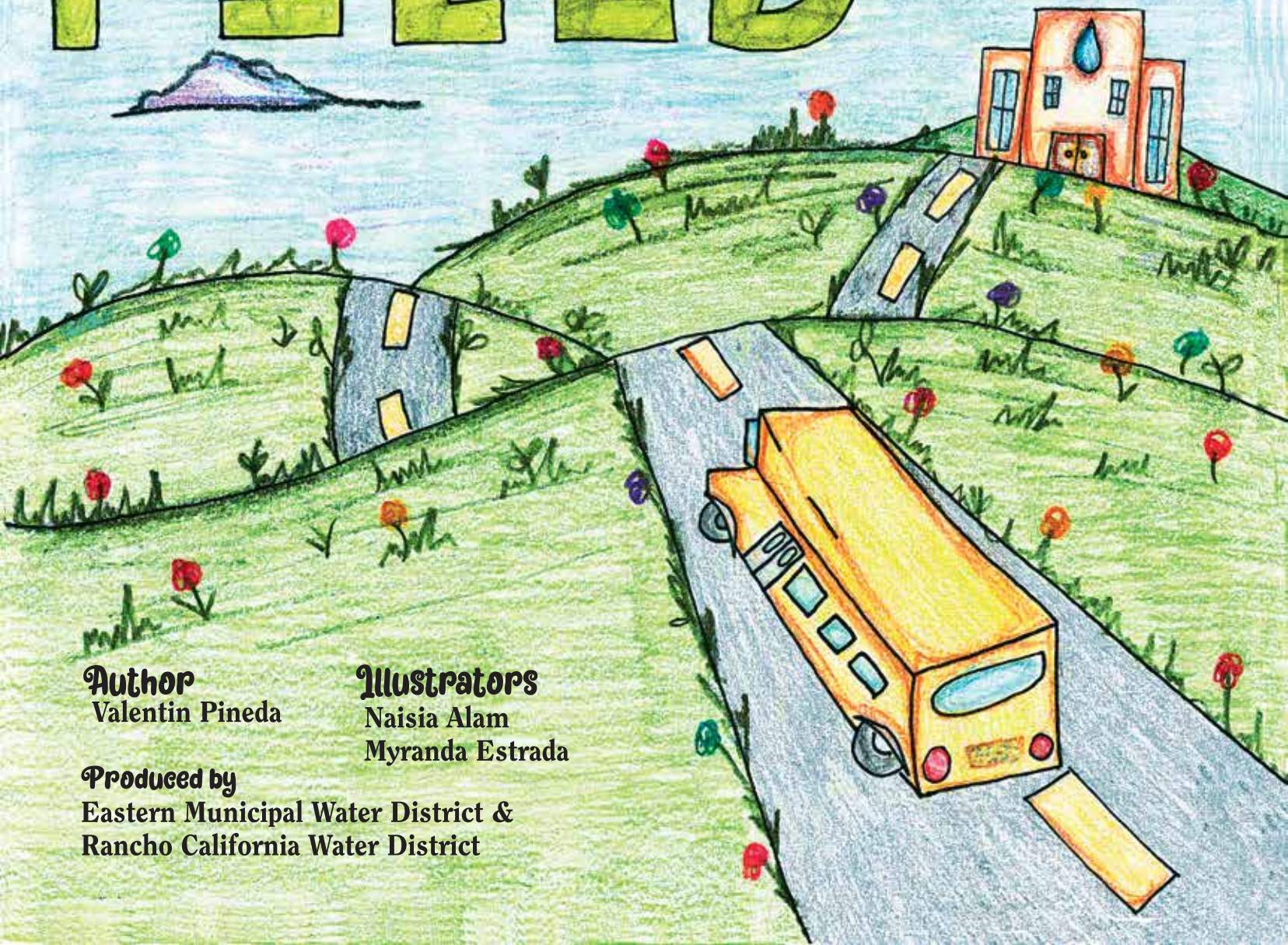


THE WATER DISTRICT FIELD TRIP

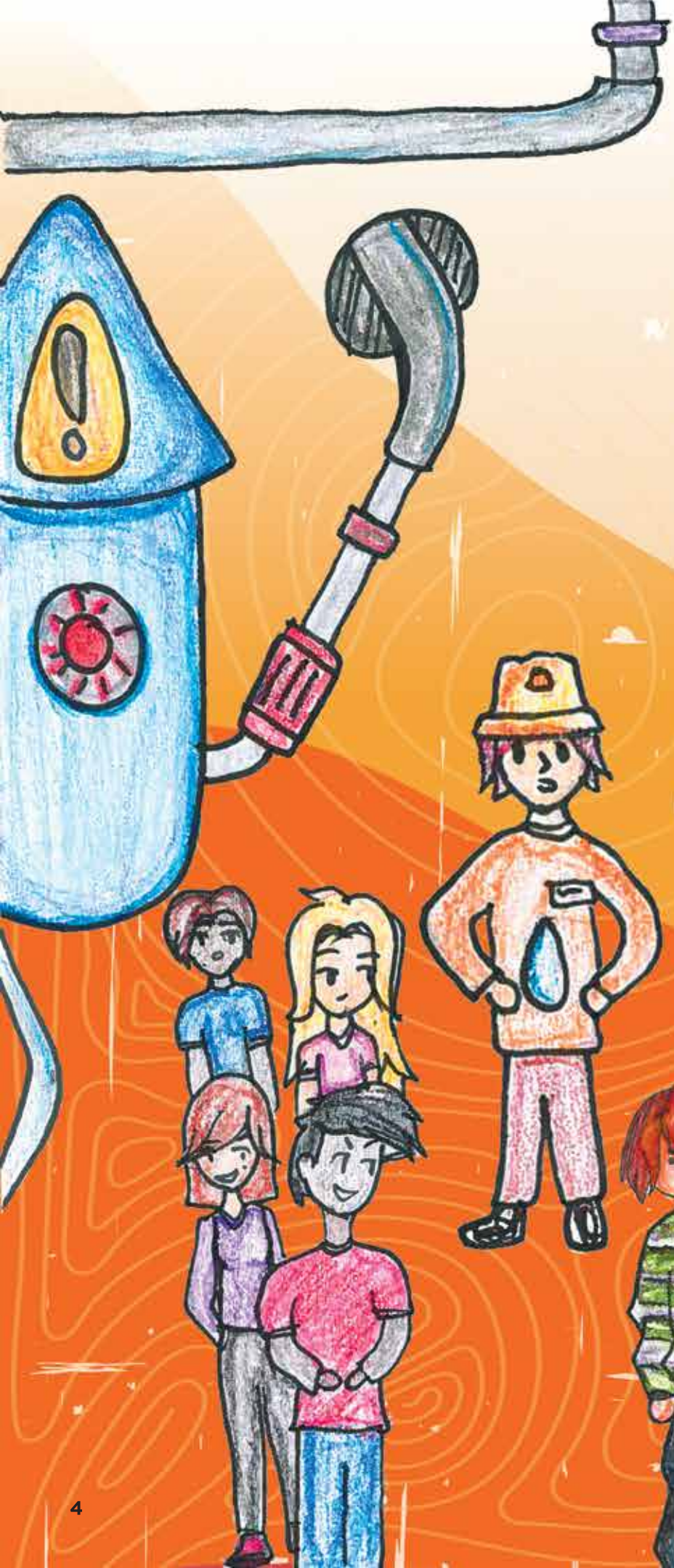


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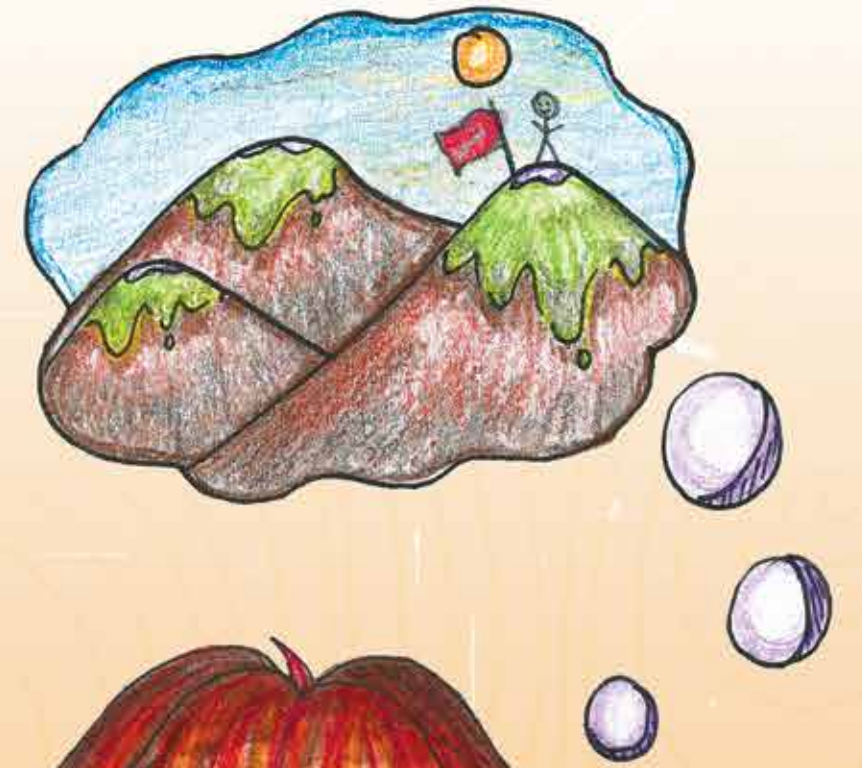
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Abraham yawned as he walked along on the start of his local water district school tour. He didn't think the water industry was very interesting. It seemed to him like all they ever did in their jobs was clean water.

He wished his school would have taken them on a better field trip, like to the mountains or basically anywhere other than tour the water district.



“Abraham,” called Mrs. Lebrowski. “Not falling asleep, are we?”

Immediately turning his attention towards his teacher, Abraham replied, “No, Mrs. Lebrowski.”



“Alright, then you wouldn’t mind answering what a Cybersecurity Engineer does?” Mrs. Lebrowski questioned.

He stood there trying to find a way out of his situation. He answered hesitantly, “They make the apps for water?”



The water district tour guide continued his speech with a slight laugh. “There are many things that you use on a regular basis that the water district supplies to you, and many of the people who work here have interesting jobs.”

Abraham said to himself, “Like drinking their work!”



Conservation Tips

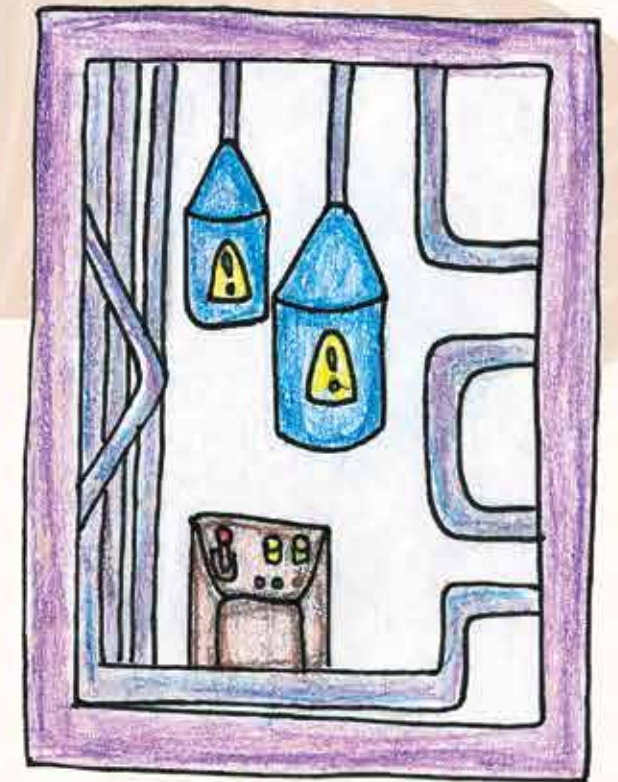
- 💧 Turn sprinklers off when it rains
- 💧 Use California-friendly landscaping
- 💧 Check for leaks



Abraham let his classmates walk in front of him. After his class was no longer in sight, Abraham pulled the rope marked Authorized Personnel Only Area and went that way instead. Little did he know that his teacher and a water district staff member saw him and decided to help him learn more.



“Phh, what can be so interesting and important about cleaning water?” Abraham continued in thought to himself as he walked down the halls. He peeked in one of the windows and saw a lot of pipes.



Suddenly, a man appeared. He was dressed in a blue suit and had dark brown hair. “Welcome to the water district. May I ask who you are?” asked the man.

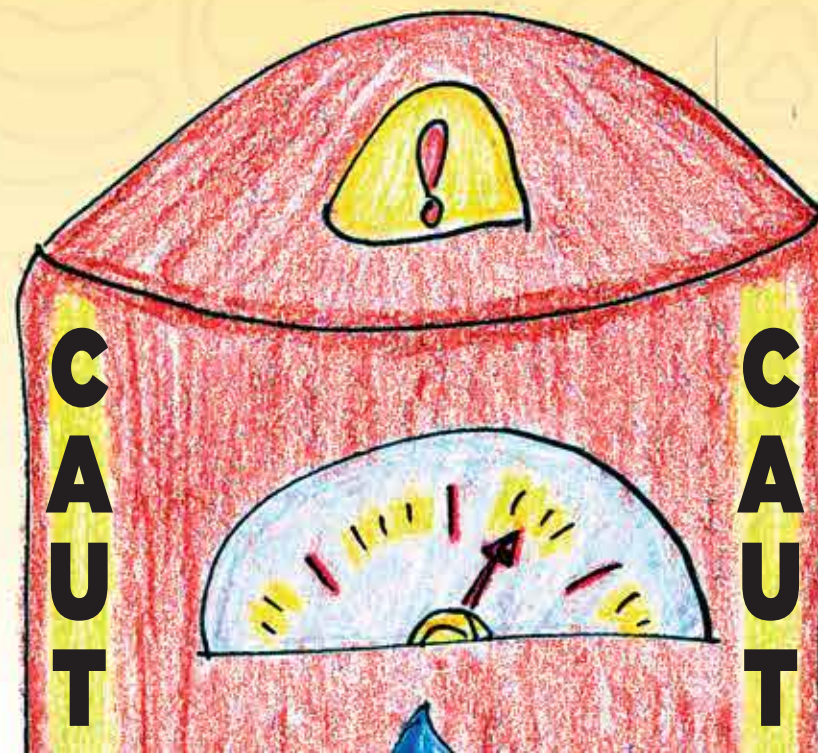
Abraham stuttered, “M-my name i-is Abraham. Who a-are you?”

“Why, I am the Director of Water Operations here. I help plan and organize the operations of our potable and reclaimed water production. Come on in, let me show you around and introduce you to some of the staff.”





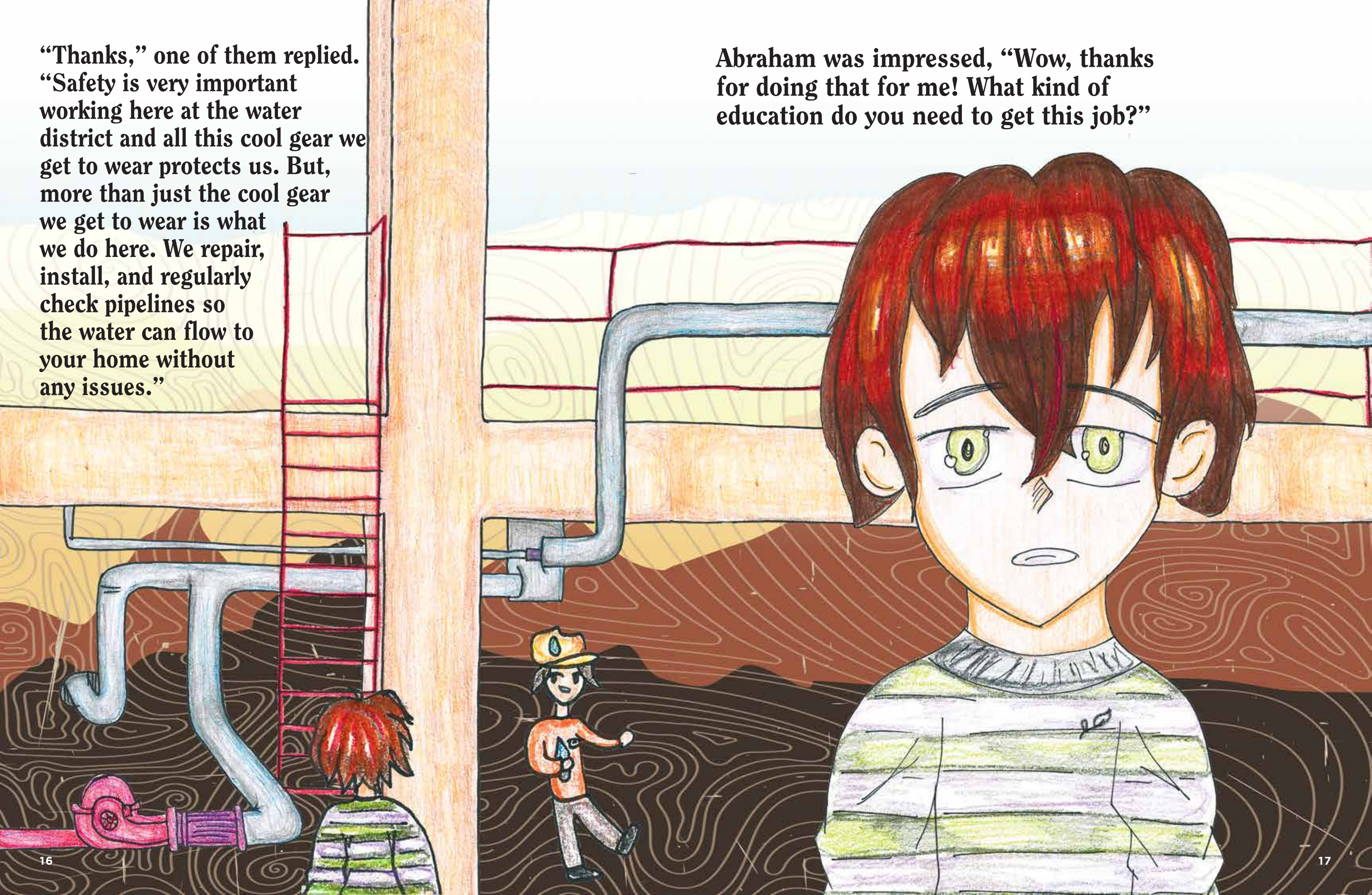
He gave Abraham some safety gear to put on and took him over to some hard-working employees by a bunch of pipes. "I'd like to introduce you to some of our Pipeline Construction Utility Workers."



Abraham was star-struck by all the gear the workers had on: a hard hat, bright orange safety vest, thick safety glasses, gloves, and steel-toed boots. "I like all your cool gear," Abraham said.

“Thanks,” one of them replied. “Safety is very important working here at the water district and all this cool gear we get to wear protects us. But, more than just the cool gear we get to wear is what we do here. We repair, install, and regularly check pipelines so the water can flow to your home without any issues.”

Abraham was impressed, “Wow, thanks for doing that for me! What kind of education do you need to get this job?”





The man replied, “Well, for starters, you will need to keep paying attention in school and graduate with your high school diploma.”

“I can do that!” said Abraham.



Next, the Director of Water Operations took Abraham upstairs to the Engineering Department. He introduced Abraham to Sydney and explained that Sydney is an Associate Civil Engineer.



Associate Civil Engineer

-ABC- Construction Project

He explained she does complex engineering work involved in the planning and designing construction projects.



Sydney reached in her desk and pulled out a lollipop for Abraham. Abraham liked Sydney right away. "Thanks! I love candy!"



Sydney told Abraham that working for the water district is a great job because there are good benefits such as health insurance, paid time off, and a retirement plan.

- **Health Plan**

- **Paid Time Off**

- **Retirement**



Sydney showed Abraham a framed certificate on her desk. It was her college degree in engineering. “See this certificate? This is what you need to be able to do this job.”

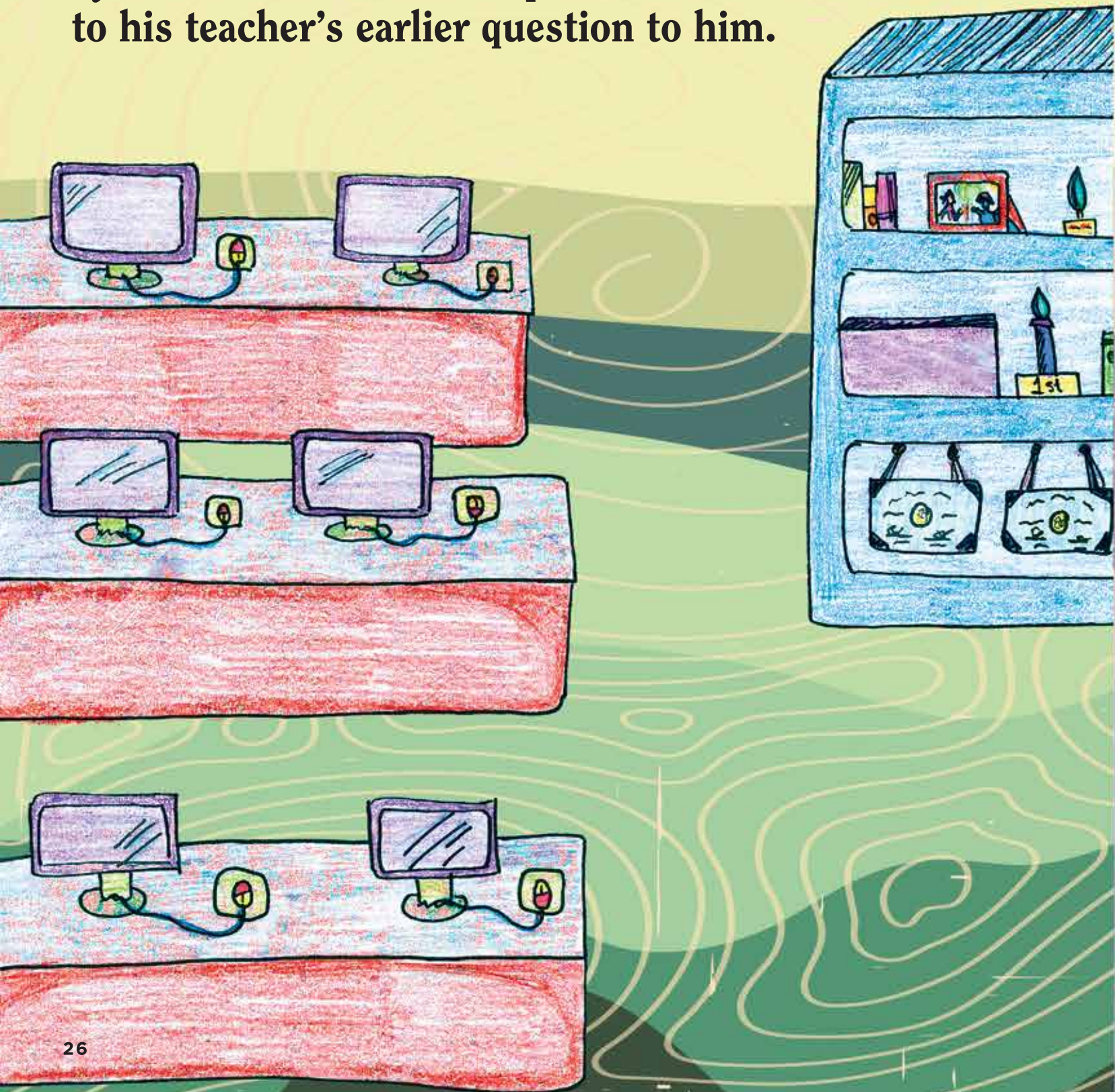
Abraham knew college meant a lot of schooling after high school, so he wasn't too sure he was interested in this job anymore.



The Director of Water Operations pointed out another room with big doors marked Information Systems to Abraham. "This room is where our Cybersecurity works. They work to minimize the District's cyber threats and research and implement a program that meets the needs of the District."

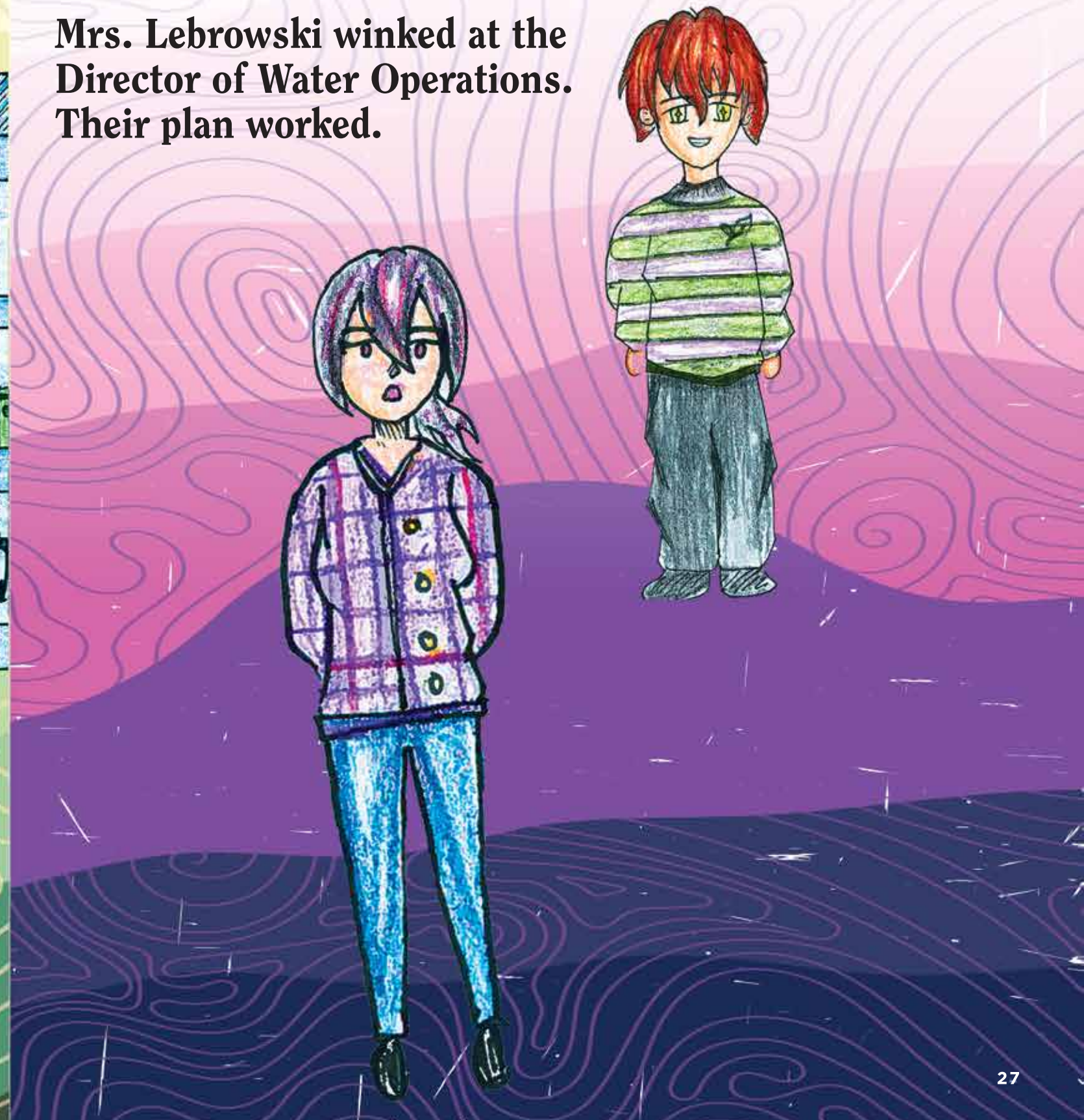


To work in the cybersecurity field, you need a bachelor's degree with major coursework in information technology, computer science, or another related field. "Good to know," replied Abraham. Abraham was happy that they passed by that area because that provided him the answer to his teacher's earlier question to him.



Abraham saw his class up ahead; he quickly thanked the Director of Water Operations and ran to catch up. "Mrs. Lebrowski, Mrs. Lebrowski, I know what a Cybersecurity Engineer does!" Abraham shouted.

Mrs. Lebrowski winked at the Director of Water Operations. Their plan worked.



“Slow down,” said Mrs. Lebrowski, “I’m impressed you were listening.” “Yes, I’ve been listening, and I found I really like it here. And when I grow up, I want to be a Pipeline Construction Utility Worker!” said Abraham, out of breath. Abraham was glad the tour wasn’t over yet; he couldn’t wait to find out more.



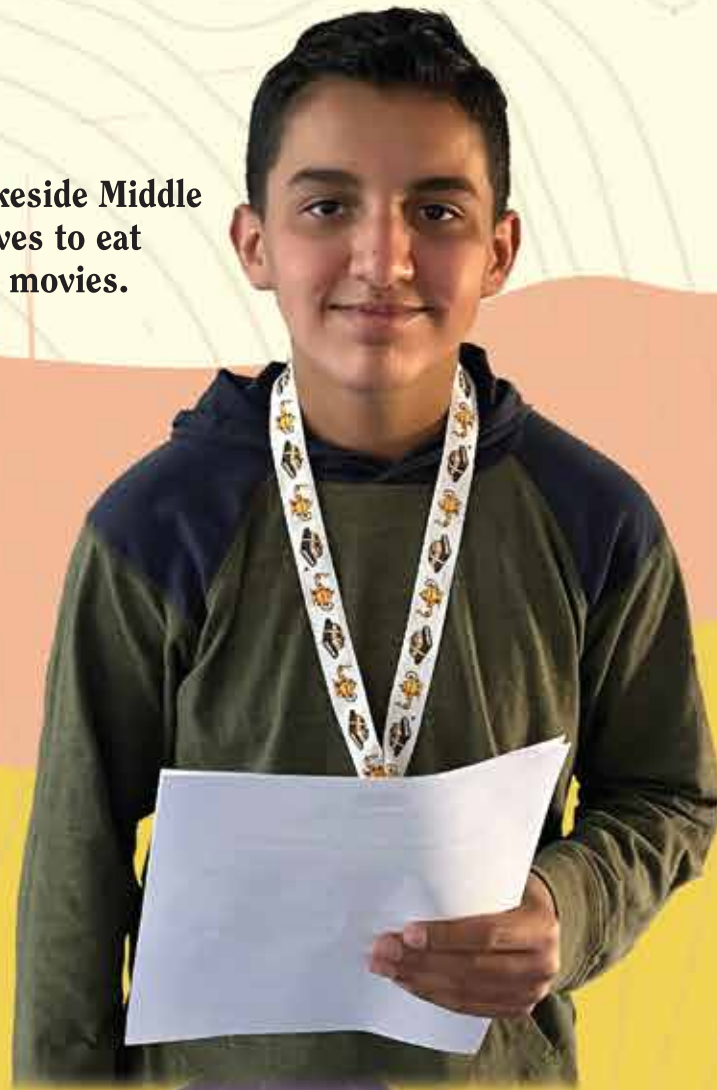
Abraham’s best friend, Jacob, looked at him shocked and then said, “Hey! Where have you been? And where did you get that lollipop?”



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Valentin is a student in the eighth grade at Lakeside Middle School in Perris, CA. He is in Scholars and loves to eat tacos, spend time with family, and watch Lego movies.



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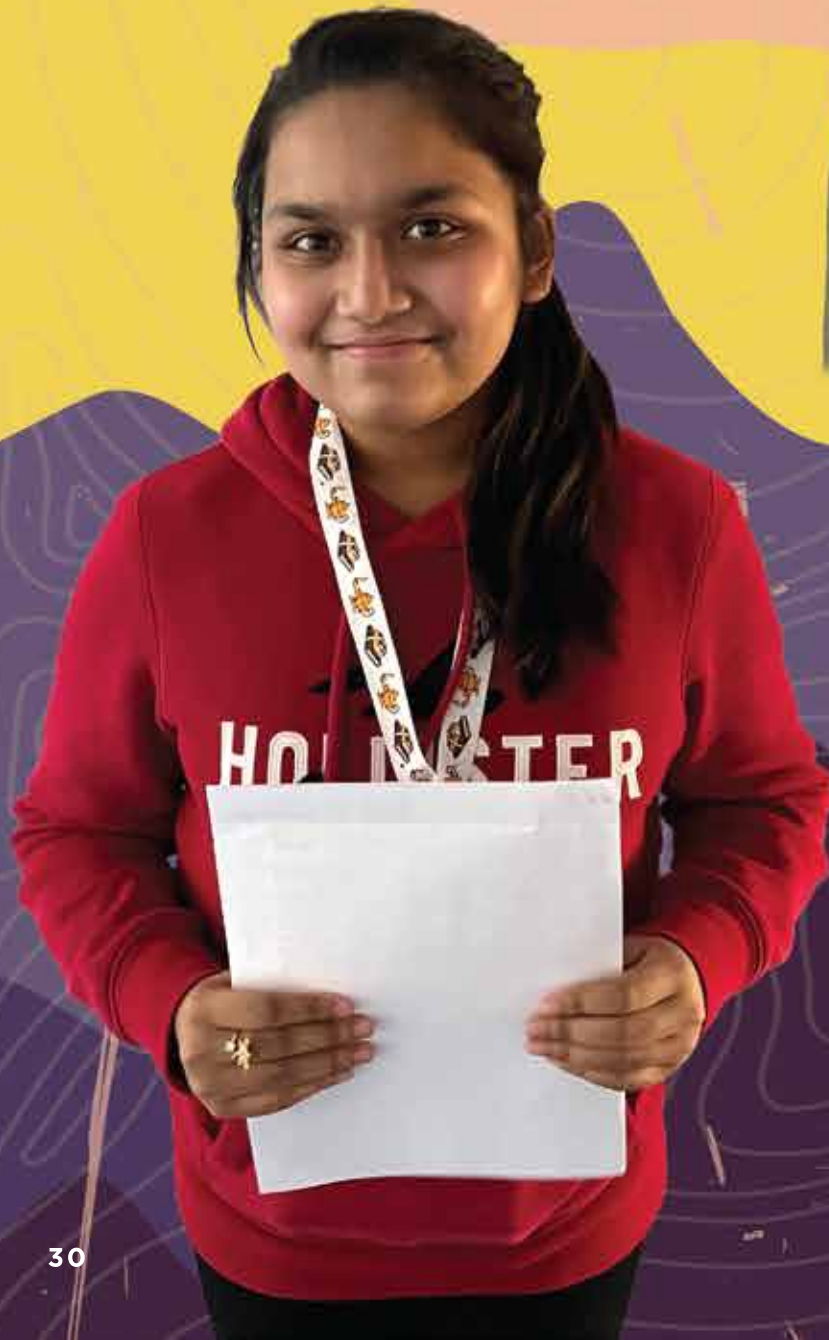
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I am an eighth grade student attending Lakeside Middle School in Perris, CA. I am a very hard-working, kind, helpful, and responsible student in Lakeside's Scholars Program. I enjoy my free time drawing, watching anime, and/or listening to music. When I am older, I wish to be either an ophthalmologist or an environmental scientist.





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