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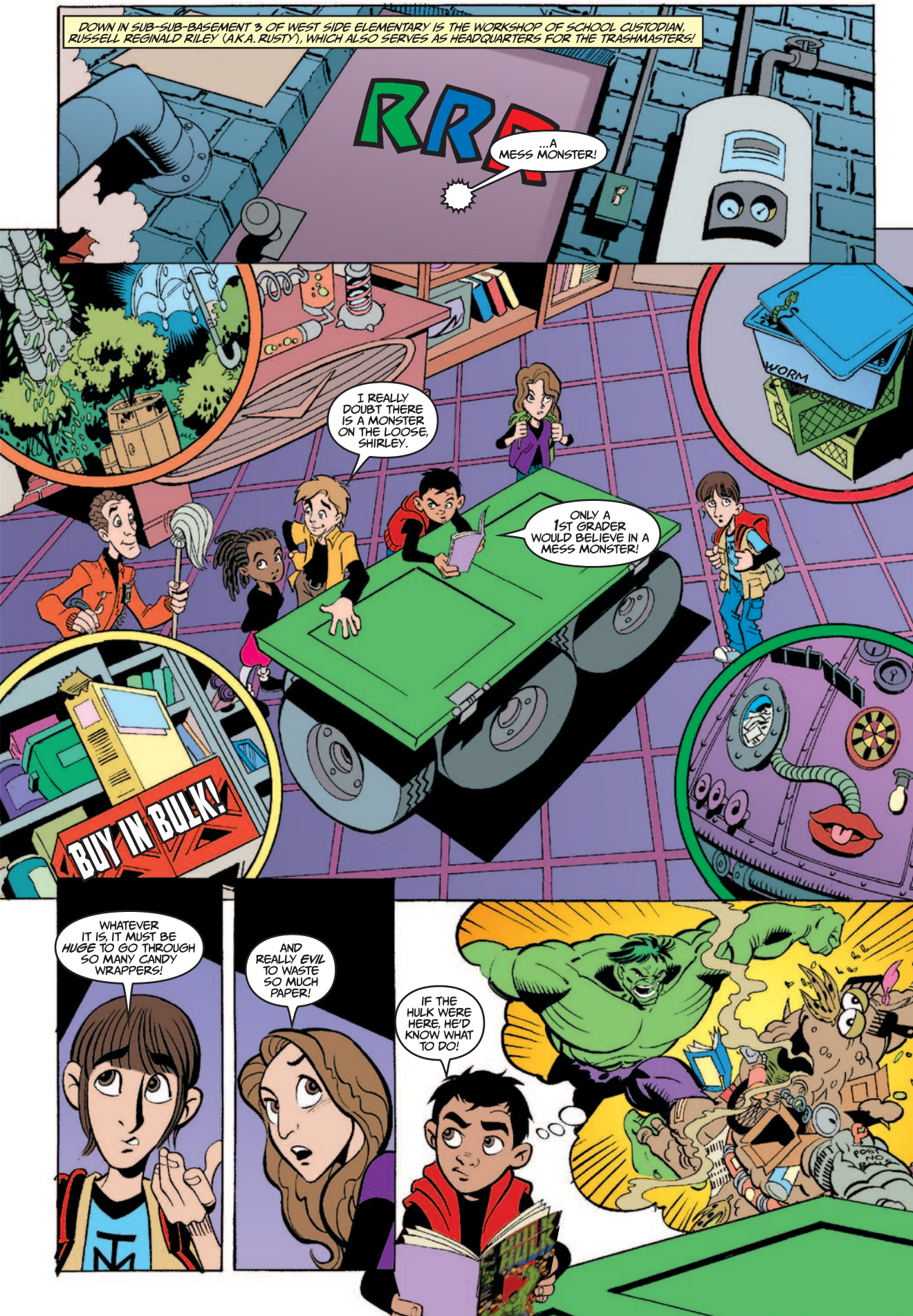
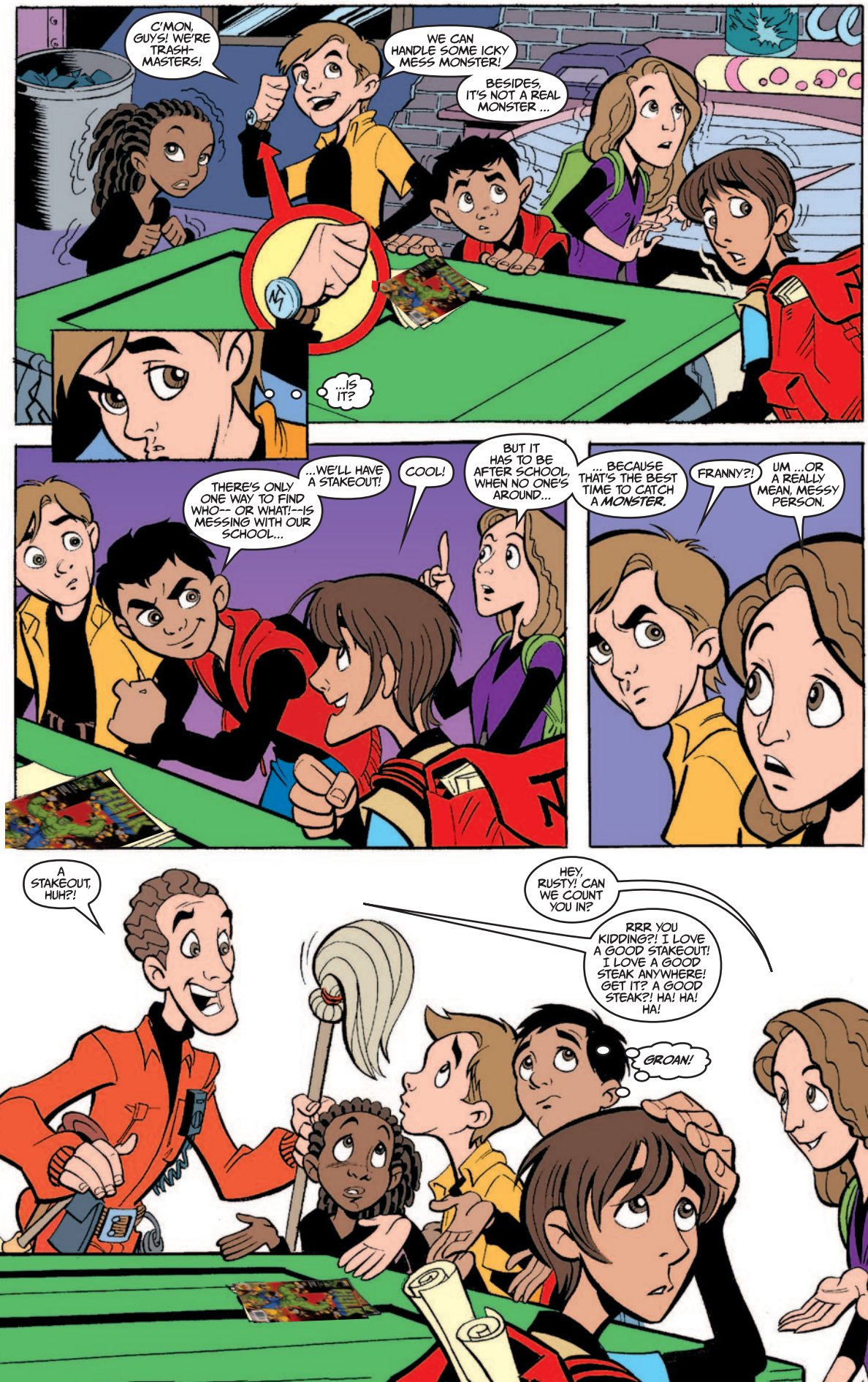
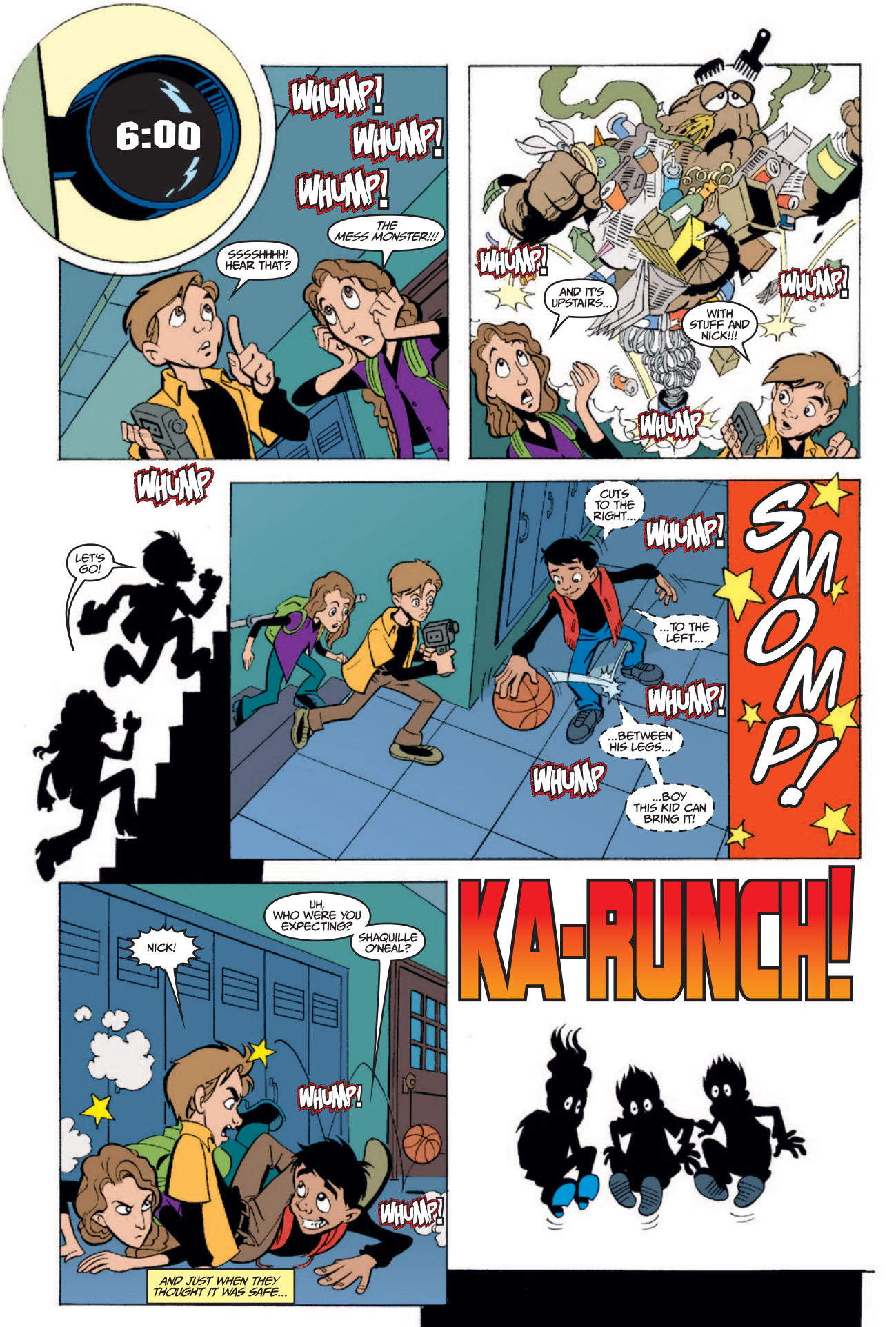
TrashMasters!™
IN
THE MYSTERY OF THE
MESS MONSTER!
TIMES
MUNCH
MILK
COMIX
JMMY
POST NO BILLS
ONLY A MONSTER COULD MAKE SUCH A BIG MESS...

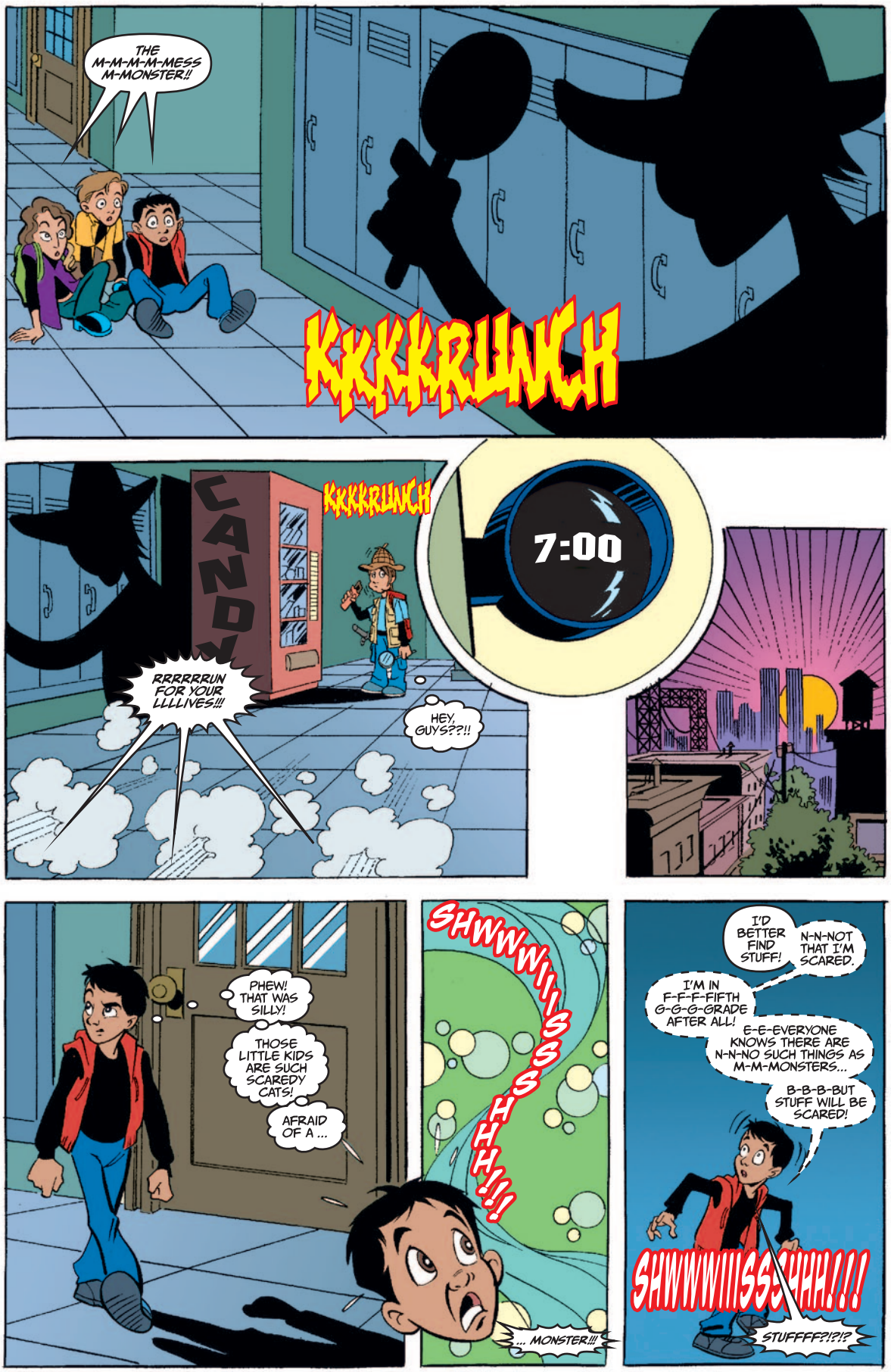

DOWN IN SUB-SUB-BASEMENT 3 OF WEST SIDE ELEMENTARY IS THE WORKSHOP OF SCHOOL CUSTODIAN, RUSSELL REGINALD RILEY (A.K.A. RUSTY), WHICH ALSO SERVES AS HEADQUARTERS FOR THE TRASHMASTERS!
RRR...
...A MESS MONSTER!
WORM COMPOSTING
I REALLY DOUBT THERE IS A MONSTER ON THE LOOSE, SHIRLEY.
ONLY A 1ST GRADER WOULD BELIEVE IN A MESS MONSTER!
BUY IN BULK!
WHATEVER IT IS, IT MUST BE HUGE TO GO THROUGH SO MANY CANDY WRAPPERS!
AND REALLY EVIL TO WASTE SO MUCH PAPER!
IF THE HULK WERE HERE, HE'D KNOW WHAT TO DO!
POST NO BILLS


C'MON, GUYS! WE'RE TRASH-MASTERS!
WE CAN HANDLE SOME ICKY MESS MONSTER!
BESIDES, IT'S NOT A REAL MONSTER ...
...IS IT?
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND WHO-- OR WHAT!--IS MESSING WITH OUR SCHOOL...
...WE'LL HAVE A STAKEOUT!
COOL!
BUT IT HAS TO BE AFTER SCHOOL, WHEN NO ONE'S AROUND...
... BECAUSE THAT'S THE BEST TIME TO CATCH A MONSTER.
FRANNY?!
UM ...OR A REALLY MEAN, MESSY PERSON.
A STAKEOUT, HUH?!
HEY, RUSTY! CAN WE COUNT YOU IN?
RRR YOU KIDDING?! I LOVE A GOOD STAKEOUT! I LOVE A GOOD STEAK ANYWHERE! GET IT? A GOOD STEAK?! HA! HA! HA!
GROAN!

4:00
MS. RUSH, WEST SIDE'S PRINCIPAL
GOOD LUCK, EVERYONE!
REMEMBER, WEST SIDE IS COUNTING ON YOU.
AND I'VE ALREADY CLEARED A SPACE FOR NEXT YEAR'S GOLDEN APPLE!
PAPER CUPS = WASTE!
FRANNY AND HENRY, YOU TAKE THE FIRST FLOOR...
...NICK AND STUFF, THE SECOND.
SHIRL AND I WILL PATROL THE THIRD.
WEST SIDE ELEMENTARY
3RD FLOOR
2ND FLOOR
1ST FLOOR
MESSWATCH!

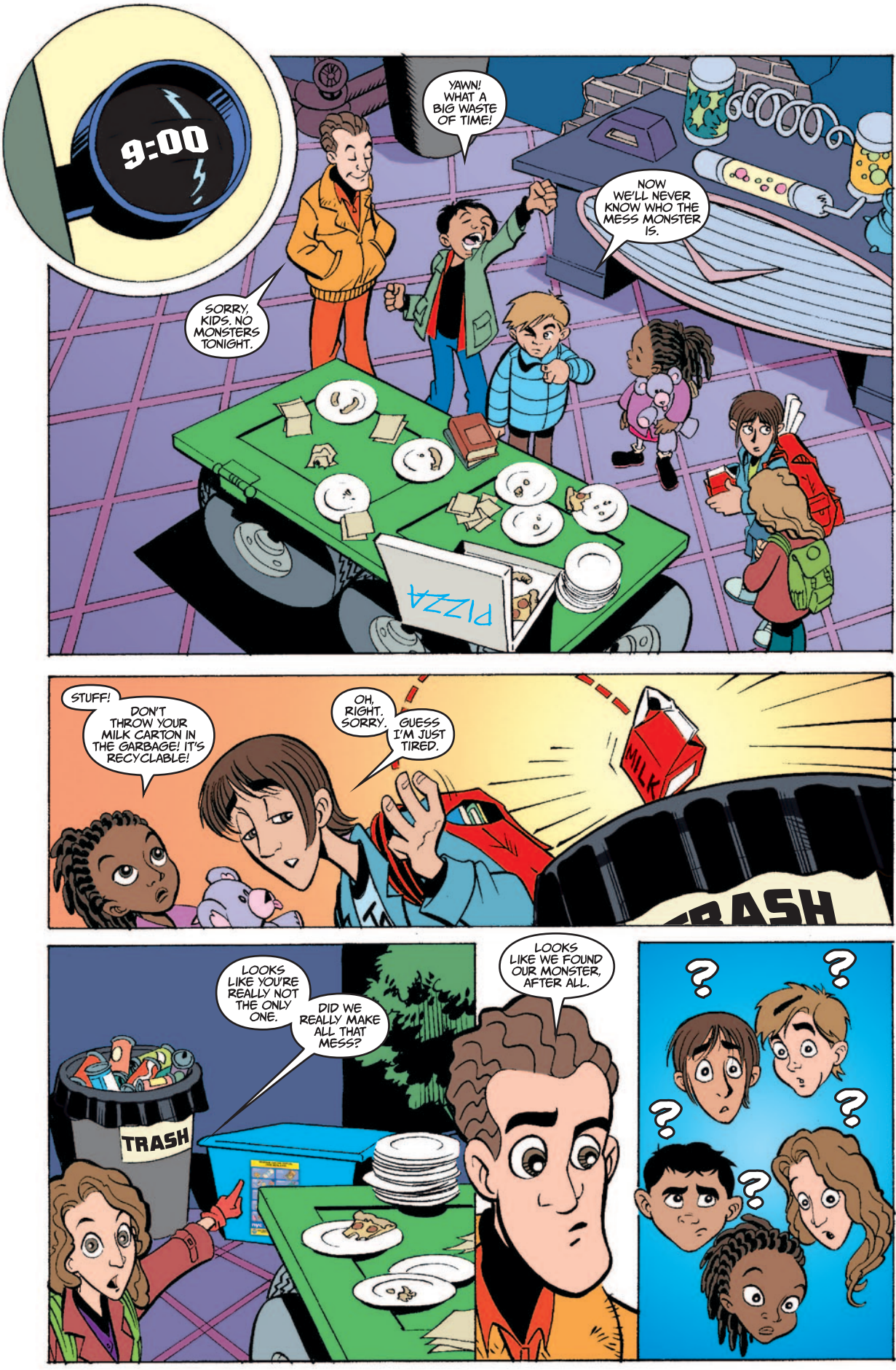
THESE HALLWAYS ARE KIND OF SPOOKY WHEN NO ONE'S AROUND.
DON'T WORRY, SHIRL...
...I'LL HALLWAYS BE RIGHT BESIDE YOU! HA! HA! HA!
HEY, NICK. WANNA HELP ME LOOK FOR CLUES?
I'D BETTER, SINCE YOU LOOK KIND OF CLUELESS!
HENRY, DID YOU KNOW THERE'S A FAMOUS MONSTER CALLED BIGFOOT THAT NO ONE'S EVER SEEN?
1,001 MONSTER MYSTERIES 1,001 FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW
WELL IF BIGFOOT'S MAKING THE BIG MESS...
...I'LL BE SURE TO GET A PICTURE.

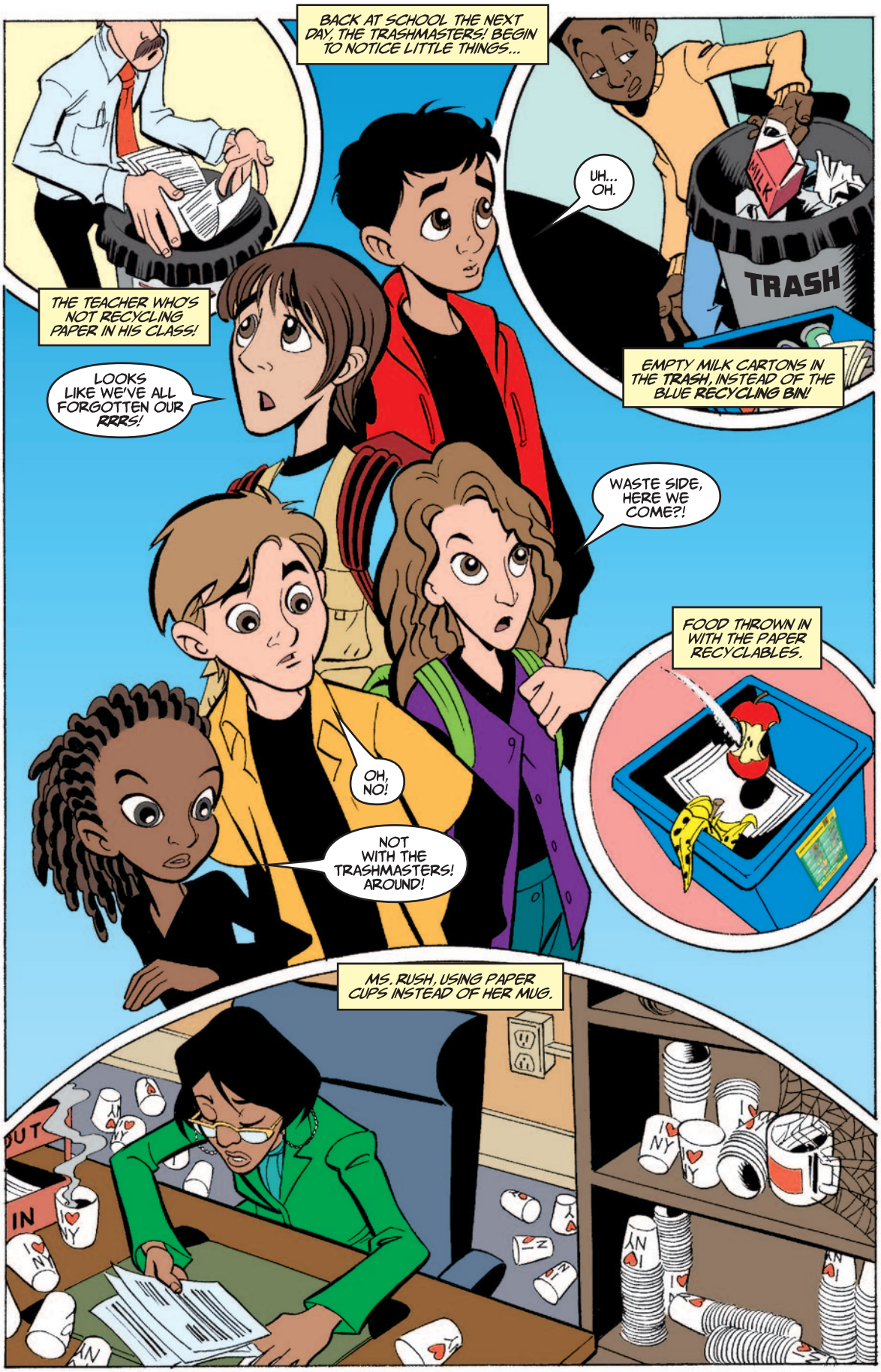

6:00
WHUMP!
WHUMP!
WHUMP!
SSSSHHHH! HEAR THAT?
THE MESS MONSTER!!!
WHUMP!
AND IT'S UPSTAIRS...
WHUMP!
WITH STUFF AND NICK!!!
WHUMP
WHUMP
LET'S GO!
CUTS TO THE RIGHT...
WHUMP!
...TO THE LEFT...
WHUMP!
...BETWEEN HIS LEGS...
WHUMP
...BOY THIS KID CAN BRING IT!
SMOMP!
NICK!
UH, WHO WERE YOU EXPECTING?
SHAQUILLE O'NEAL?
WHUMP!
WHUMP!
AND JUST WHEN THEY THOUGHT IT WAS SAFE...
KA-RUNCH!


THE M-M-M-M-MESS M-MONSTER!!
KKKKRUNCH
CANDY
KKKKRUNCH
RRRRRRUN FOR YOUR LLLLIVES!!!
HEY, GUYS??!!
7:00
PHEW! THAT WAS SILLY!
THOSE LITTLE KIDS ARE SUCH SCAREDY CATS!
AFRAID OF A ...
SHWWWIIISSSSHHH!!!
... MONSTER!!!
I'D BETTER FIND STUFF!
N-N-NOT THAT I'M SCARED.
I'M IN F-F-F-FIFTH G-G-G-GRADE AFTER ALL!
E-E-EVERYONE KNOWS THERE ARE N-N-NO SUCH THINGS AS M-M-MONSTERS...
B-B-B-BUT STUFF WILL BE SCARED!
SHWWWIIISSSSHHH!!!
STUFFFF?!?!?

STUFF?
BOYS
SHWWWIIISSSHHH!!!
UH, OH!
I'VE GOTTA SAVE STUFF!
WHAMPPP
BOYS
SPLOSH
HEY, NICK. AM I GLAD TO SEE YOU!
I DROPPED MY MAGNIFYING GLASS BY MISTAKE.

8:00
A LITTLE SLEEPY, RUSTY, BOY, STAKEOUTS SURE ARE BORING!
HOW YOU DOING, SHIRL?
THINGS HAVE BEEN PRETTY QUIET.
SNIFF! SNIFF! HEY, RUSTY. WHAT DO MONSTERS SMELL LIKE?
I DON'T KNOW. I'VE NEVER SMELLED A MONSTER. WHY DO YOU ASK?... SNIFF, SNIFF...
OH, I SEE ... I MEAN, I SMELL!
LET'S GO DOWNSTAIRS AND TAKE A LOOK.
MEANWHILE...
UGH! I THINK BIG FOOT SHOWED UP AND TOOK HIS SOCKS OFF!
THE BOOK DIDN'T MENTION ANYTHING ABOUT A BIG SMELL.
AAAAHHHH!!!
1,001 MONSTER MYSTERIES THAT YOU NEED TO KNOW
ANYTHING WRONG?
NICK!
SNIFF! BUT WHAT'S THAT AWFUL SMELL?
LOOK! I FOUND MY BANANA!
THE ONE I LOST IN KINDERGARTEN!
ANYONE WANT A BITE?

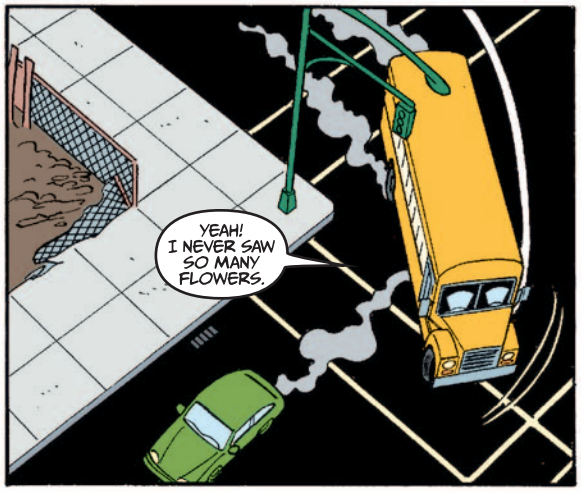

9:00
SORRY, KIDS, NO MONSTERS TONIGHT.
YAWN! WHAT A BIG WASTE OF TIME!
NOW WE'LL NEVER KNOW WHO THE MESS MONSTER IS.
PIZZA
STUFF!
DON'T THROW YOUR MILK CARTON IN THE GARBAGE! IT'S RECYCLABLE!
OH, RIGHT. SORRY.
GUESS I'M JUST TIRED.
MILK
TRASH
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE REALLY NOT THE ONLY ONE.
DID WE REALLY MAKE ALL THAT MESS?
LOOKS LIKE WE FOUND OUR MONSTER, AFTER ALL.
?
?
?
?
?

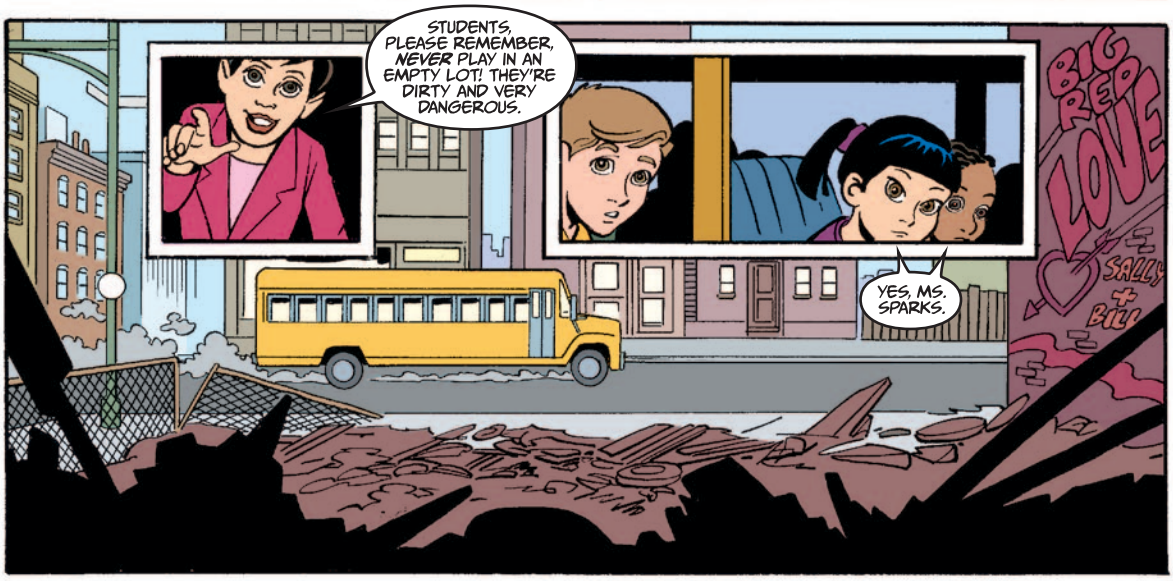

BACK AT SCHOOL THE NEXT DAY, THE TRASHMASTERS! BEGIN TO NOTICE LITTLE THINGS...
THE TEACHER WHO'S NOT RECYCLING PAPER IN HIS CLASS!
UH... OH.
MILK
TRASH
EMPTY MILK CARTONS IN THE TRASH, INSTEAD OF THE BLUE RECYCLING BIN!
LOOKS LIKE WE'VE ALL FORGOTTEN OUR RRRS!
WASTE SIDE, HERE WE COME?!
FOOD THROWN IN WITH THE PAPER RECYCLABLES.
OH, NO!
NOT WITH THE TRASHMASTERS! AROUND!
MS. RUSH, USING PAPER CUPS INSTEAD OF HER MUG.
IN
NY

WRITERS: DOUG BERNSTEIN AND VIVIAN TRAKINSKI
PENCILER: LEE MODER
INKER: JOSÈ MARZAN
LETTERER: SHARPEFONT
COLORS: DIGITAL CHAMELEON
ADDITIONAL ART: SCOTT ELMER

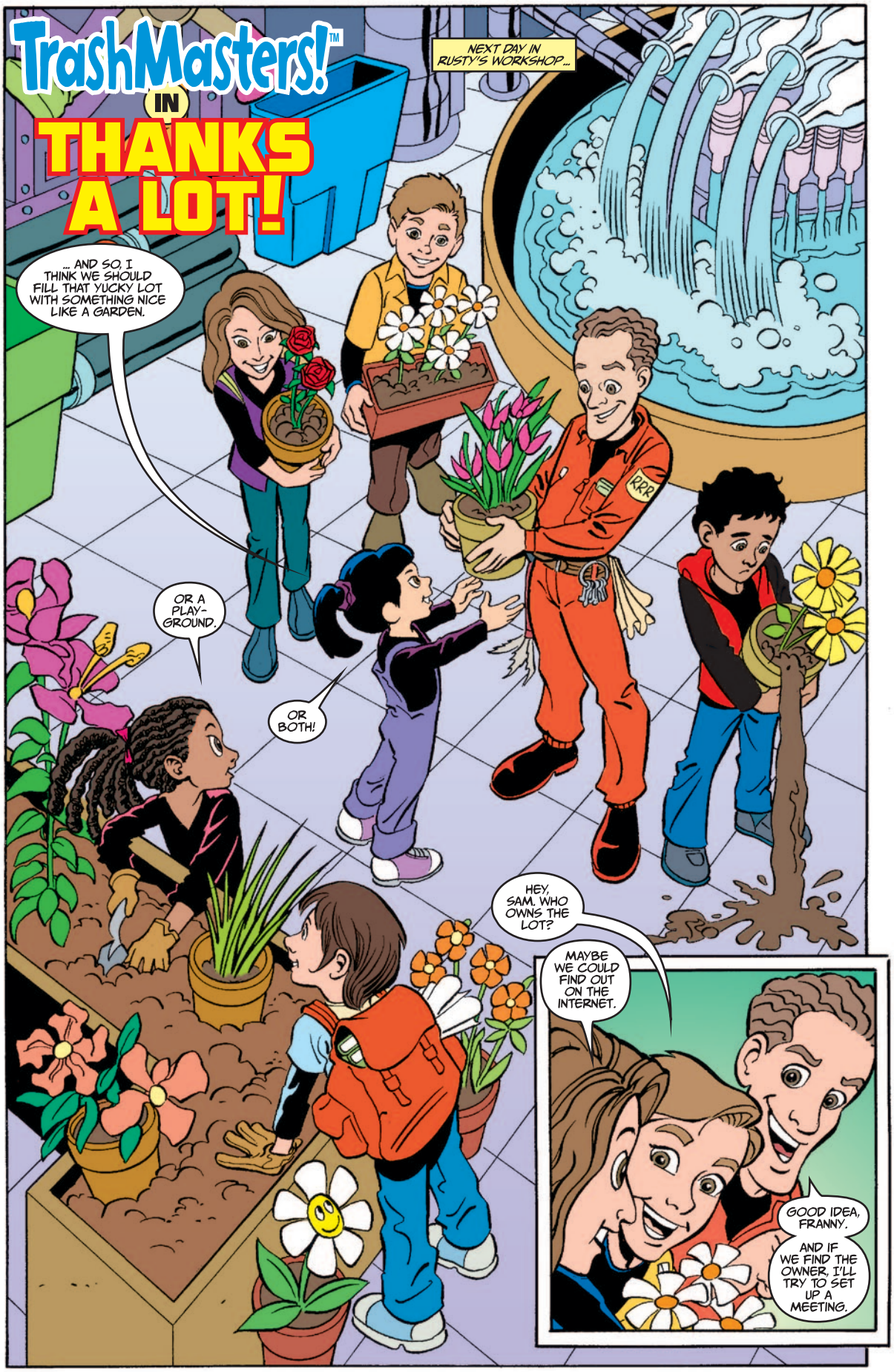
The New York Botanical Garden
SHIRLEY'S CLASS IS ON THEIR WAY BACK TO WEST SIDE ELEMENTARY FROM A CLASS FIELD TRIP...
WESTSIDE

NO PARKING
THOSE GARDENS WERE COOL.

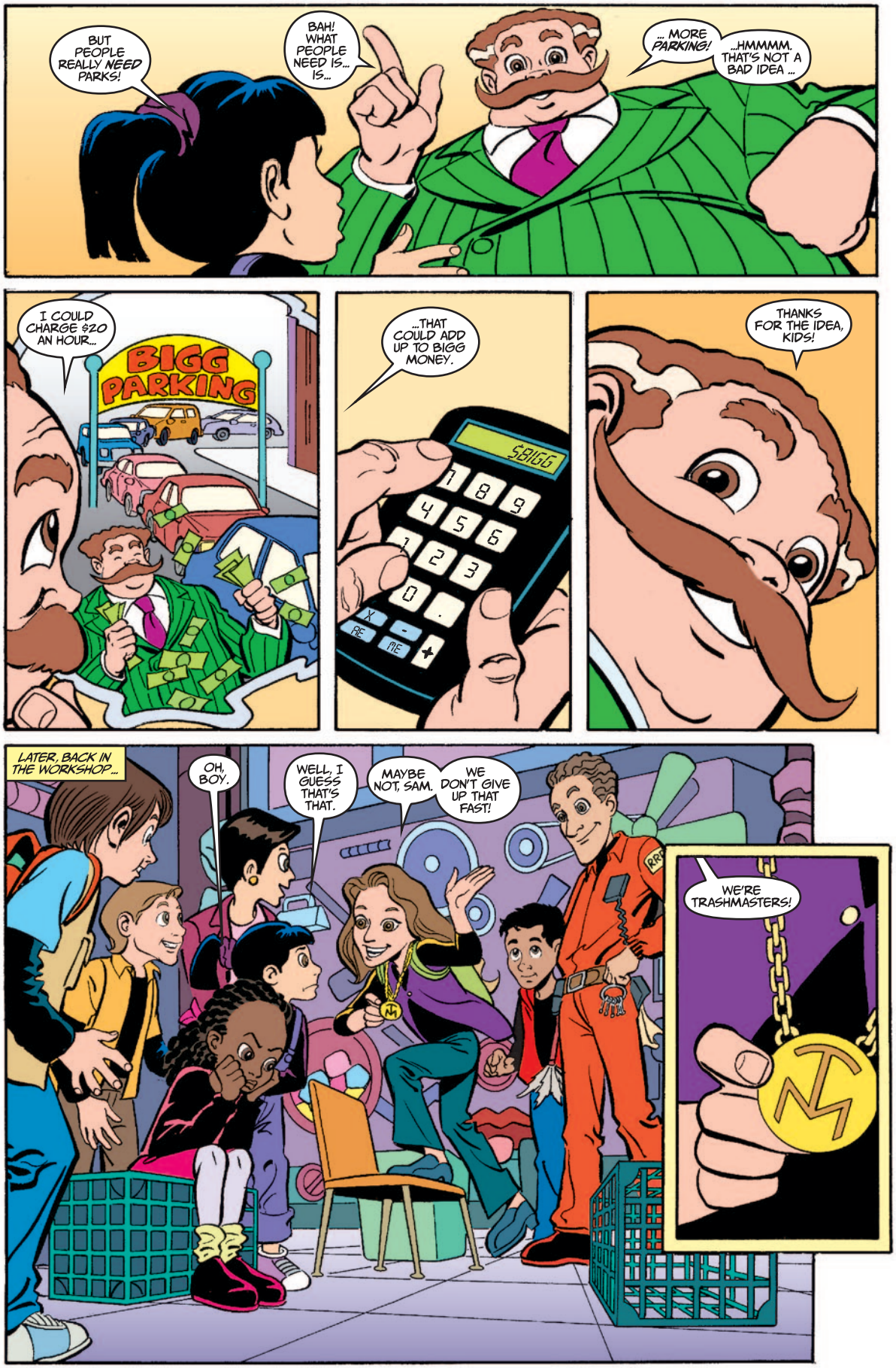

YEAH! I NEVER SAW SO MANY FLOWERS.

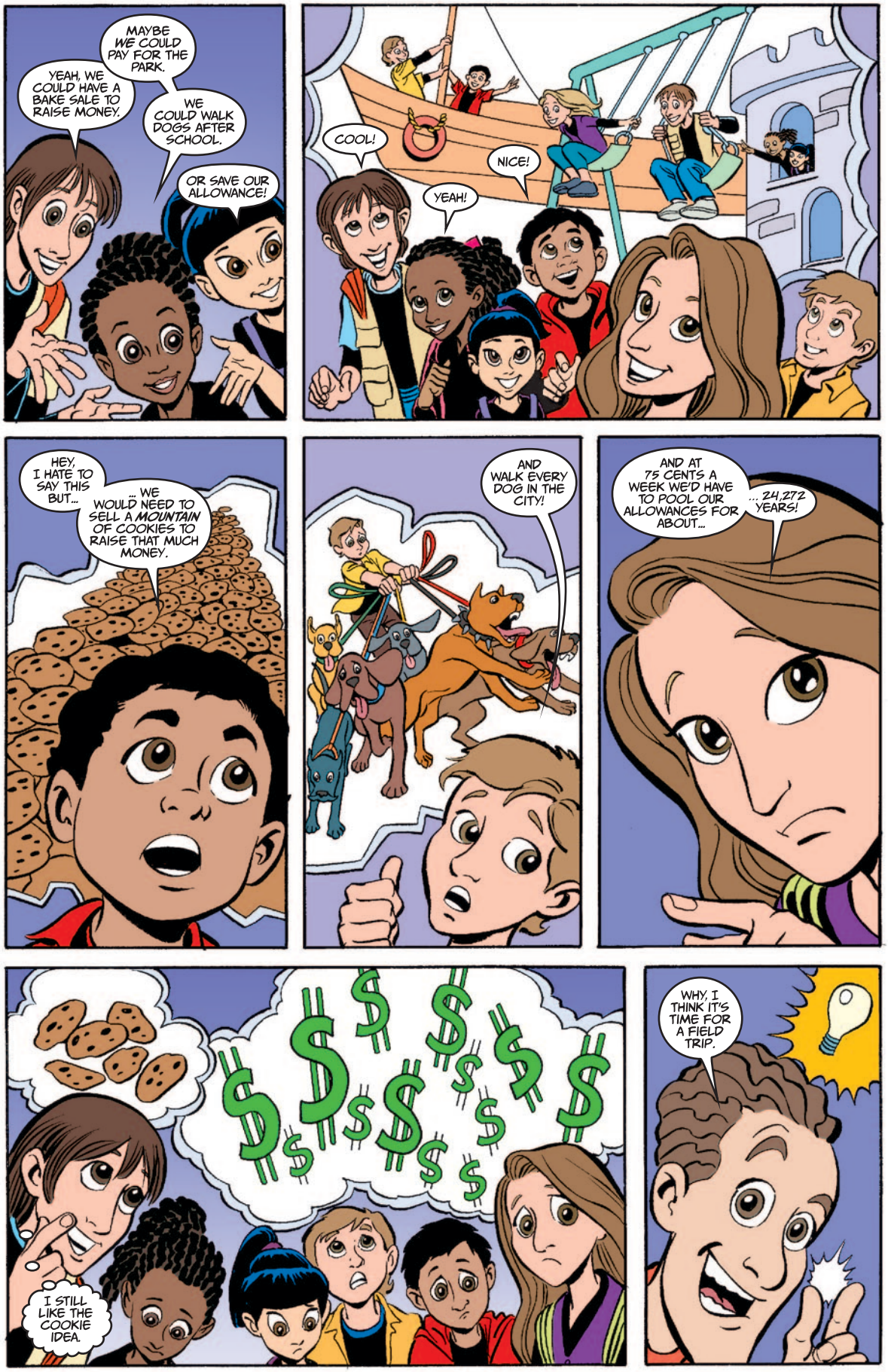

STUDENTS, PLEASE REMEMBER, NEVER PLAY IN AN EMPTY LOT! THEY'RE DIRTY AND VERY DANGEROUS.
YES, MS. SPARKS.
BIG RED LOVE
SALLY + BILL

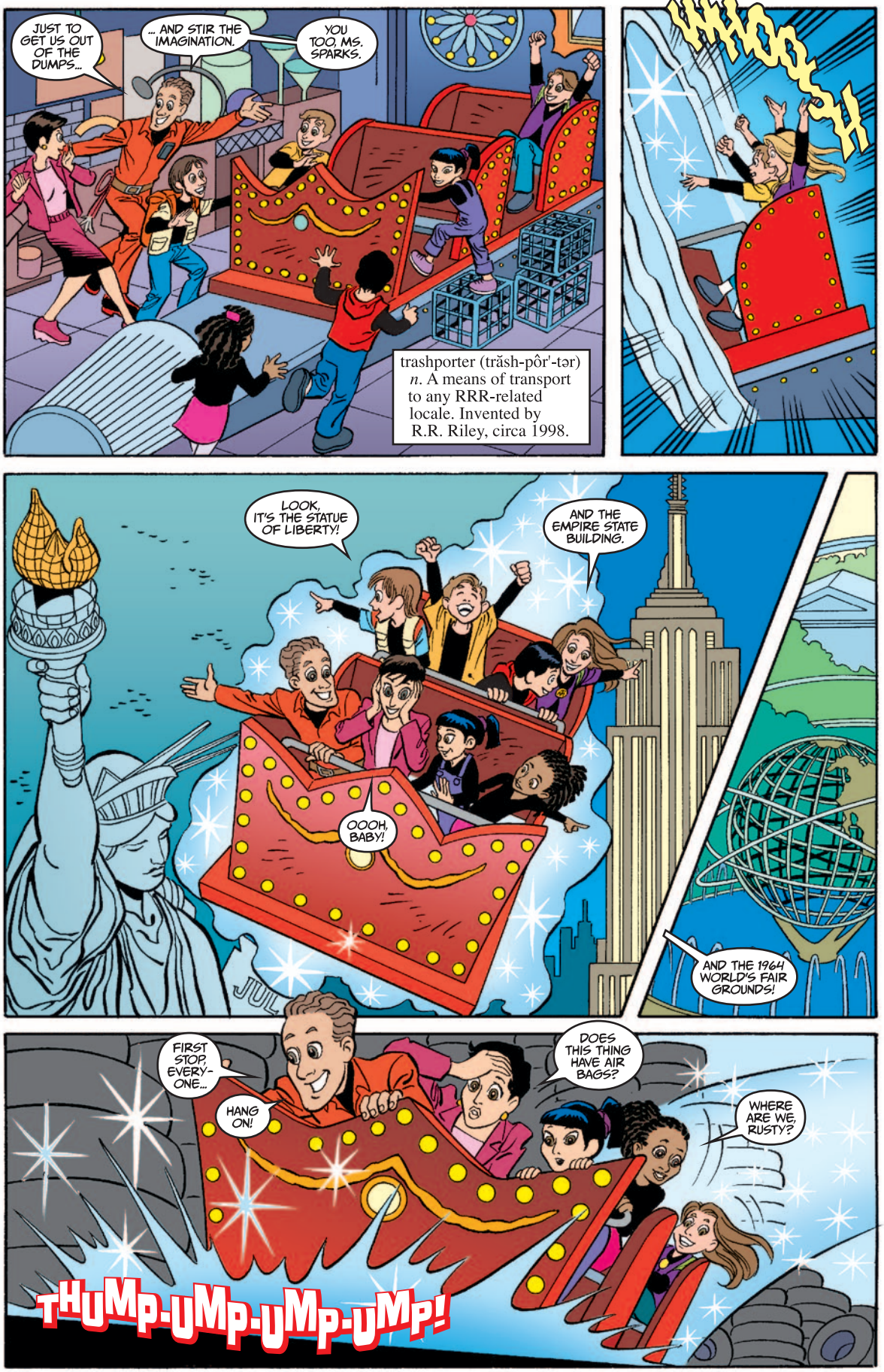
I LIVE RIGHT NEAR HERE, SHIRLEY. AND I ALWAYS HATED THAT UGLY LOT.
ROLK ROLL


TrashMasters!™
IN
THANKS A LOT!
NEXT DAY IN RUSTY'S WORKSHOP...
... AND SO, I THINK WE SHOULD FILL THAT YUCKY LOT WITH SOMETHING NICE LIKE A GARDEN.
OR A PLAY-GROUND.
OR BOTH!
RRR
HEY, SAM. WHO OWNS THE LOT?
MAYBE WE COULD FIND OUT ON THE INTERNET.
GOOD IDEA, FRANNY.
AND IF WE FIND THE OWNER, I'LL TRY TO SET UP A MEETING.

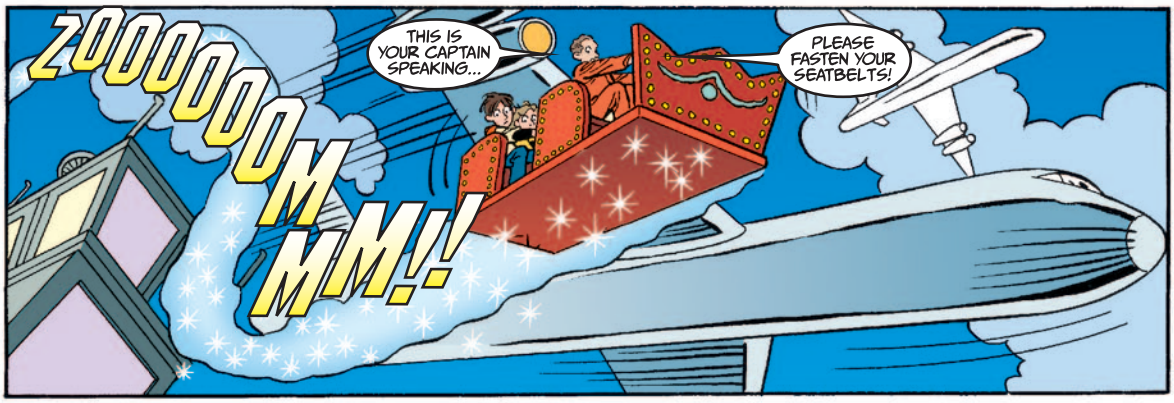
ONE WEEK LATER...
BIGG
... AND SO, MR. BIGG, YOUR EMPTY LOT WOULD MAKE A GREAT PARK!
MR. BIGG
BIGG BOSS
A PARK? A PARK? HOW CAN I MAKE MONEY FROM A PARK?
I OWN THINGS LIKE BIGG PLAZA, BIGG CASINO, AND A BIGGPLEX DOWN-TOWN.
BIGG PLAZA
BIGG CASINO
BIGG PLEX
PARKS COST MONEY.
ALL THAT FANCY STUFF KIDS LIKE TO PLAY ON!
WHEN I WAS A KID...
... ALL I HAD WAS AN OLD TIRE. KIDS TODAY HAVE NO IMAGINATION!

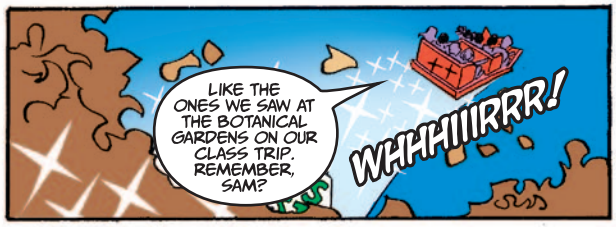

BUT PEOPLE REALLY NEED PARKS!
BAH! WHAT PEOPLE NEED IS... IS...
... MORE PARKING!
...HMMMM. THAT'S NOT A BAD IDEA ...
I COULD CHARGE $20 AN HOUR...
BIGG PARKING
...THAT COULD ADD UP TO BIGG MONEY.
$8166
THANKS FOR THE IDEA, KIDS!
LATER, BACK IN THE WORKSHOP...
OH, BOY.
WELL, I GUESS THAT'S THAT.
MAYBE NOT, SAM.
WE DON'T GIVE UP THAT FAST!
WE'RE TRASHMASTERS!

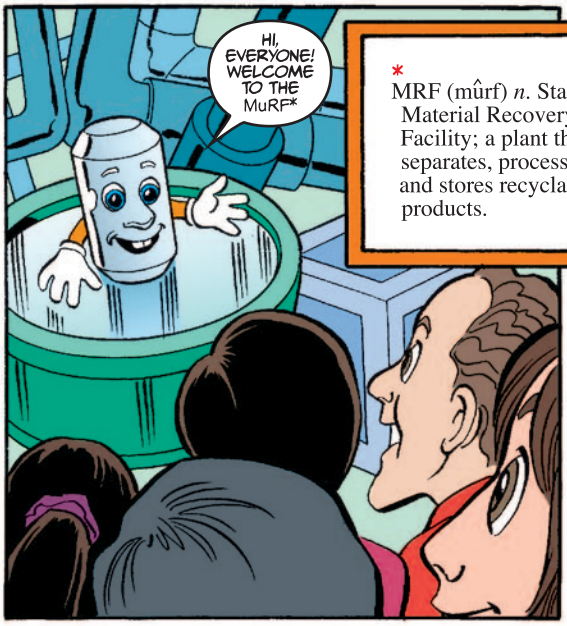

MAYBE WE COULD PAY FOR THE PARK.
YEAH, WE COULD HAVE A BAKE SALE TO RAISE MONEY.
WE COULD WALK DOGS AFTER SCHOOL.
OR SAVE OUR ALLOWANCE!
COOL!
NICE!
YEAH!
HEY, I HATE TO SAY THIS BUT...
... WE WOULD NEED TO SELL A MOUNTAIN OF COOKIES TO RAISE THAT MUCH MONEY.
AND WALK EVERY DOG IN THE CITY!
AND AT 75 CENTS A WEEK WE'D HAVE TO POOL OUR ALLOWANCES FOR ABOUT...
... 24,272 YEARS!
I STILL LIKE THE COOKIE IDEA.
WHY, I THINK IT'S TIME FOR A FIELD TRIP.


JUST TO GET US OUT OF THE DUMPS...
... AND STIR THE IMAGINATION.
YOU TOO, MS. SPARKS.
trashporter (trăsh-pôr'-tər) *n.* A means of transport to any RRR-related locale. Invented by R.R. Riley, circa 1998.
WHOOSH
LOOK, IT'S THE STATUE OF LIBERTY!
AND THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING.
OOOH, BABY!
AND THE 1964 WORLD'S FAIR GROUNDS!
FIRST STOP, EVERY-ONE...
HANG ON!
DOES THIS THING HAVE AIR BAGS?
WHERE ARE WE, RUSTY?
THUMP-UMP-UMP-UMP!

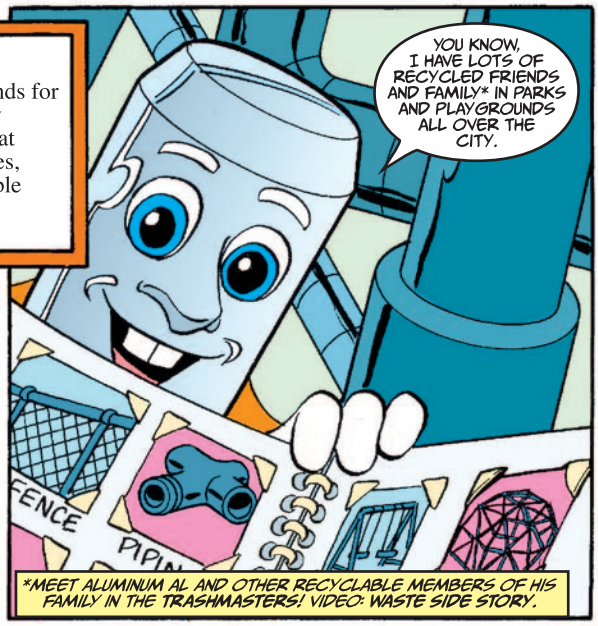
TIRE DUMP, SHIRL.
TIRES CAN BE LOTS OF FUN. JUST IMAGINE...
... HANG A TIRE ON A CHAIN...
IT'S A SWING!
LOOK! I'M RUBBERMAN!
OR LINE THEM UP, AND MAKE A TUNNEL.
GO TRASHMASTERS!
HEY, CAN WE STOP AT THE BALLPARK?
C'MON NOW, WE CAN'T *PARK* OURSELVES HERE ALL DAY... *HA/HA! HA!*
WHAT'S UP WITH THIS PLACE? IT'S FULL OF OLD PIPES AND WOOD AND STUFF.
IS THAT ALL YOU SEE?
HEY, LOOK!
A PILE OF WOOD?
NAH! IT'S A CASTLE!
AND LOOK OVER THERE!
IT'S A BOAT!
COOL!

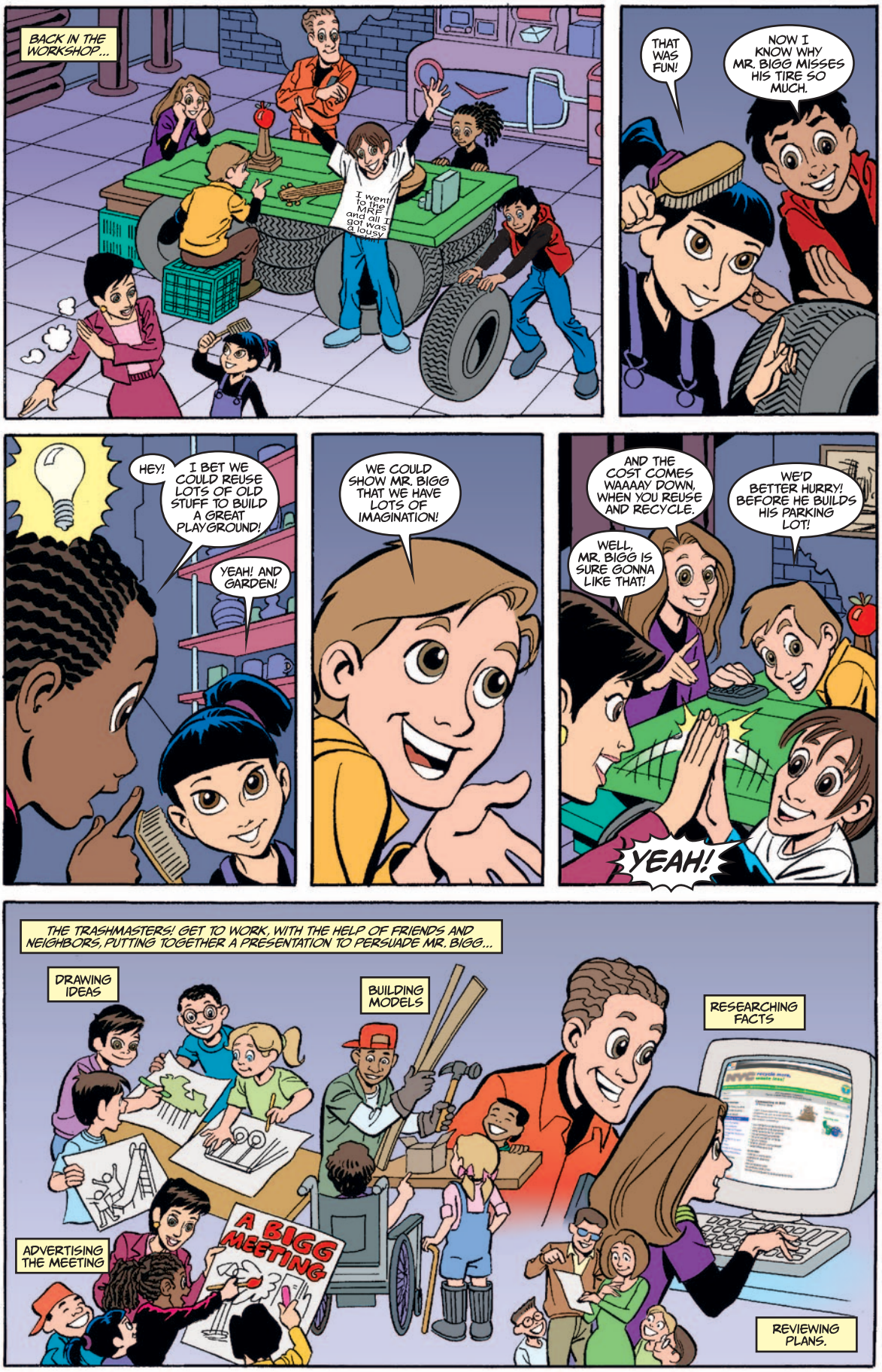


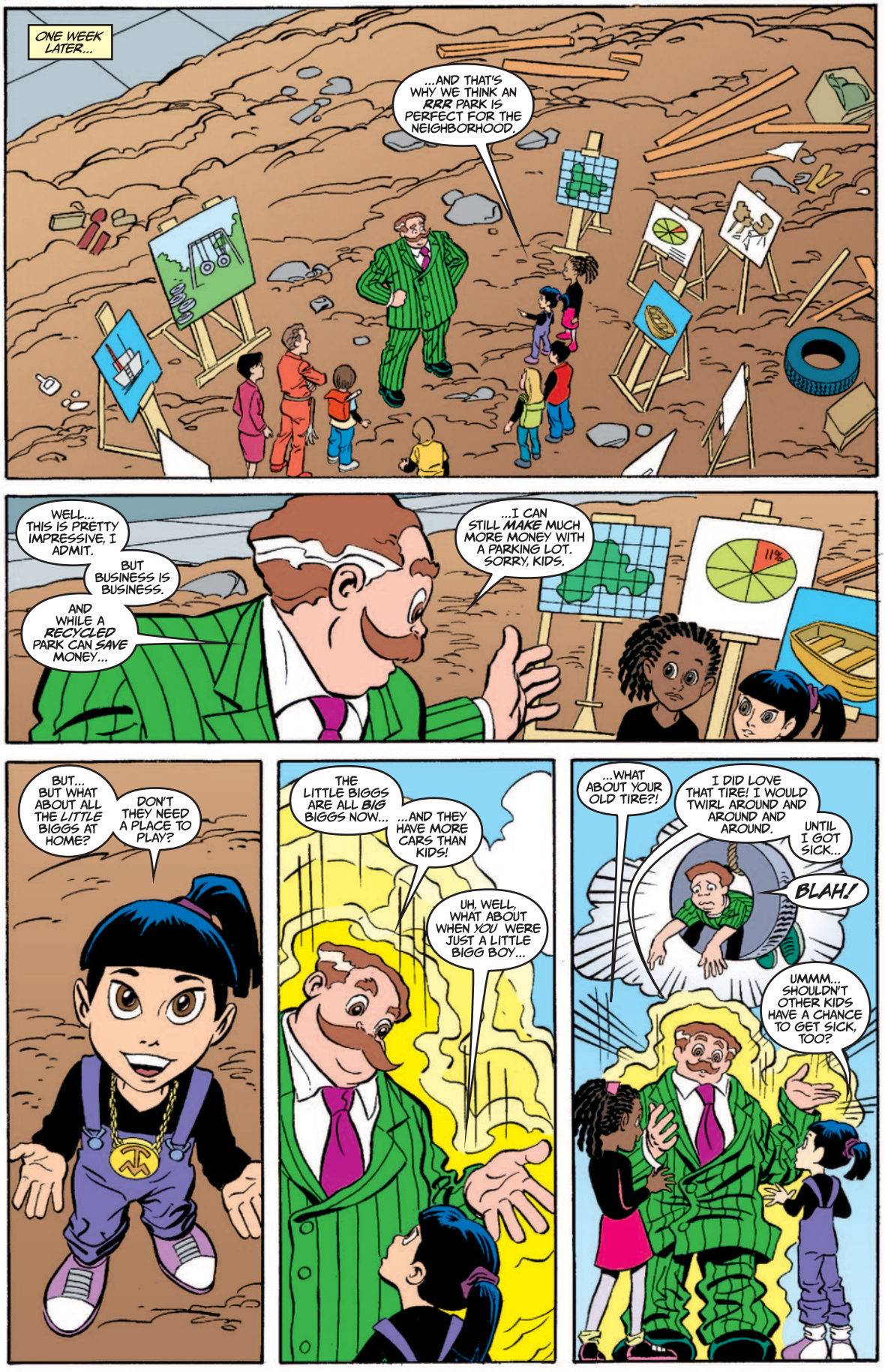




* MRF (mûrf) *n.* Stands for Material Recovery Facility; a plant that separates, processes, and stores recyclable products.

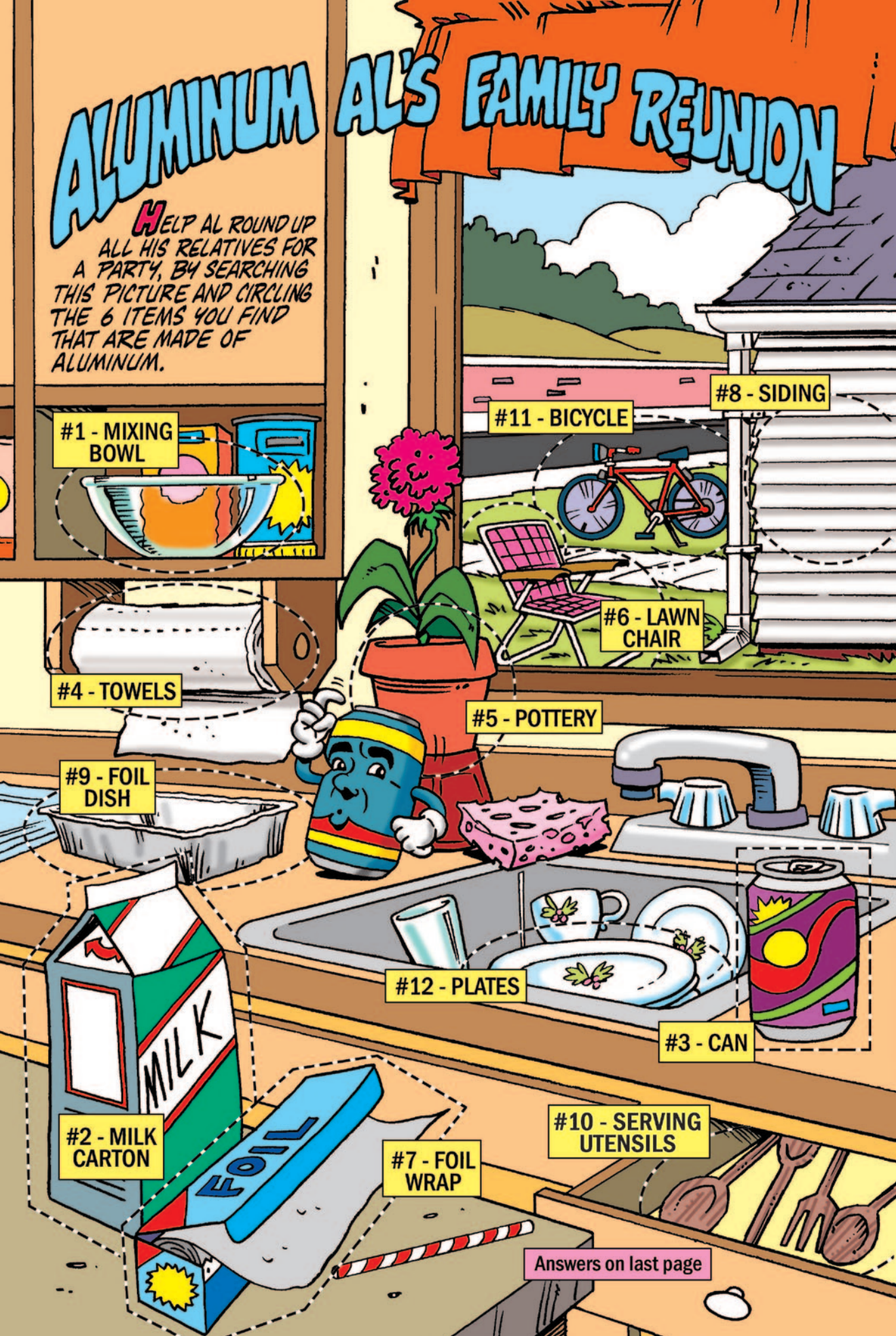


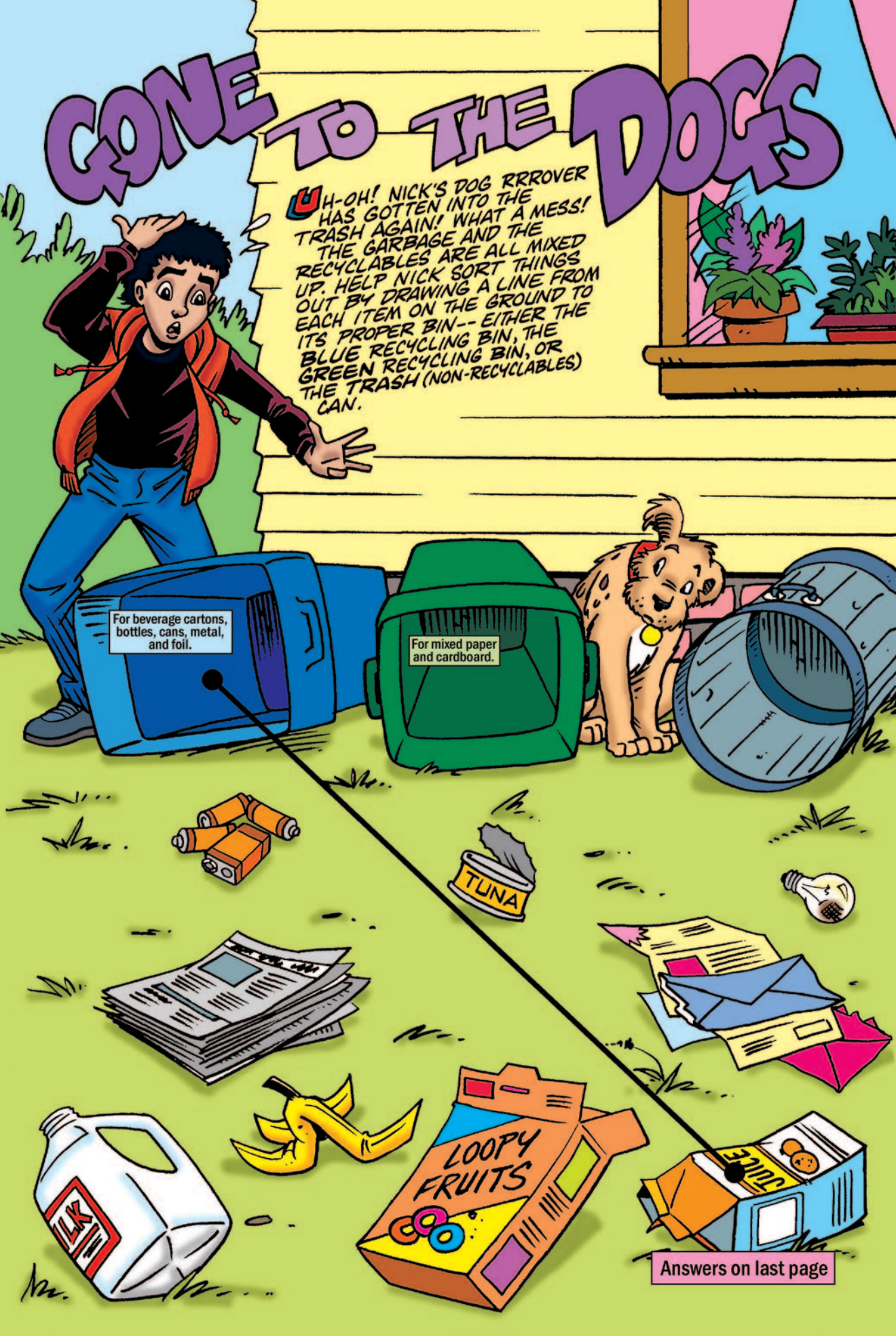

BACK IN THE WORKSHOP...
I went to the MRF! I and all I got was a lousy T-shirt!
THAT WAS FUN!
NOW I KNOW WHY MR. BIGG MISSES HIS TIRE SO MUCH.
HEY!
I BET WE COULD REUSE LOTS OF OLD STUFF TO BUILD A GREAT PLAYGROUND!
YEAH! AND GARDEN!
WE COULD SHOW MR. BIGG THAT WE HAVE LOTS OF IMAGINATION!
AND THE COST COMES WAAAAY DOWN, WHEN YOU REUSE AND RECYCLE.
WELL, MR. BIGG IS SURE GONNA LIKE THAT!
WE'D BETTER HURRY! BEFORE HE BUILDS HIS PARKING LOT!
YEAH!
THE TRASHMASTERS! GET TO WORK, WITH THE HELP OF FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS, PUTTING TOGETHER A PRESENTATION TO PERSUADE MR. BIGG...
DRAWING IDEAS
BUILDING MODELS
RESEARCHING FACTS
ADVERTISING THE MEETING
A BIGG MEETING
REVIEWING PLANS.


ONE WEEK LATER...
...AND THAT'S WHY WE THINK AN RRR PARK IS PERFECT FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD.
WELL... THIS IS PRETTY IMPRESSIVE, I ADMIT.
BUT BUSINESS IS BUSINESS.
AND WHILE A RECYCLED PARK CAN SAVE MONEY...
...I CAN STILL MAKE MUCH MORE MONEY WITH A PARKING LOT. SORRY, KIDS.
11%
BUT... BUT WHAT ABOUT ALL THE LITTLE BIGGS AT HOME?
DON'T THEY NEED A PLACE TO PLAY?
THE LITTLE BIGGS ARE ALL BIG BIGGS NOW...
...AND THEY HAVE MORE CARS THAN KIDS!
UH, WELL, WHAT ABOUT WHEN YOU WERE JUST A LITTLE BIGG BOY...
...WHAT ABOUT YOUR OLD TIRE?!
I DID LOVE THAT TIRE! I WOULD TWIRL AROUND AND AROUND AND AROUND.
UNTIL I GOT SICK...
BLAH!
UMMM... SHOULDN'T OTHER KIDS HAVE A CHANCE TO GET SICK, TOO?

AND WHAT ABOUT A GARDEN?
OH, BUT MY BIGG MAMMA WOULD HAVE *LOVED* A GARDEN...
GEE. SEEMS LIKE THE WHOLE NEIGHBORHOOD IS HERE.
AW! WHAT THE HECK?!
WHO NEEDS ANOTHER PARKING LOT, ANYWAY?!
WHY, I'M GOING TO BUILD A PARK!
YEAH!
AN *RRR* PARK!
OF COURSE, OF COURSE.
GOOD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT YOU KNOW.
OH, THE BEAUTIFUL TREES... THE SWEET-SMELLING FLOWERS...THE FUN... THE GAMES...
ALL RIGHT!
AND DON'T FORGET THE TAX BREAKS!
HURRAY!
YIIPPPEEEE!!!

WRITERS: DOUG BERNSTEIN AND VIVIAN TRAKINSKI PENCILER: ALEX SAVIUK
INKERS: BOB MCLEOD LETTERER: SHARPEFONT
COLORS: DIGITAL CHAMELEON ADDITIONAL ART BY SCOTT ELMER

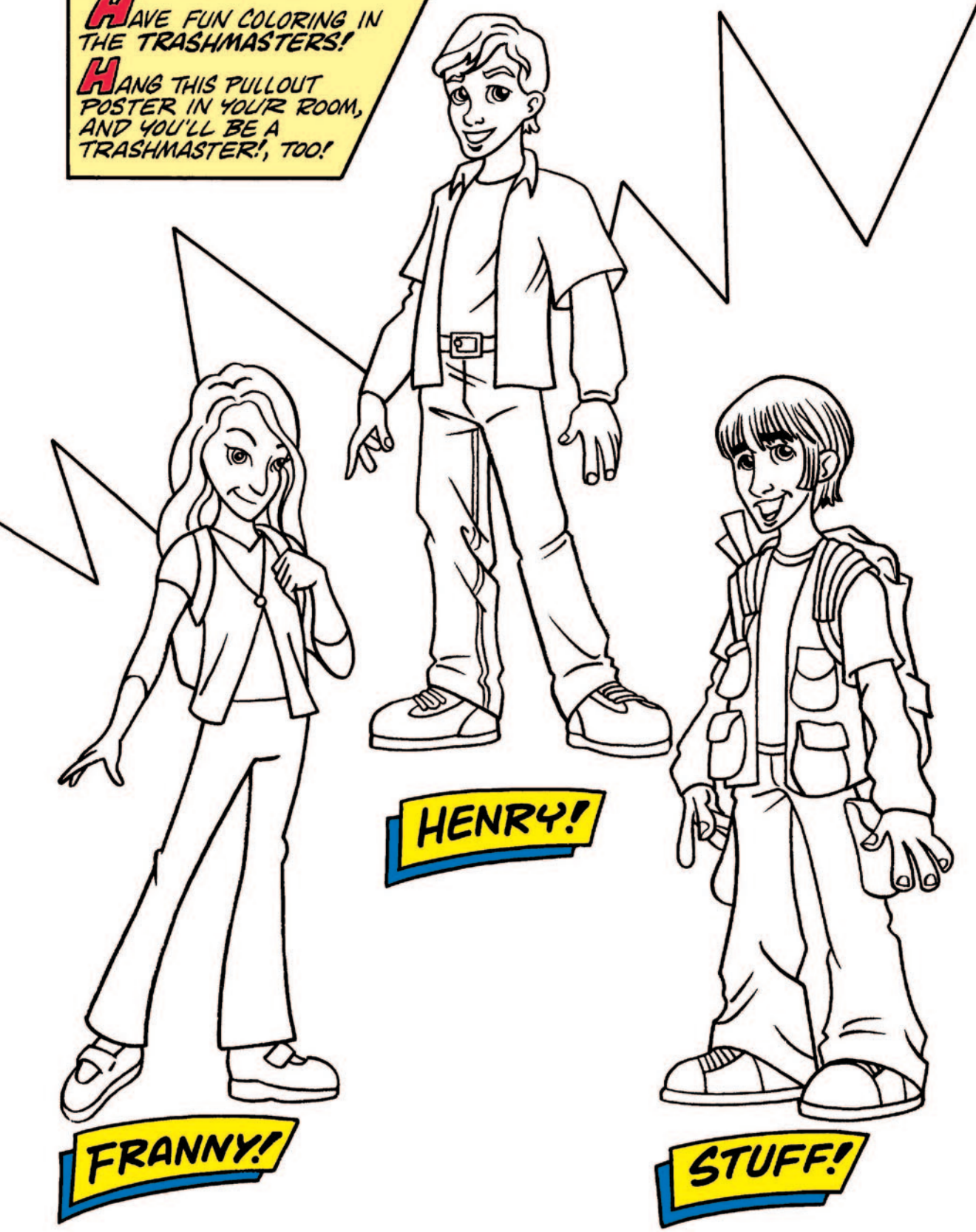

ALUMINUM AL'S FAMILY REUNION
HELP AL ROUND UP ALL HIS RELATIVES FOR A PARTY, BY SEARCHING THIS PICTURE AND CIRCLING THE 6 ITEMS YOU FIND THAT ARE MADE OF ALUMINUM.
#1 - MIXING BOWL
#11 - BICYCLE
#8 - SIDING
#6 - LAWN CHAIR
#4 - TOWELS
#5 - POTTERY
#9 - FOIL DISH
#12 - PLATES
#3 - CAN
MILK
#2 - MILK CARTON
FOIL
#7 - FOIL WRAP
#10 - SERVING UTENSILS
Answers on last page


GONE TO THE DOGS
UH-OH! NICK'S DOG RRROVER HAS GOTTEN INTO THE TRASH AGAIN! WHAT A MESS! THE GARBAGE AND THE RECYCLABLES ARE ALL MIXED UP. HELP NICK SORT THINGS OUT BY DRAWING A LINE FROM EACH ITEM ON THE GROUND TO ITS PROPER BIN-- EITHER THE BLUE RECYCLING BIN, THE GREEN RECYCLING BIN, OR THE TRASH (NON-RECYCLABLES) CAN.
For beverage cartons, bottles, cans, metal, and foil.
For mixed paper and cardboard.
TUNA
LOOPY FRUITS
JUICE
MILK
Answers on last page

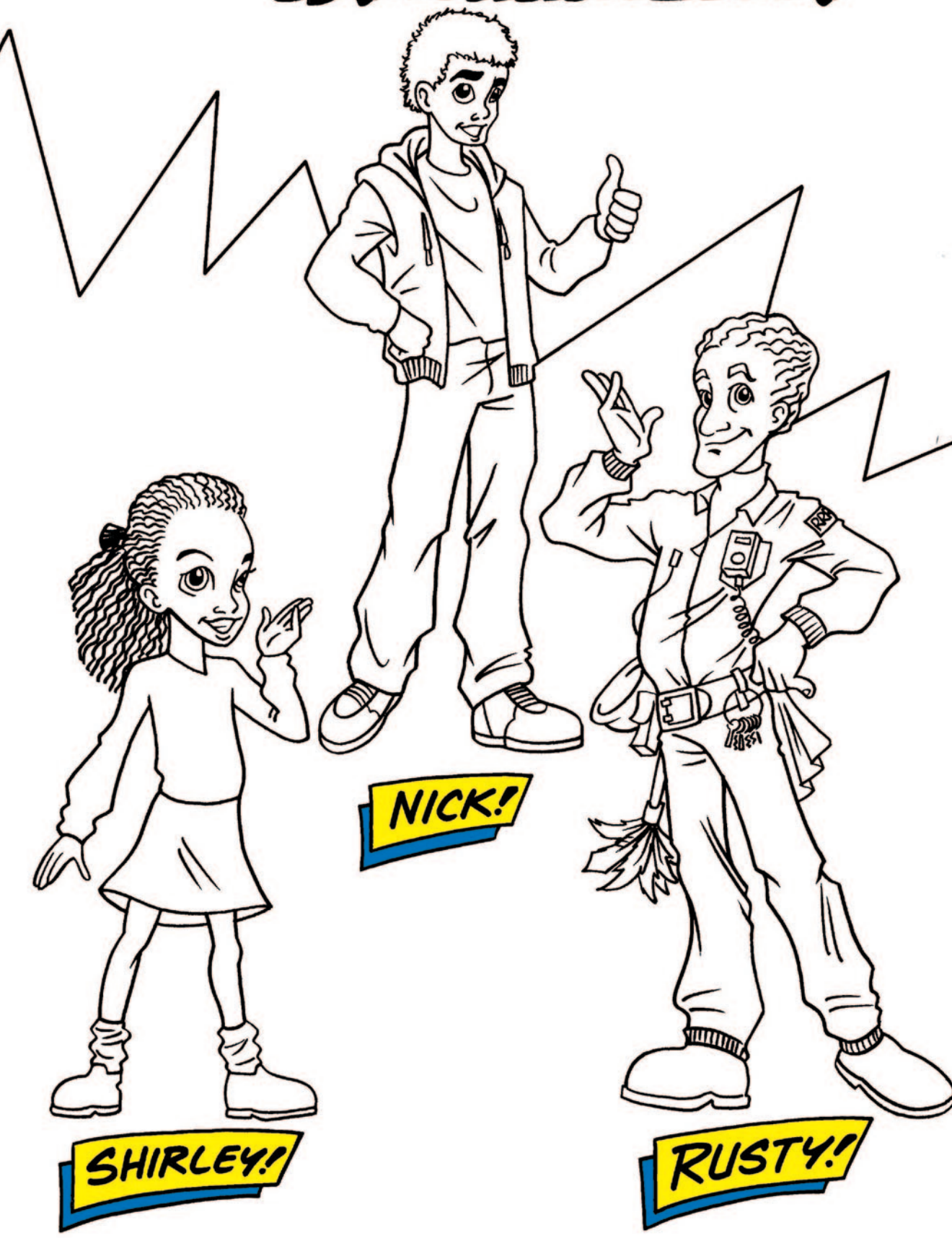
DON'T MESS WITH ME!

HAVE FUN COLORING IN THE TRASHMASTERS!

HANG THIS PULLOUT POSTER IN YOUR ROOM, AND YOU'LL BE A TRASHMASTER!, TOO!

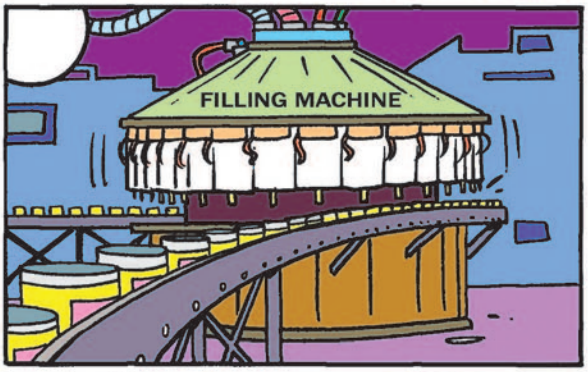


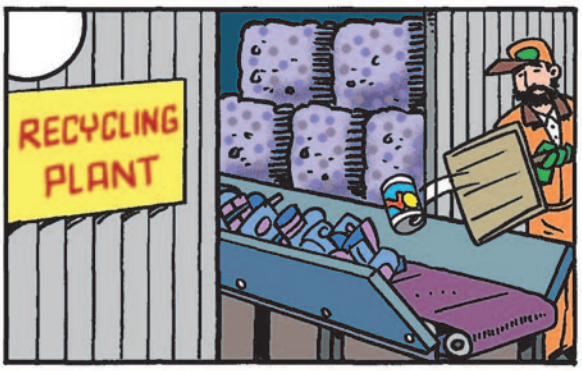
I'M A TRASHMASTER!™

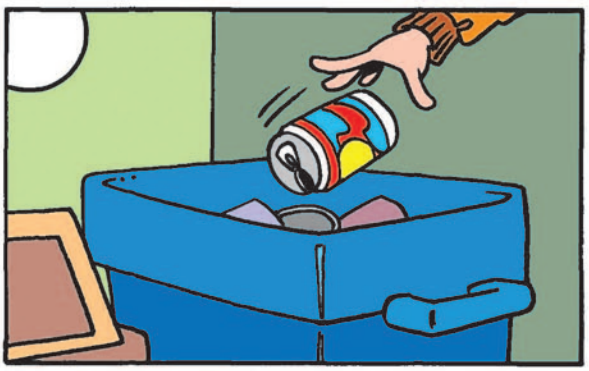


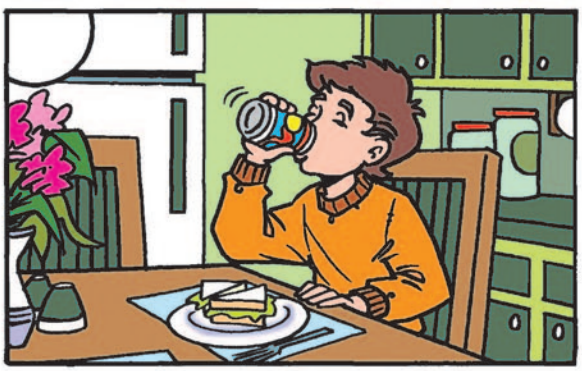
From Start to Finish!

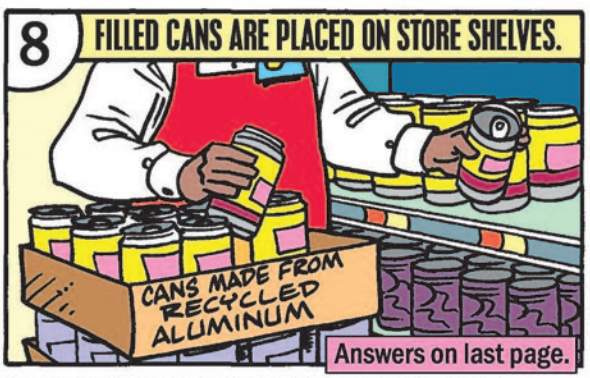
SOME OF THESE PICTURES ARE OUT OF ORDER. CAN YOU HELP THIS BEVERAGE CAN GO THROUGH THE WHOLE RECYCLING PROCESS BY PUTTING ALL THE PICTURES IN THE CORRECT ORDER? THE FIRST AND LAST PICTURES IN THE SERIES (# 1 AND #8) HAVE BEEN PUT IN PLACE FOR YOU. USING THE LIST AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE, NUMBER THE REMAINING PICTURES TO SHOW WHAT HAPPENS SECOND, THIRD, FOURTH, AND SO ON.









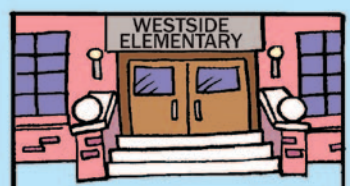


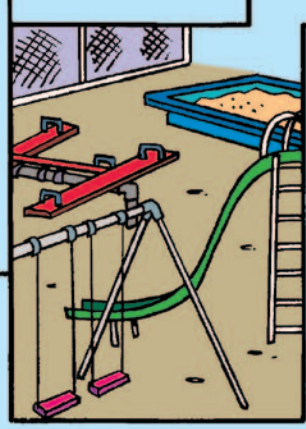
Answers on last page.

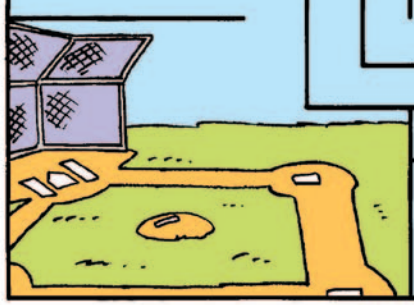
2) DRINKING THE BEVERAGE AT HOME.
3) PLACE EMPTY CAN INTO A BLUE RECYCLING BIN.
4) THE DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION COLLECTS RECYCLABLES.
5) THE EMPTY CAN IS BROUGHT TO A RECYCLING PLANT.
6) CRUSHED ALUMINUM GOES TO A CAN MANUFACTURING PLANT.
7) BEVERAGES ARE PUT IN NEW ALUMINUM CANS

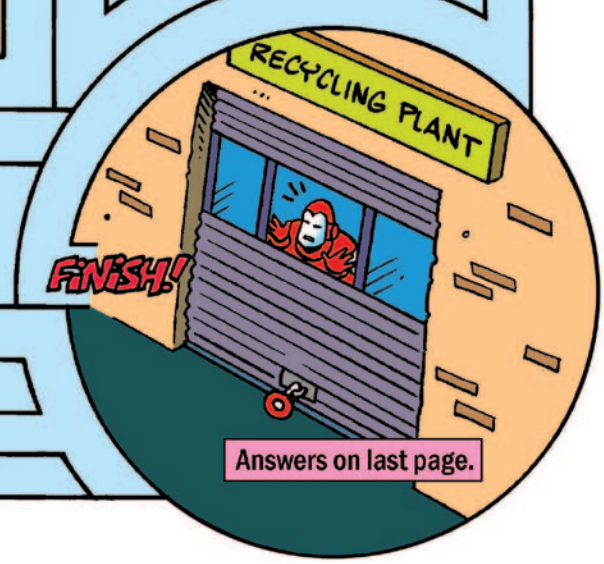
TRASHMASTERS!! TO THE RRRESCUE!!™

HELP! IRON MAN IS TRAPPED INSIDE A RECYCLING PLANT! TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE, THE TRASHPORTER IS BROKEN! IRON MAN NEEDS YOUR HELP. CAN YOU GUIDE THE TRASHMASTERS! THROUGH THIS MAZE AND GET THEM TO THE RECYCLING PLANT BEFORE IRON MAN IS TURNED INTO A SIX-PACK? HURRY!









Answers on last page.

TrashMasters!™

ANSWERS

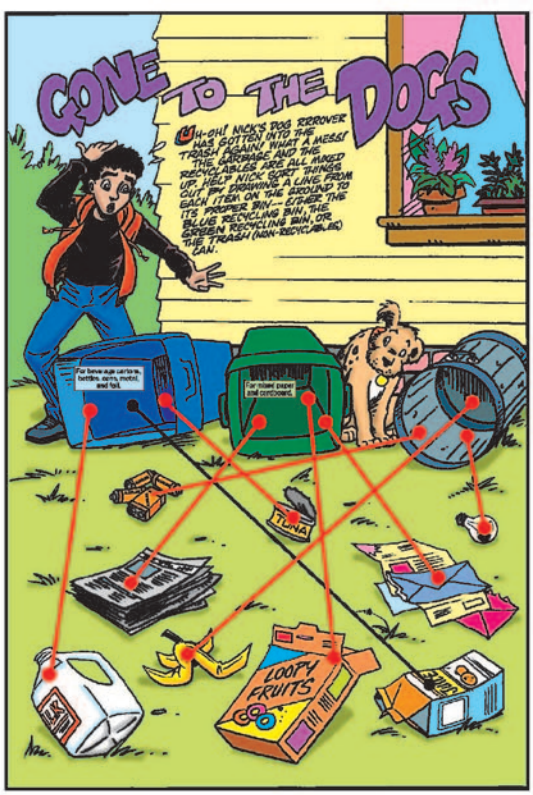
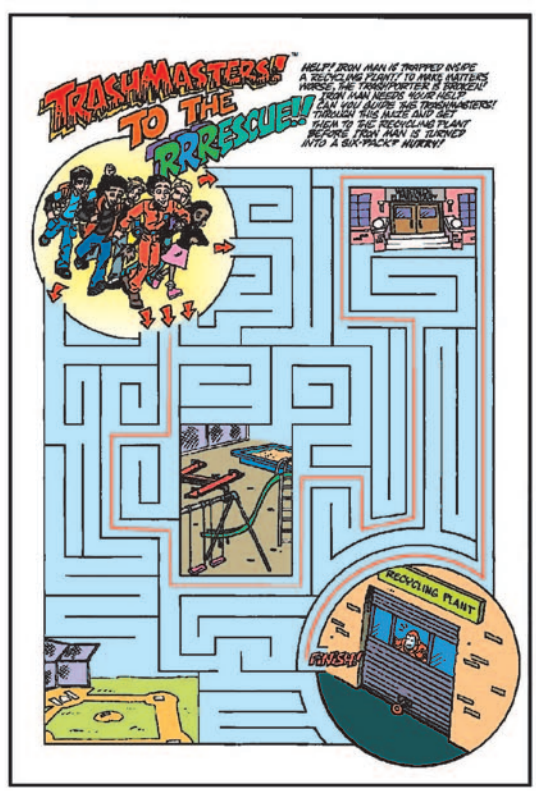
Aluminum Al's Family Reunion

These items are aluminum and should be circled:

3. CAN
6. LAWN CHAIR
7. FOIL WRAP
8. SIDING
9. FOIL DISH
11. BICYCLE

These items are not aluminum:

1. MIXING BOWL (Glass)
2. MILK CARTON (Paper)
4. TOWELS (Paper)
5. POTTERY (Clay)
10. SERVING UTENSILS (Wood)
12. PLATES (Ceramic or Glass)

Gone to the Dogs

Blue bin	Green bin	Trash
•Empty Plastic Milk Jug	•Newspapers	•Light Bulb
•Empty Juice Carton	•Junk Mail	•Banana Peel
•Empty Tuna Can	•Cereal Boxes	•Alkaline Batteries