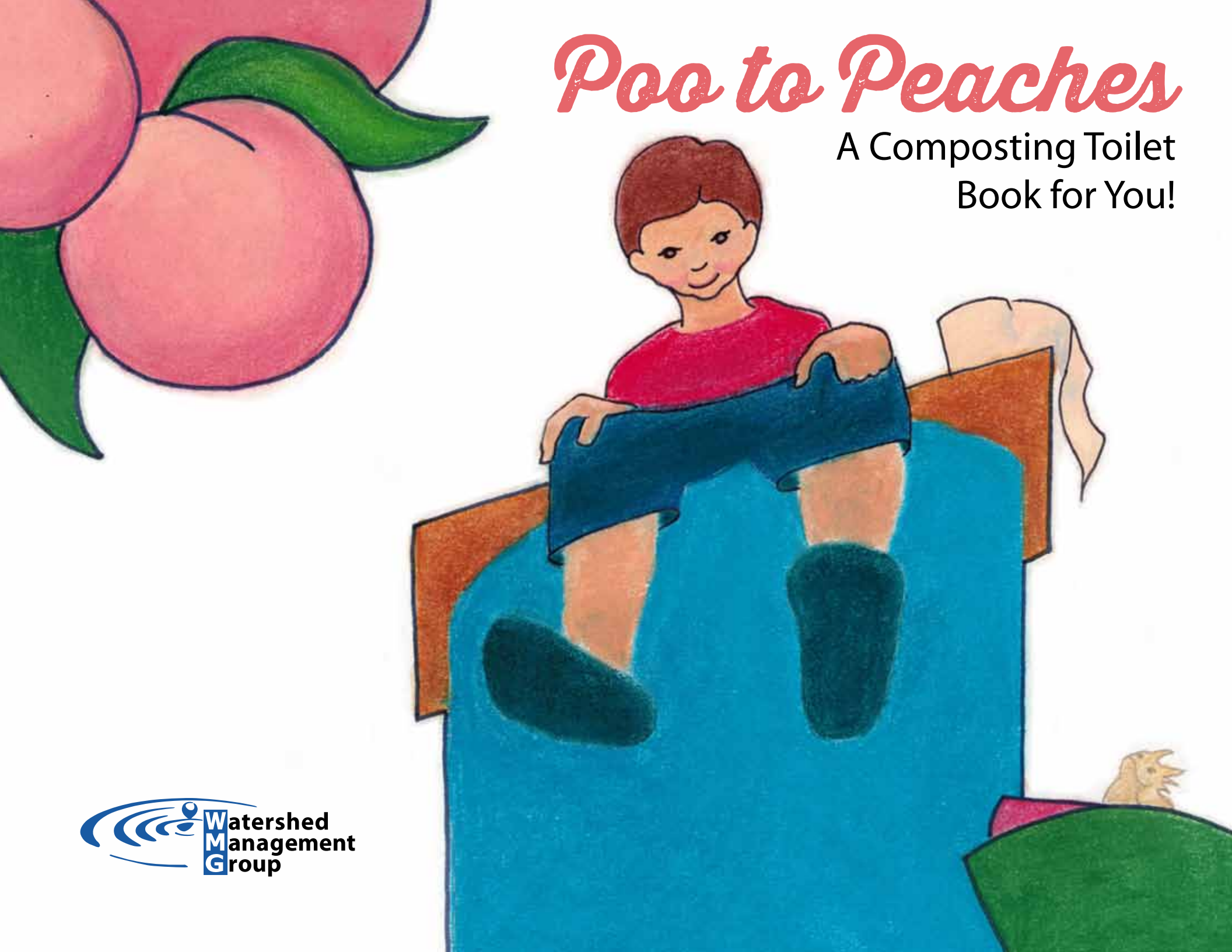


Poo to Peaches

A Composting Toilet
Book for You!



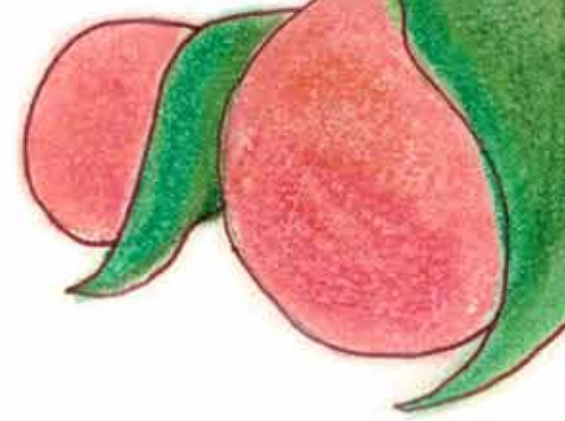


*To our
fearless children,
who are always excited
to explore new ideas and help
rekindle that passion in us.*



Story by Tory Syracuse and Jenna Rosenberg
Pictures by Kim Afnowich

Creative Producer and Author: Catlow Shipek
Creative Editor: Lisa Shipek
Layout and Design: Lisa Cozzetti and Ericka Cero Wood



You're a big kid!
You're ready to go.

Did you know that
pee and poo can help
your trees grow?

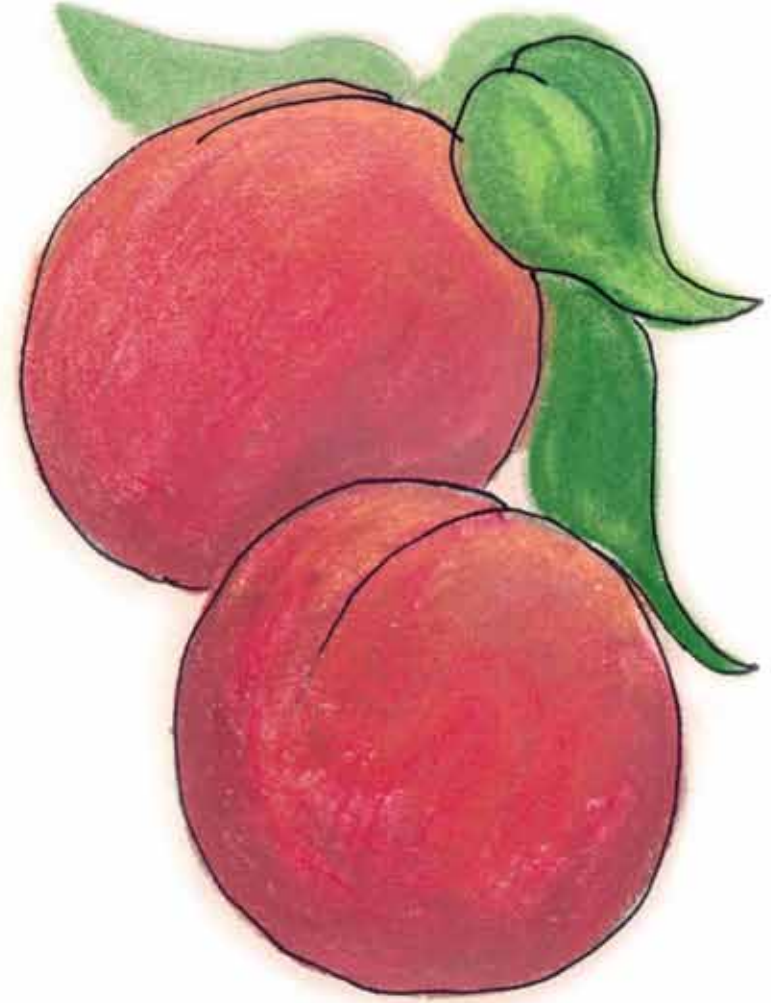




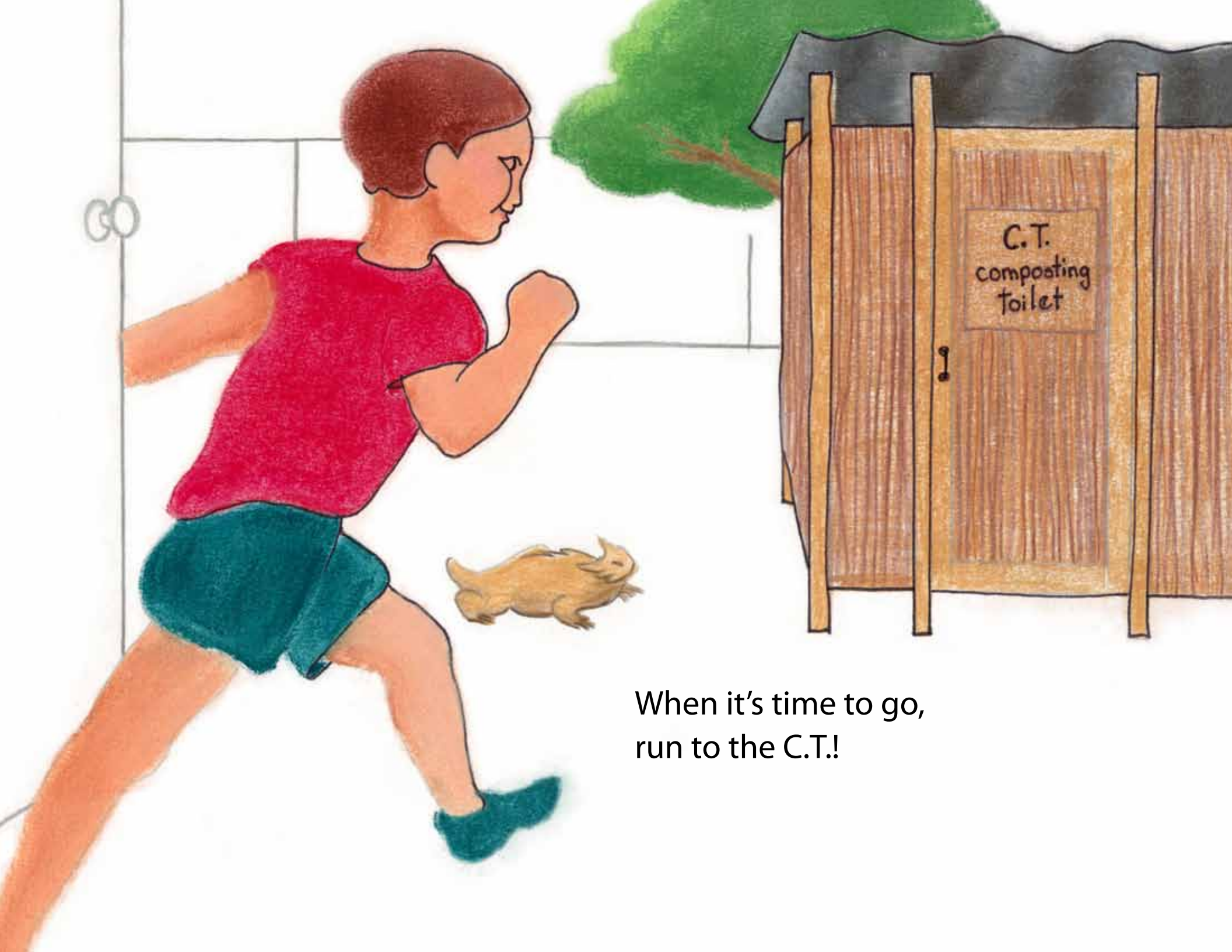
Help our trees grow?

What's that you say?

Look over here,
I'll show you the way!



First, eat a peach
from a beautiful tree.



When it's time to go,
run to the C.T.!

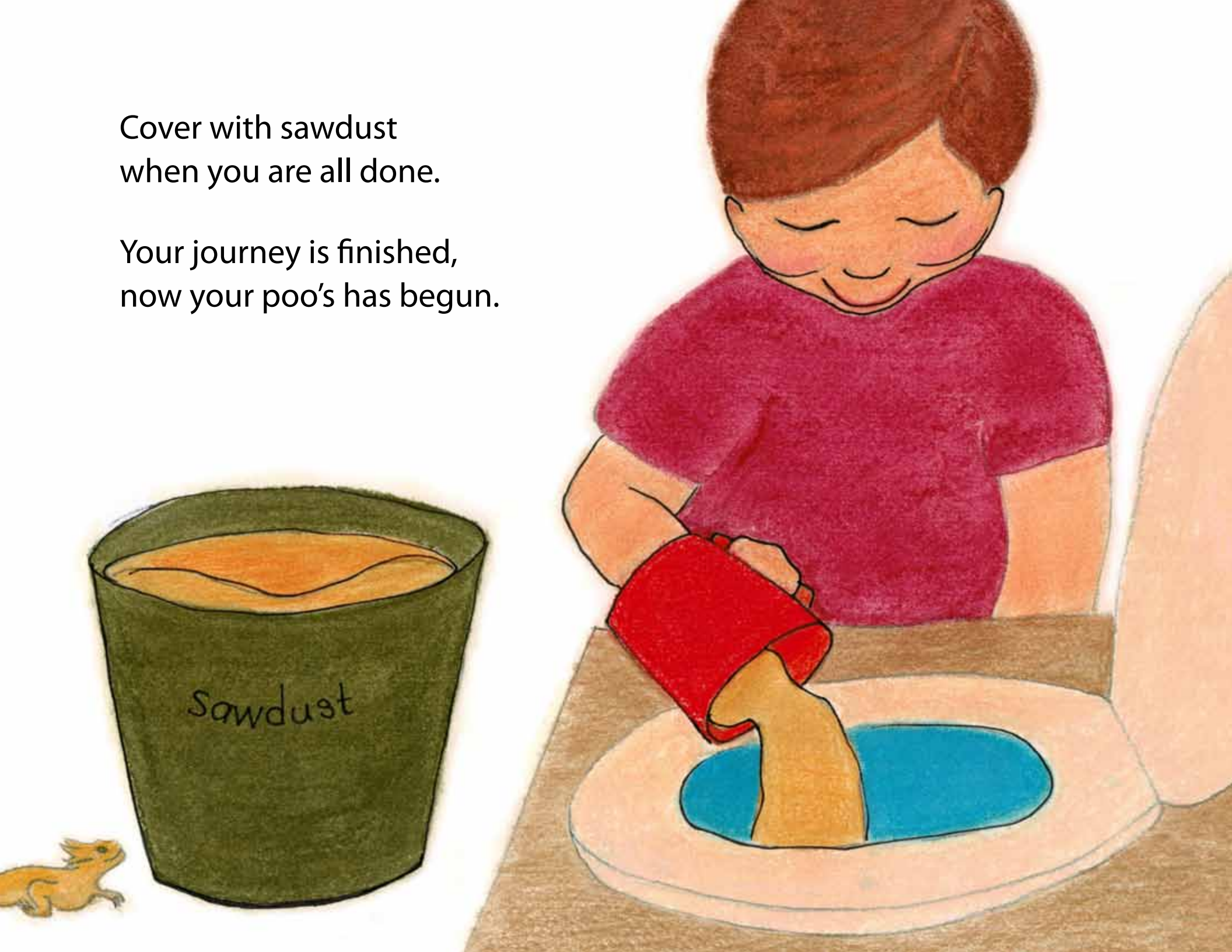
What's a C.T.? It recycles your poo!

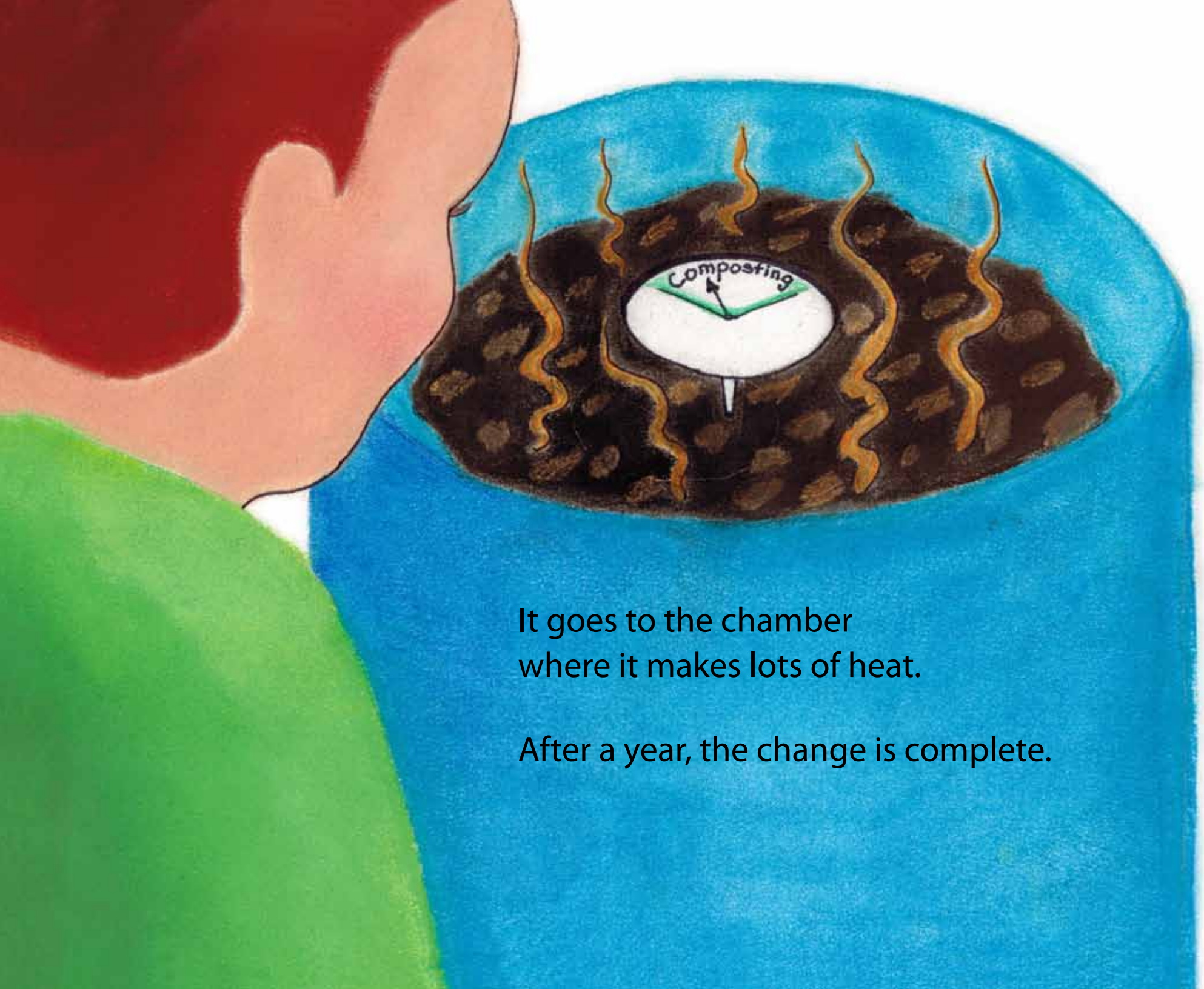
It doesn't take water—it's easy to do.



Cover with sawdust
when you are all done.


Your journey is finished,
now your poo's has begun.





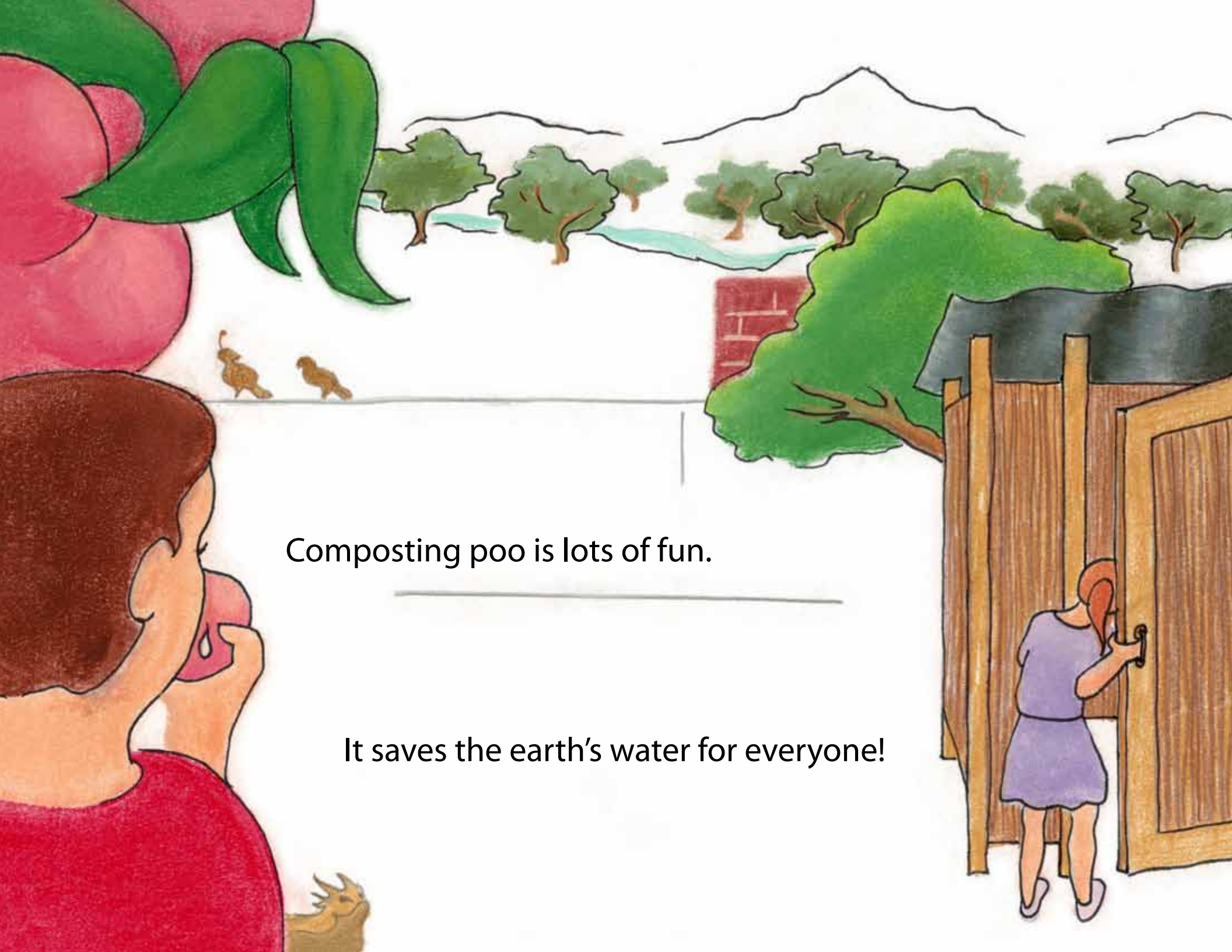
It goes to the chamber
where it makes lots of heat.

After a year, the change is complete.

A child with brown hair, wearing a pink shirt and blue pants, is kneeling on the ground. They are using a grey watering can to water a small patch of brown soil. To the right of the child is a green bucket filled with brown soil. In the background, there are several large, round, pinkish-red fruits hanging from a tree. A small, light brown lizard is visible on the left side of the image.

Your poo is now compost—
it's not poo at all!

We feed it to trees so
they can grow tall.



Composting poo is lots of fun.

It saves the earth's water for everyone!



Just compost it!

How to Manage a Site-Built Composting Toilet:

1. Aerate — Use a compost crank or something similar to add oxygen to the composting pile. Be sure to start with the oldest aging barrel/chamber first and then the freshest barrel/chamber last.

2. Check the moisture — Use a squirt bottle (or watering can) to add water and maintain sufficient moisture for the composting process, especially in dry climates. The compost should appear damp but not be soaking.

3. Monitor temperature — The “aging” (inactive barrel/chamber) composting pile should maintain a temperature of at least 80 °F for one month.

4. Empty the barrel or chamber — After a minimum 4-month active composting time without adding any new material, the composted “humanure” may be safely removed and used to enrich the soil around fruit trees.

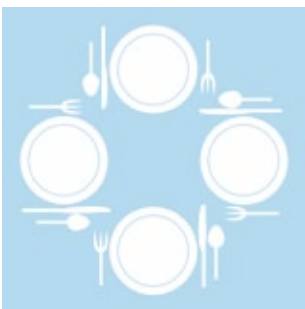


Troubleshooting Tips:

Does it smell? — Aerate with the compost crank and add new material.

Are insects present? — Flies are the primary concern to human health. Flies are attracted to our food and can potentially carry pathogens.

Fungus gnats are a nuisance, but pose a very low health risk. Using “no-see-um” screening underneath other screens can help mitigate outbreaks. Additionally, mothballs placed temporarily in the chamber can help reduce gnat populations.



Composting Toilet Systems

Composting toilets can range from very simple bucket-style systems to commercially available systems.

Commercial systems are readily available for purchase and can be legally permitted in most states. Many commercial systems can fit inside and replace a standard toilet fixture. Others are designed for higher-use and require a larger structure.

Site-built systems are typically cheaper to build, adaptable based on site context, and do not require electricity to operate. However, most sitebuilt systems can not at this time be legally permitted by local jurisdictions.

Site-built Composting Toilet Examples:

2-barrel outdoor composting toilet which this book is based on



Developed by David Omick (omick.net) in collaboration with Watershed Management Group's Soil Stewards Pilot Program.

Indoor bucket-style to exterior aging barrel composting toilet



Inspired by Joseph Jenkin's *Humanure Handbook* and adapted for a coldclimate region.

Masonry double chamber composting toilet



Developed in the colonias of Nogales, Mexico and adopted for use as part of Watershed Management Group's Soil Stewards Pilot Program.