

LET'S RID JAMAICA OF PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS



POPS

& THE FAMILY

COLOUR • SOLVE • LEARN



POPS

& THE FAMILY

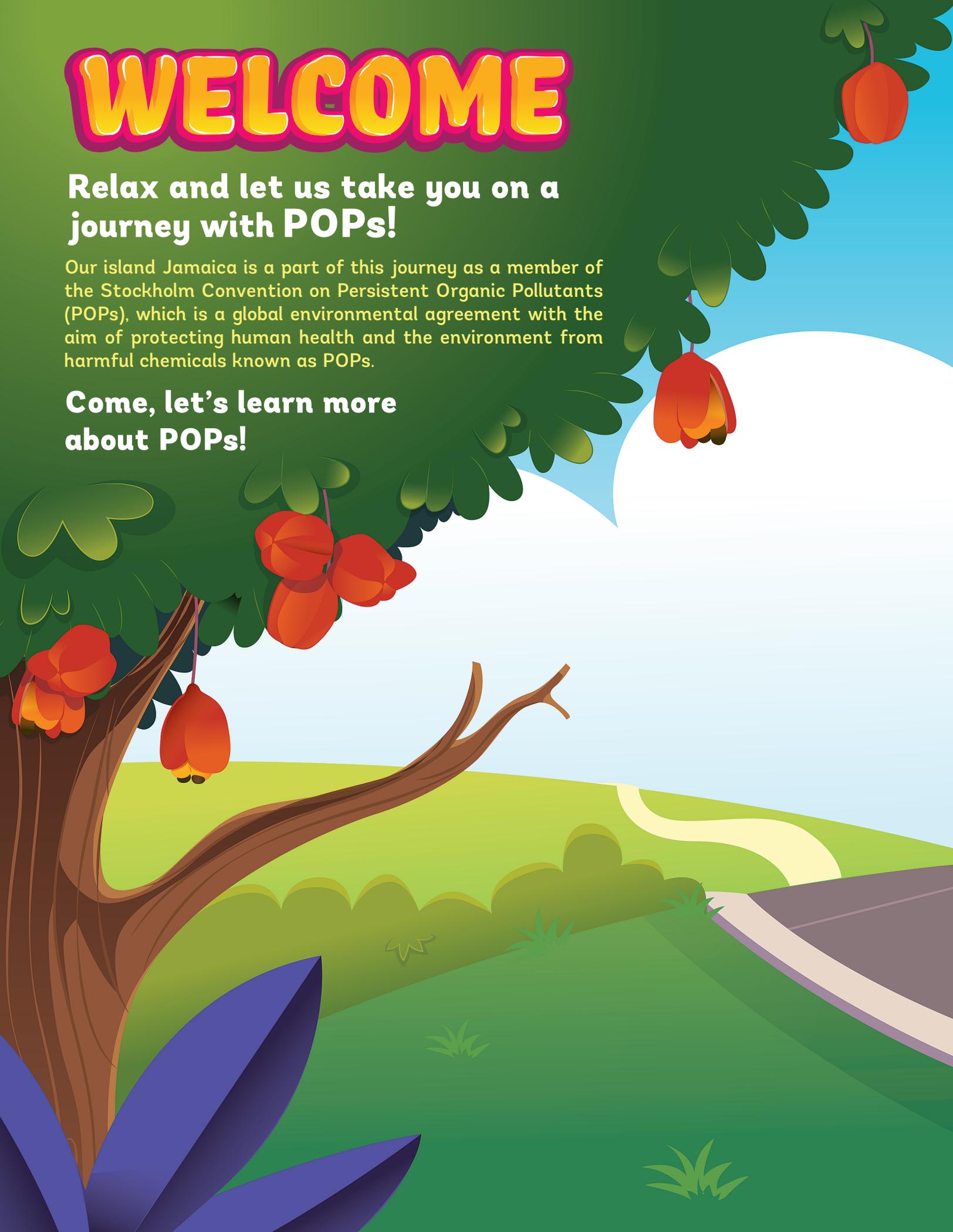


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Chartworld Productions Ltd. Illustrated by Pete McDaniel

WELCOME



Relax and let us take you on a journey with POPs!

Our island Jamaica is a part of this journey as a member of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), which is a global environmental agreement with the aim of protecting human health and the environment from harmful chemicals known as POPs.

Come, let's learn more about POPs!

WHAT ARE PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS (POPs)?

PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS (POPs) are harmful chemicals that do not breakdown easily. They are highly toxic to humans and wildlife; they can last for many years in the environment and have the potential to travel great distances through air, water and even birds.

The chemicals can be found in some pesticides, plastics, electronic devices, carpets, furniture, emissions from factories, and waste from industries and hospitals.



DID YOU KNOW?

POPs are toxic and non-biodegradable.



Harmful chemicals are released when we burn our waste or garbage...

So true! These chemicals are highly toxic to humans and animals. They can affect us through air, water and soil.



DID YOU KNOW? Burning garbage produces some of the deadliest pollutants.



These pollutants can build-up in the fatty tissue of animals and then in humans as we eat the meat and other by-products like milk.

Contaminated air and food make us sick!

STOP the burning! You're releasing **POPs!**
You can also be charged!

LET'S SORT OUR GARBAGE! LET'S NOT BURN OUR WASTE OR GARBAGE! LET'S TRY COMPOSTING INSTEAD!

Improper pesticide use is a big problem!



But I'm just killing the weeds, insects and fungi.

You can hurt us and yourself. Are you following the directions on the containers? Where are your gloves or mask? Are you sure you're not using too much chemical?

Some pesticides are **POPs** and improper use can cause cancer, skin rashes and other diseases.

Let's stop the abuse of pesticides.



DID YOU KNOW? Some of the fresh fruits and vegetables we eat may contain harmful pesticides.

The non-stick pot you are using may contain harmful acids or chemicals.

I don't see any acid or chemicals in my pot!

POPs are largely invisible to our eyes but are some of the most toxic substances known. They are also found in firefighting foam, rubber, plastics, cardboard boxes and on some furniture.

Be aware of the products containing POPs and remain safe!



DID YOU KNOW? Products containing chemicals used to resist stain, grease, soil and water may be harmful to our health.

POPs can also be found in some televisions, computers, phones, carpets and curtains...

Yes, some electronic devices, furnishings and construction material such as electrical wires and cables may contain chemicals applied to them to prevent or slow down fires.

Those chemicals are also **Persistent Organic Pollutants**. Let's limit our exposure to them and remain safe!



DID YOU KNOW? Some firefighting foam and fire retardants are very harmful to our health.



There are other chemicals too that are used in paints, transformers, plastics, rubber, motor oils and tapes that affect our health. These chemicals can be carried far distances in the air, water or in the soil. They build-up in foods, fruits, leaves and even in the fish we eat!

Let's remember there are special ways to store or dispose of unused motor oils, paints and other toxic materials!

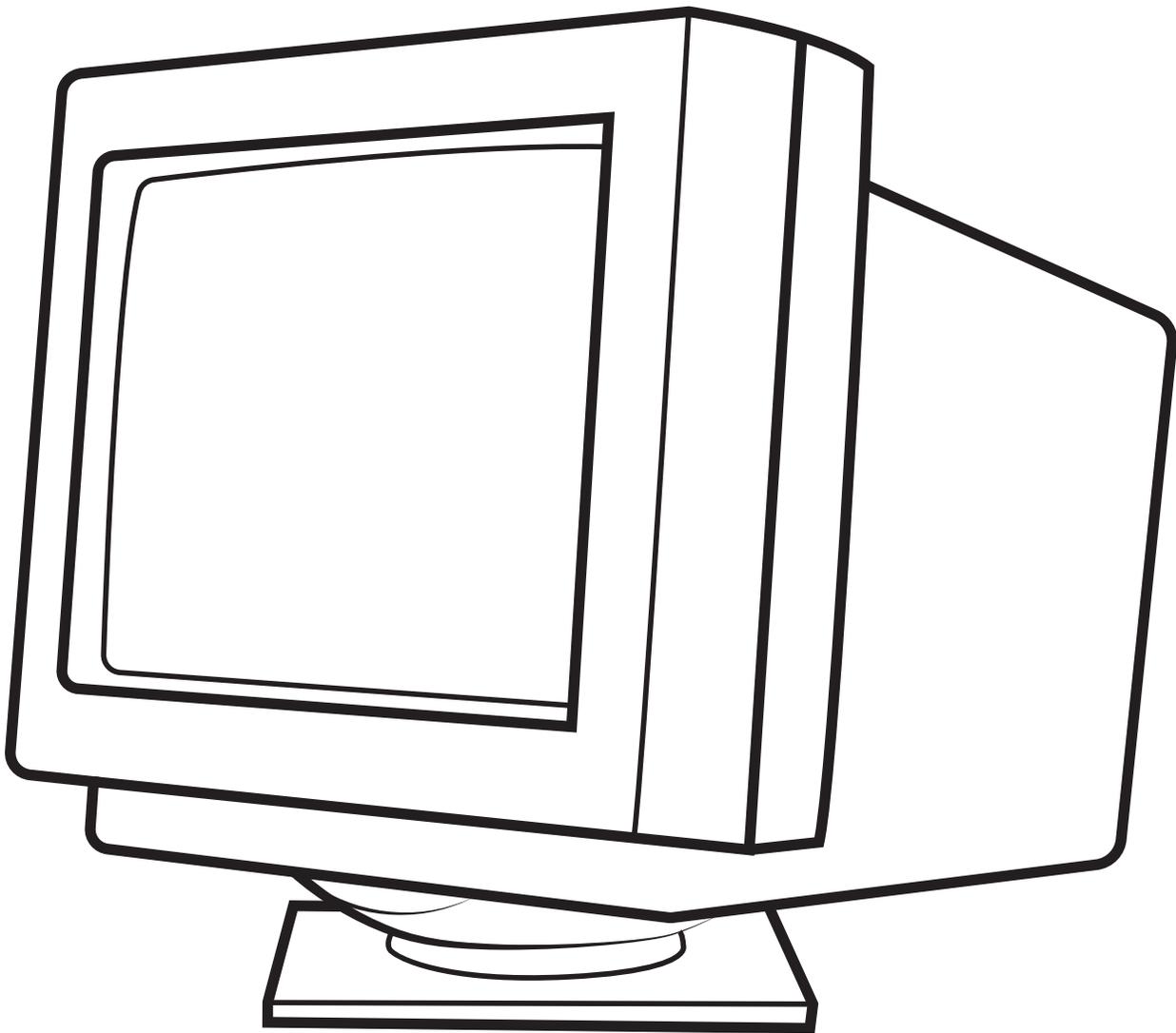
Avoid chewing or eating those paint chips falling off walls, doors and window sills as these too may contain toxic substances!

DID YOU KNOW? POPs affect our immune, endocrine, reproductive and nervous systems.

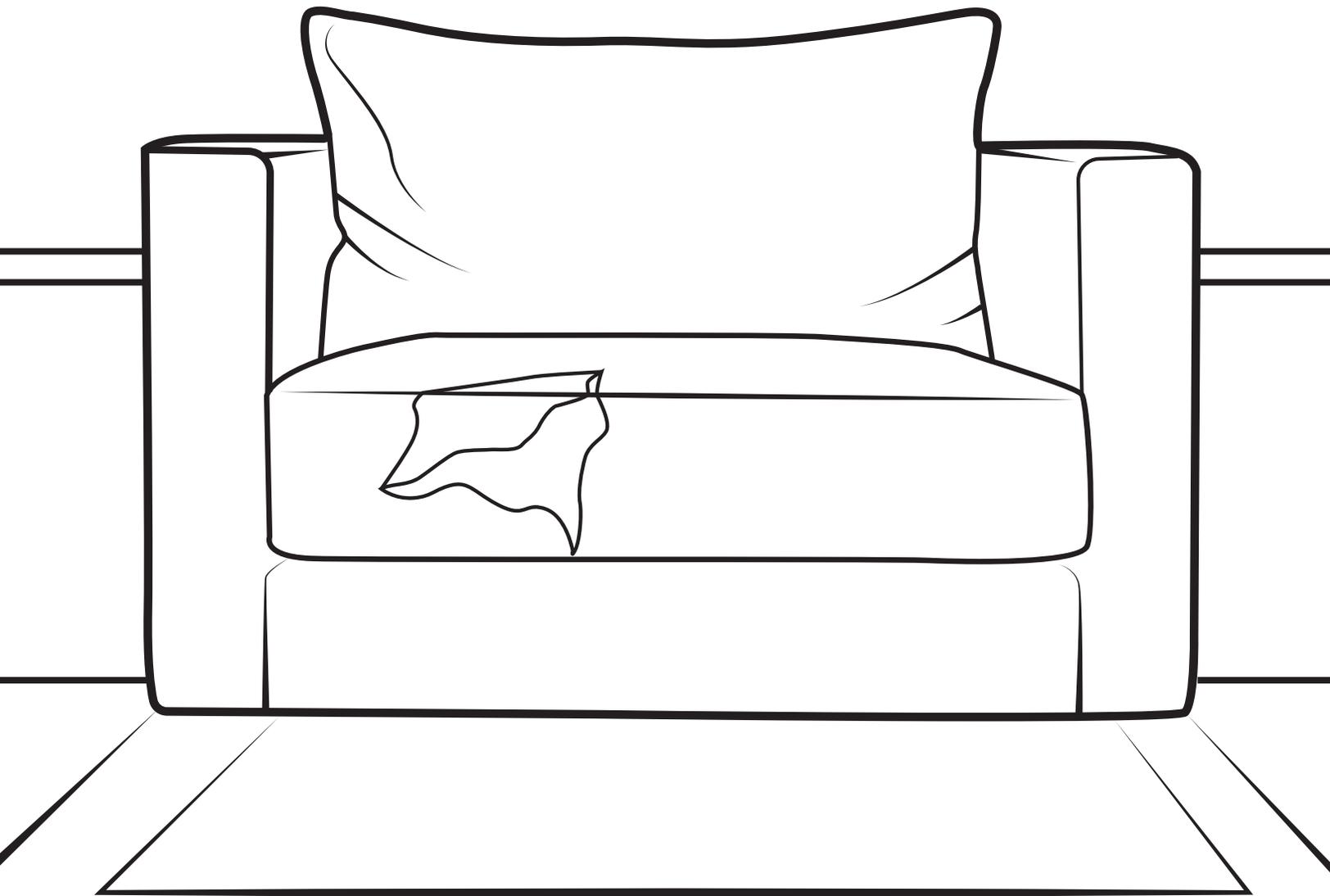
The next time you use electronic devices, bear in mind some may contain harmful chemicals that slow combustion. These chemicals can also pollute the water, air, soil and dust around us.

Always encourage your family and friends to read labels on devices or products and make enquiries about the chemicals used on or within them so as to protect themselves.

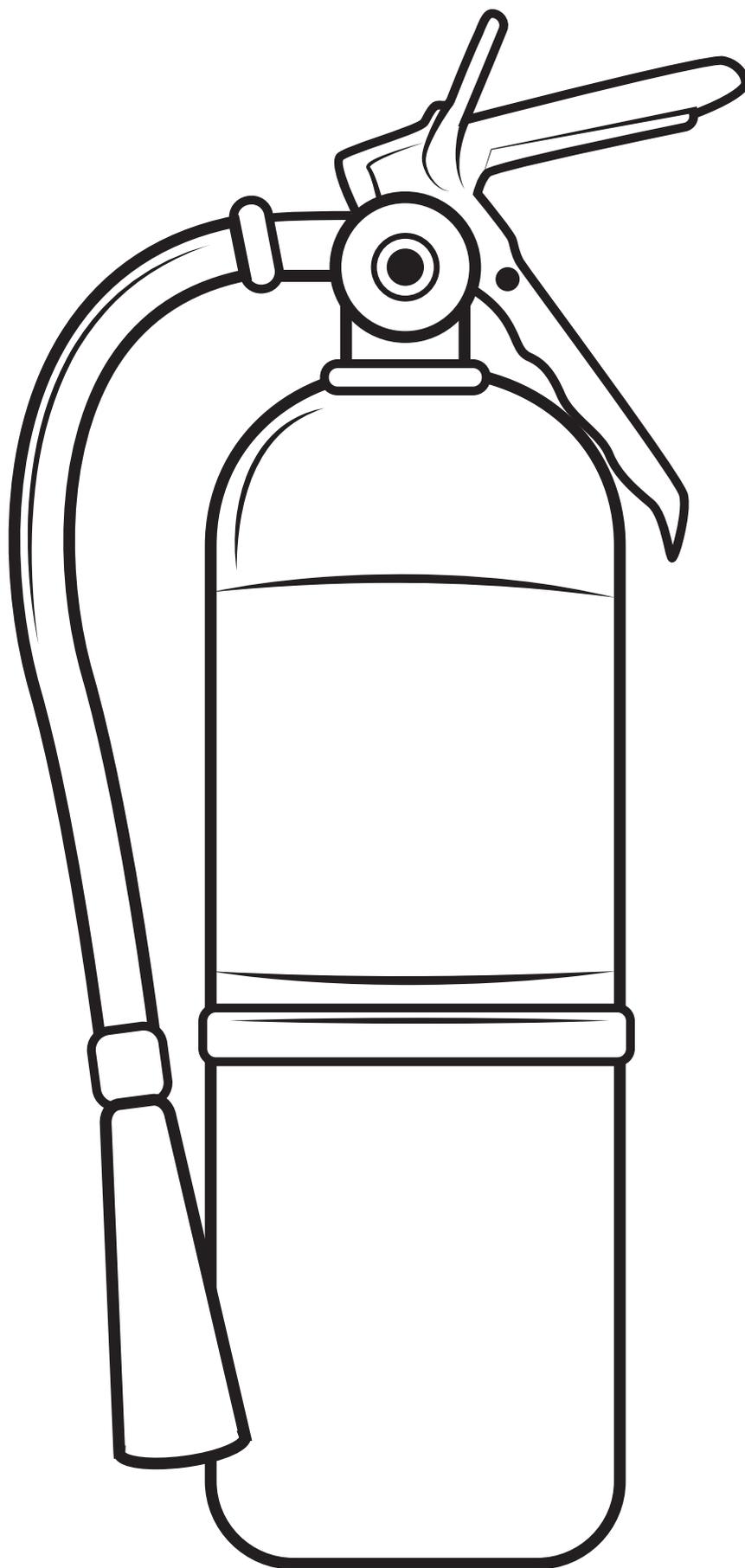
COLOUR THE FOLLOWING IMAGES WHICH CONTAIN POPs.



DID YOU KNOW? A common way we are exposed to POPs is through contaminated indoor dust at home.



Torn or damaged furniture can
release **POPs** within the environment.



Foam fire extinguishers may also contain POPs.
Avoid touching and inhaling these chemicals.

SAFETY TIPS

FOR JAMAICANS

- 1 Avoid playing in old/discarded vehicles as they may contain POPs
- 2 Avoid burning copper wires which release poisonous chemicals
- 3 Avoid eating meat/fish from potentially contaminated areas
- 4 Avoid playing with old appliances, electrical equipment or transformers
- 5 Follow instructions on the labels of chemicals and other products, including storage and disposal information
- 6 Always use personal protective equipment (PPE) to avoid inhalation or contact with dangerous pesticides
- 7 Dispose of pesticide containers properly
- 8 Wash all your fruits and vegetables, even those labelled organic
- 9 Do not use firefighting foams that may contain POPs chemicals
- 10 Consider using ceramic, glass or cast iron cookware
- 11 Research chemicals used in the production of rugs, carpets before buying. If it is stain resistant it may contain POPs chemicals
- 12 Compost food scraps and garden waste
- 13 Exercise responsible waste reduction:
Refuse, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle



SOLVE THE PUZZLE



ACROSS

1. land of wood and water
3. rubbish or waste
5. used to kill weeds, insects and fungi
7. unable to be seen
8. break down easily
9. to recycle organic material
10. a disease caused by POPs

DOWN

2. not natural
4. improper use of something
6. our surroundings

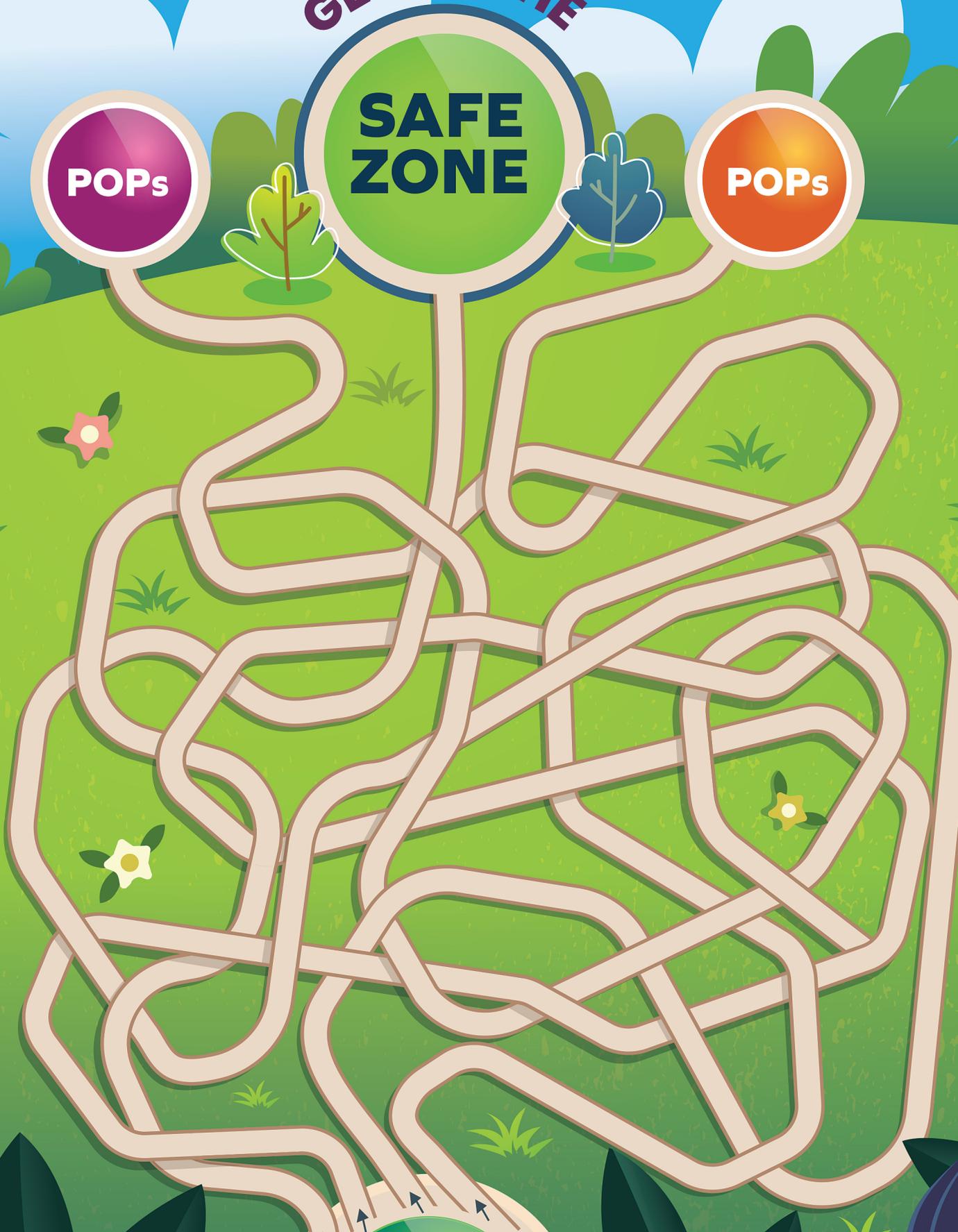
GET TO THE

**SAFE
ZONE**

POPs

POPs

**START
HERE**



POPs FACTS

LET'S GO

POPs STAY IN THE ENVIRONMENT FOR MANY YEARS

POPs CAN BE TRANSPORTED BY WATER, AIR AND SOIL

POPs ARE TOXIC

POPs RESIST BREAKDOWN

POPs CAN TRAVEL FAR DISTANCES

POPs ARE MAN-MADE CHEMICALS

THESE POLLUTANTS CAN CONTAMINATE OUR FOOD

POPs ARE NON-BIODEGRADABLE

POPs BUILD UP IN OUR BODIES AND ENVIRONMENT

POPs CAN BE FOUND EVERYWHERE - OCEANS, LAND, DESERT

POPs AFFECT OUR HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT



POPs

LET'S KEEP JAMAICA
POPs FREE!!!



MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC GROWTH
AND JOB CREATION

