

antoinette portis

Hey, Water!



NEAL PORTER BOOKS
HOLIDAY HOUSE/NEW YORK

Thanks to the United States Geological Survey for their help.

Neal Porter Books

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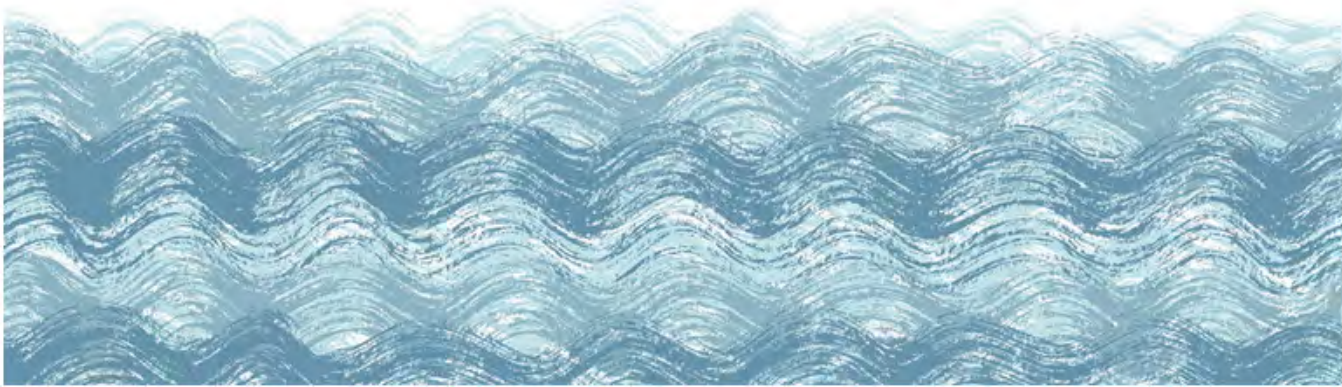
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v5.2

ld-ap



sprinkler



You spray up

and down.

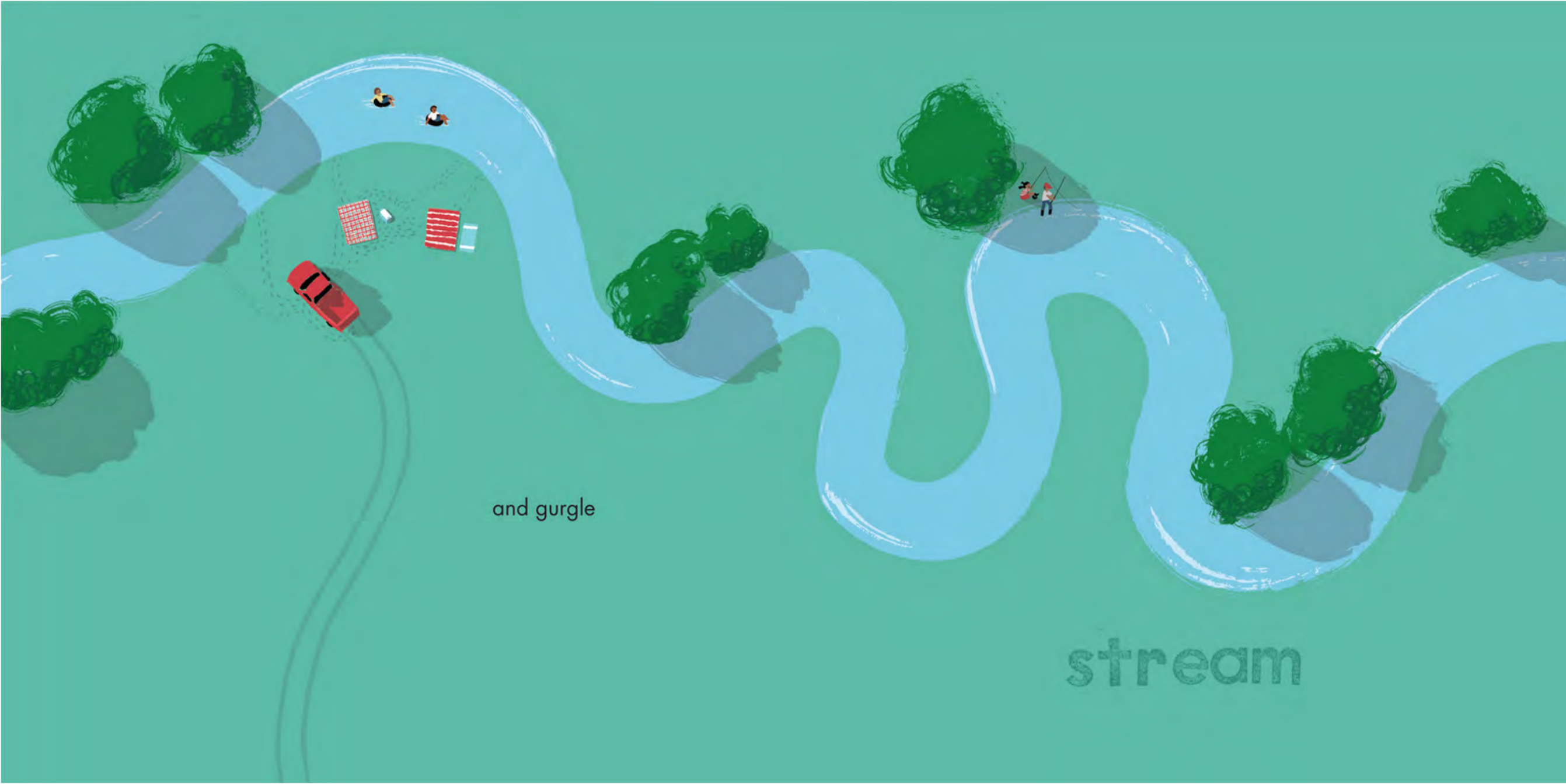
shower



hose



You trickle

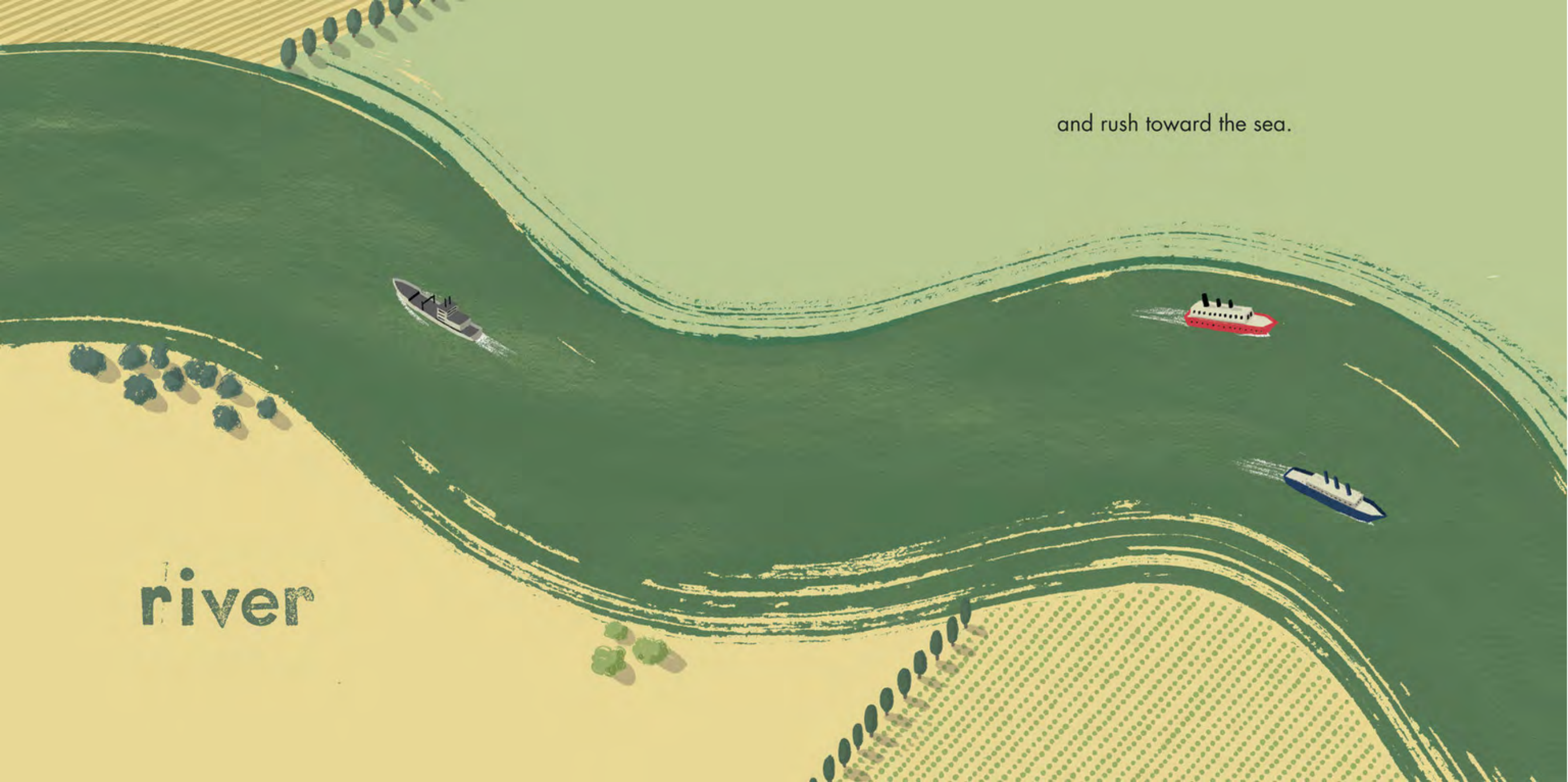


and gurgle

stream

and rush toward the sea.

river



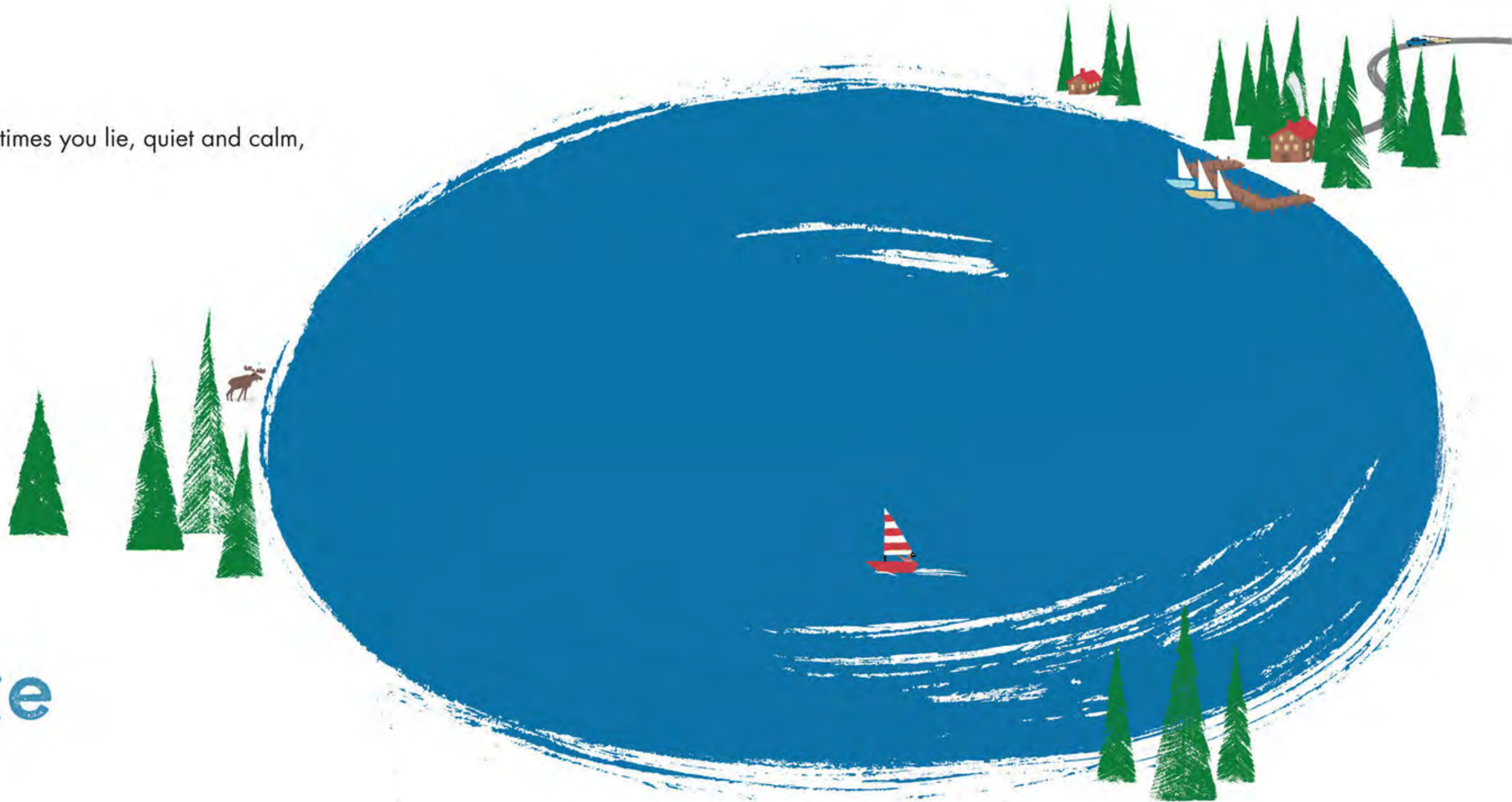
You cover most of the earth—
salty, surging, and mysterious.

ocean



Sometimes you lie, quiet and calm,

lake



so we can splash and play
and yell in you.

pool



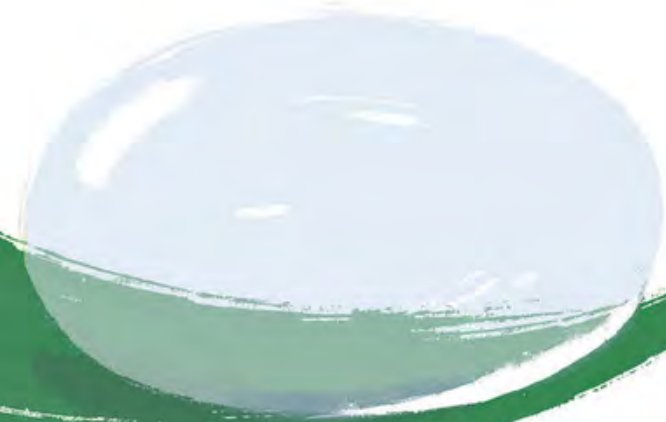
I stomp in you and
scatter droplets everywhere.

puddle



In the morning, you wink at me from blades of grass.

dewdrop



Sometimes you slide down my cheek without a sound.



tear

—

rain

Sometimes you roar and pour.

Water, even when you try to fool me, I know you.

You blast and huff.

You whistle and puff.



steam

You hide in the air and drift.



cloud

fog

You drift in the air and hide

the world.



Sometimes you freeze hard as a rock—



ice cube

iceberg



a rock that floats,

or a rock we can skate on.



rink

Sometimes you freeze soft as a feather



snow

and fancier than lace.

But water, I know it's you!

snowflakes

You're hiding in this funny guy, and you're hiding in me, too!



snowman



Zoe

Water, you're a part of every living thing.



bird



plant



bug



puppy



fish



mushroom

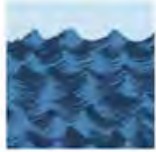
When I'm thirsty, there you are.



Hey, water,
thank you!

water forms

liquid



We know water as a liquid, flowing from a faucet to fill a glass, rushing by in rivers on their way to the sea, and providing a home for millions of creatures

and plants. But water is not just amazing because it's necessary for life on earth. Water can take many forms beyond the liquid we drink every day.

Clouds and fog don't look like liquids, but they are made of tiny droplets of water, so tiny they can float in the air. When the drops clump together and get too heavy to float, they fall from clouds as rain.

solid



When water is cooled way down to 32 degrees F (0 degrees C) it freezes into a solid. Solid water appears as tiny crystalline snowflakes, ice cubes clinking in your glass, or icebergs the size of city blocks floating in the seas of Antarctica. Water in

its solid state can even fall from the sky in the form of hail as big as tennis balls and dent the roofs of cars!

gas

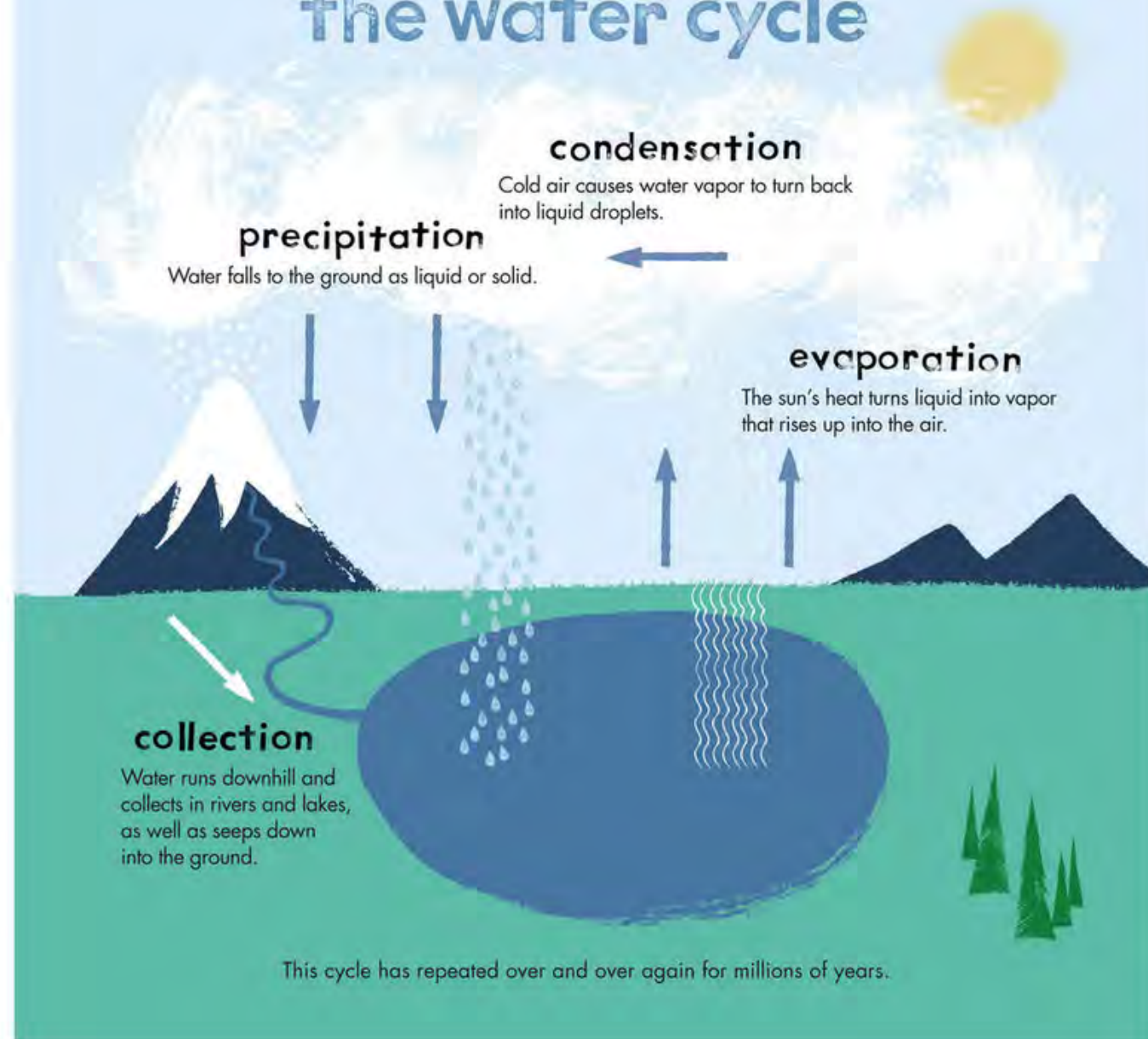


Not gas! Steam is actually tiny drops of hot water.

Gas. This is what water vapor looks like—nothing! It's invisible! It's in the air all around you.

When water is heated, it turns into a gas called water vapor. In this form, water is invisible. Water vapor is in the air all around us, but we can't see it. We think of steam as vapor (gas), but actually it's not. Steam is a mist made of tiny droplets of hot water suspended in the air. That's what we see shooting out of the spout of a kettle or hovering over a bowl of soup. Water turns into vapor at room temperature, too, though this happens so slowly we can't see it. This is how rain puddles on the sidewalk gradually disappear—the sun's warmth evaporates the liquid into gas.

the water cycle



conserving water



We are lucky that in most places in our country, we can turn on a faucet and get clean water to drink. There are many homes in the world where this is not true. Some people need to walk miles every day to get the water they need to drink, wash, cook, and grow food.

Though the same amount of water has been on the earth for millions of years, almost all the water on earth is in oceans. Seawater is salty, so we can't drink it or grow plants with it. Freshwater, found in lakes, rivers, springs, or underground—the water we drink and use in daily life—is only 3% of the water in the world, and 2% of *that* water is frozen in glaciers and the polar ice caps, so we can't use it.

In many parts of the world, we are consuming our freshwater faster than it falls to earth as rain or snow, while a warming climate is drying up lakes and rivers around the world. We need to use our freshwater supply carefully, especially in times of drought. If we don't, then all living things won't have the water needed for survival.

If you want to find out more about the wonder that is water, here are books to explore:

Bright, Michael. *From Raindrop to Tap*. New York: Source to Resource. Crabtree Publishing Co., 2017. Print.

Green, Jen. *How the Water Cycle Works*. Our Earth. New York: PowerKids Press, 2008. Print.

Flanagan, Alice K. *Water*. Simply Science. Minneapolis: Compass Point Books, 2001. Print.

Stewart, Melissa. *Water*. National Geographic Kids. Washington, DC: National Geographic, 2014. Print.

For fun, hands-on water experiments for young children, check out this workbook:

Bittinger, Gayle. Illustrated by Mohrmann, Gary. *Exploring Water and the Ocean*. Everett, WA: Warren Publishing House, 1993. Print.

