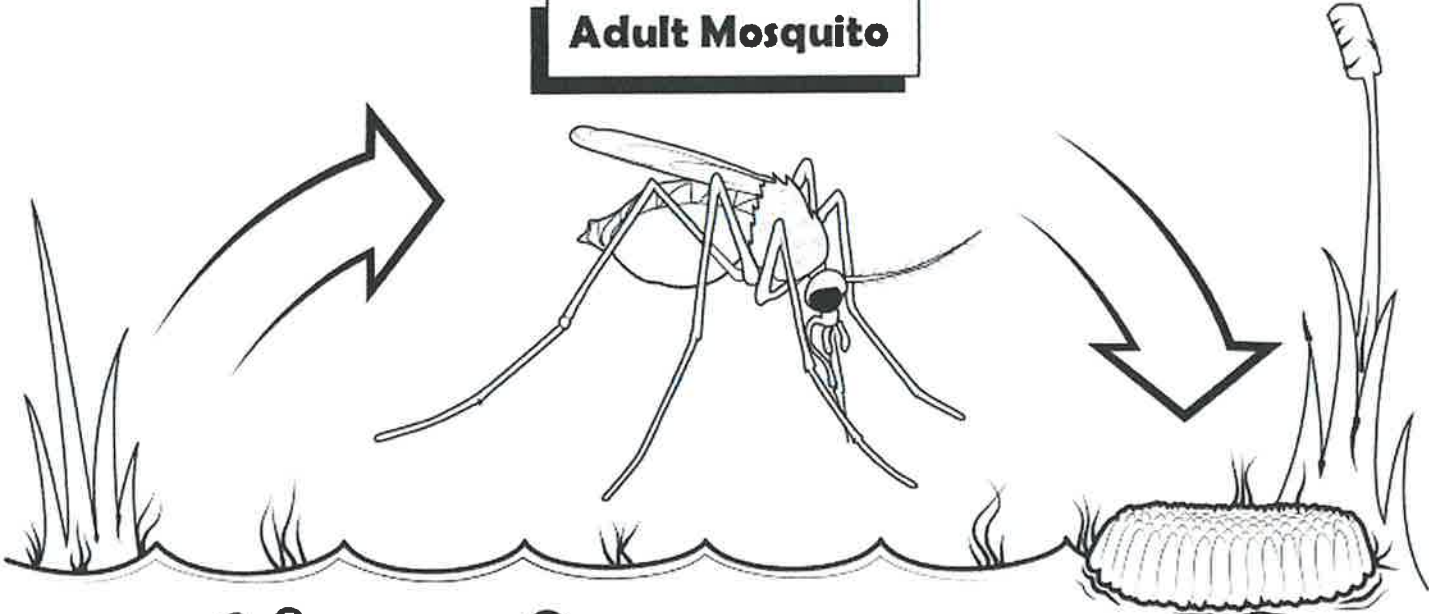


Moving mosquito fish to small ponds is very effective mosquito control. The fish will eat the mosquito larvae and naturally reduce their numbers.



It's early morning and vector vaquero sprays safe mosquito control chemicals. Lila Bear says, "When I grow up, I'm going to drive this truck."

**Adult Mosquito**



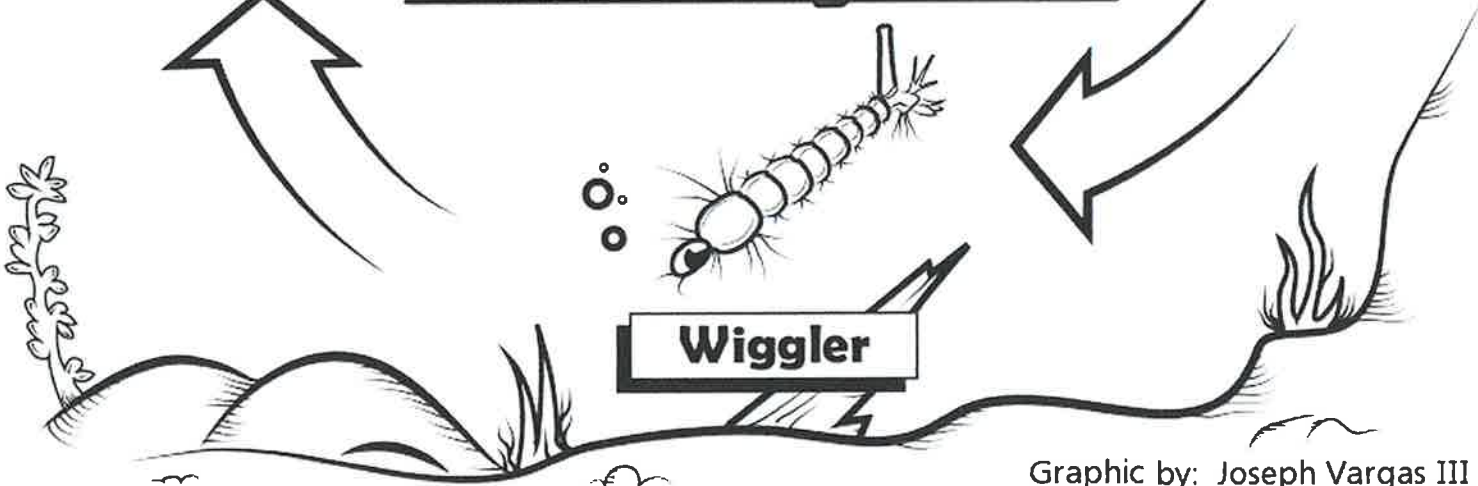
**Egg Raft**

# Mosquito Life Cycle!

**Tumbler**



**Wiggler**



Graphic by: Joseph Vargas III

Adult Mosquitoes lay their eggs in still water, making a raft. Then the eggs hatch into larvae, or “Wigglers”. Once the Wigglers mature, they turn into Pupae, or “Tumblers”. The last step is for the Tumbler to become an adult Mosquito!





It's time to get  
Lila Bear back  
home.

I'm going  
to be a  
Vector Vaquera  
some day!

DRIVE  
SLOW

BEAR  
COUNTRY

Together we can all fight  
the bite.

