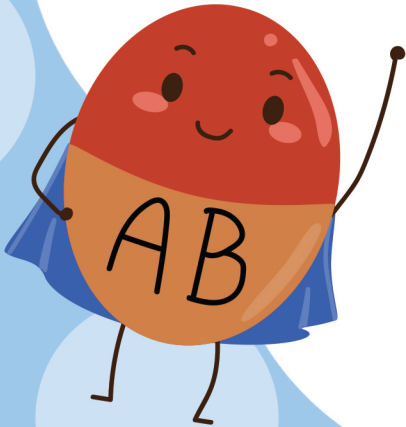
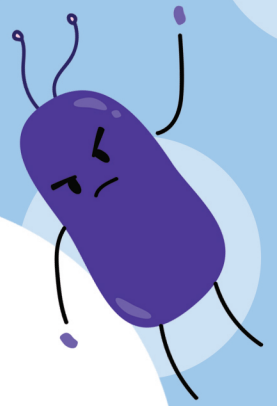
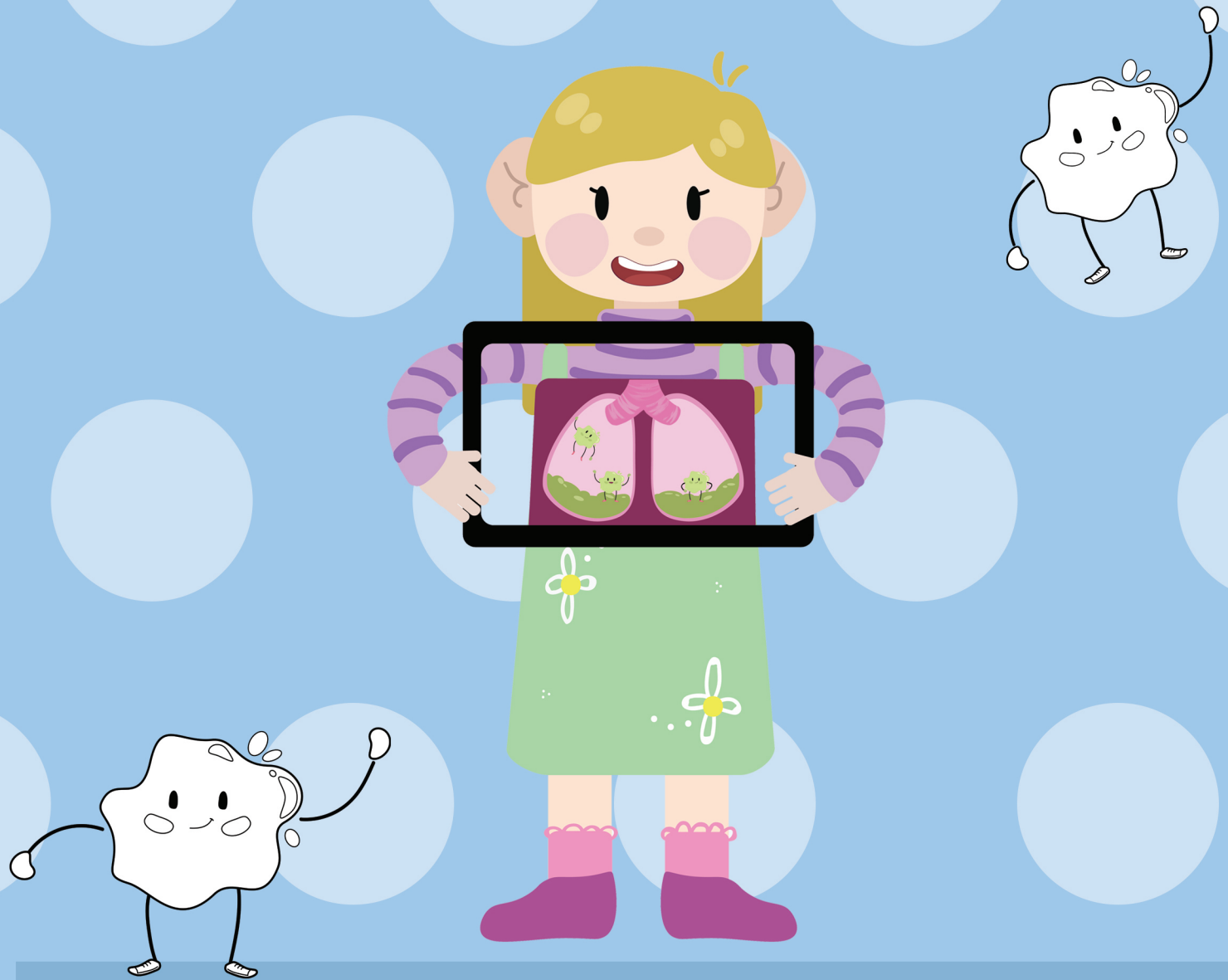


Journey of the Sputum Pot



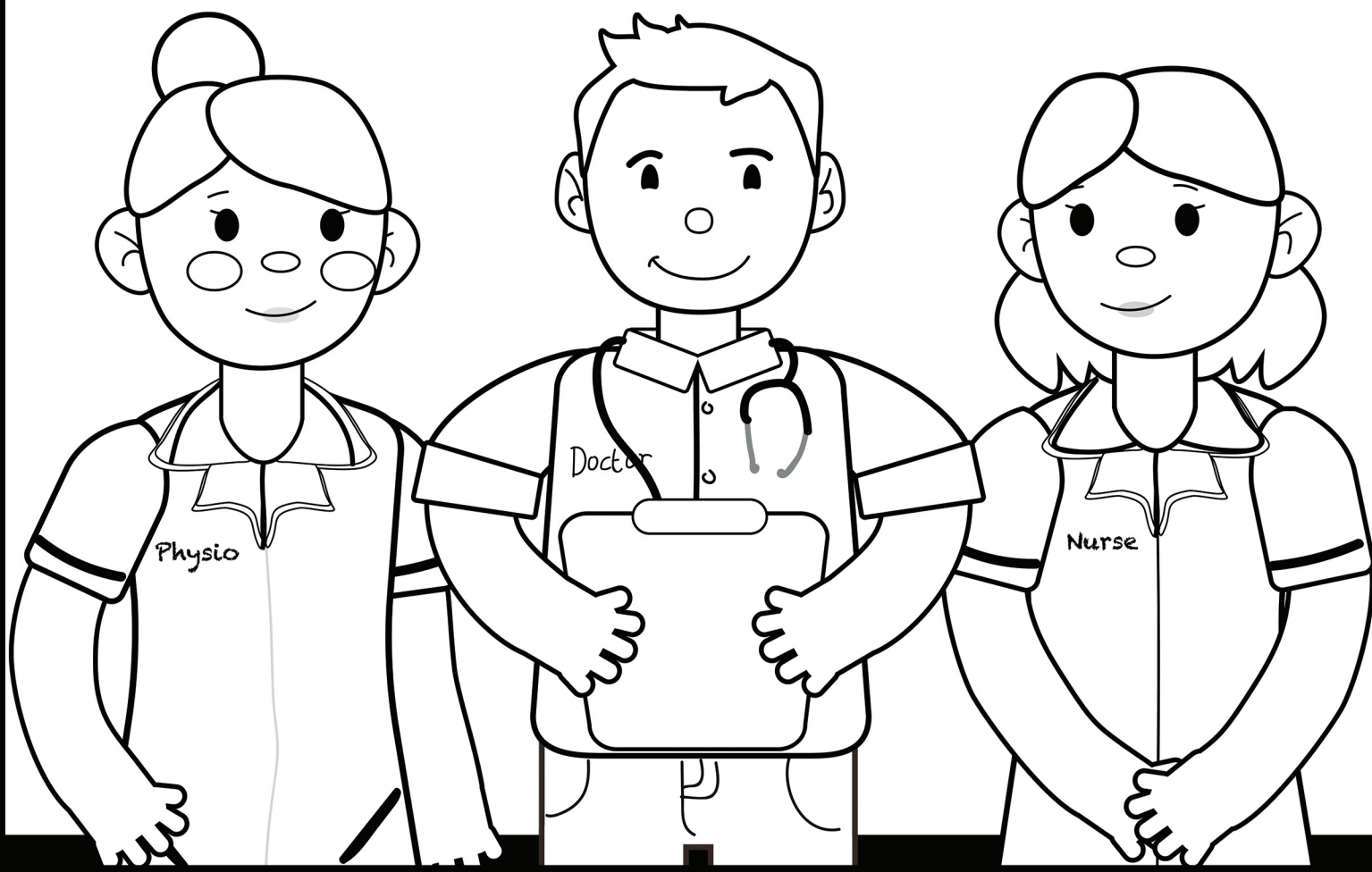
This book
belongs to





Hi, I'm Zara. I was born with **CYSTIC FIBROSIS**
This means sticky mucus builds up in many organs
of my body, particularly the lungs, which makes
me cough a lot.

My parents and I visit the hospital regularly.
The healthcare team keeps a close eye on my
health. They are very friendly and have known
me since I was a baby.

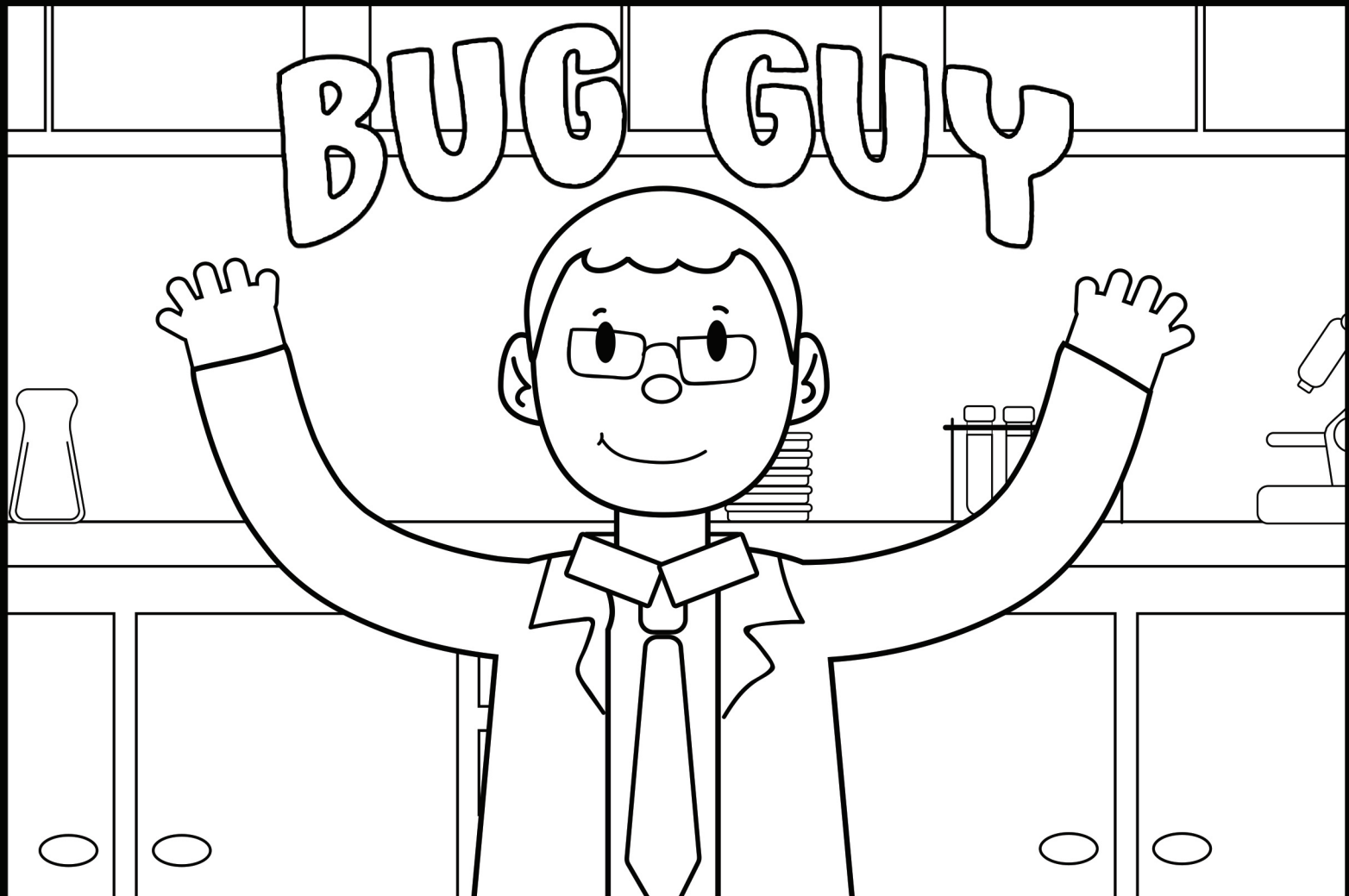


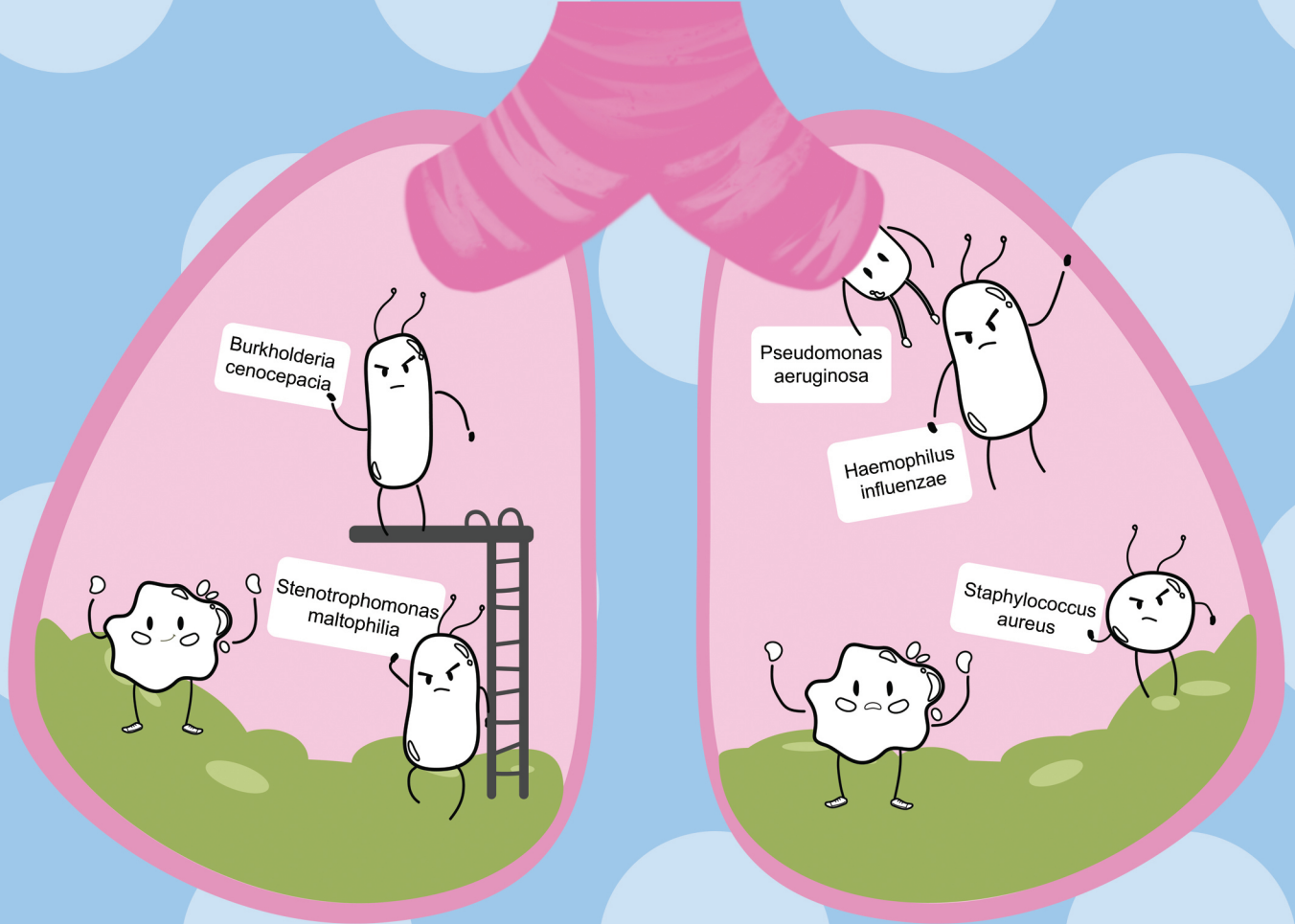


Jane the physiotherapist helps me to get rid of the **STICKY MUCUS** in my lungs.

A sample of my spit or sputum which I cough up is put in a little pot. If I am unable to produce any sputum, then Jane takes a cough swab. But I want to find out where my samples go and what happens to them!

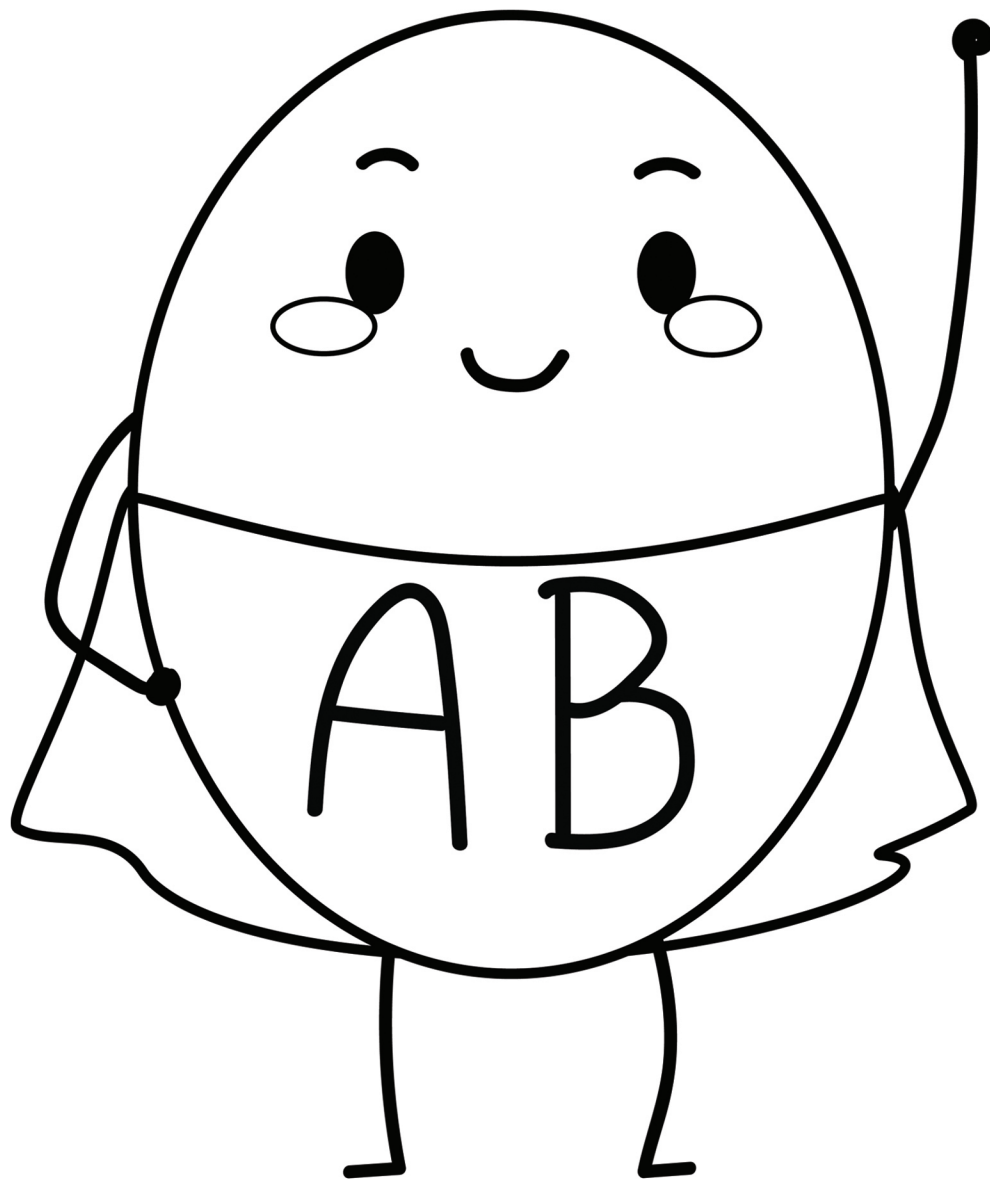
I'm John, a microbiologist who works in the lab.
Some people call me the **BUG GUY!** Let me show
you what happens to your sputum...
Bugs such as bacteria love to play around in the
sticky mucus in your lungs, if they get a chance!





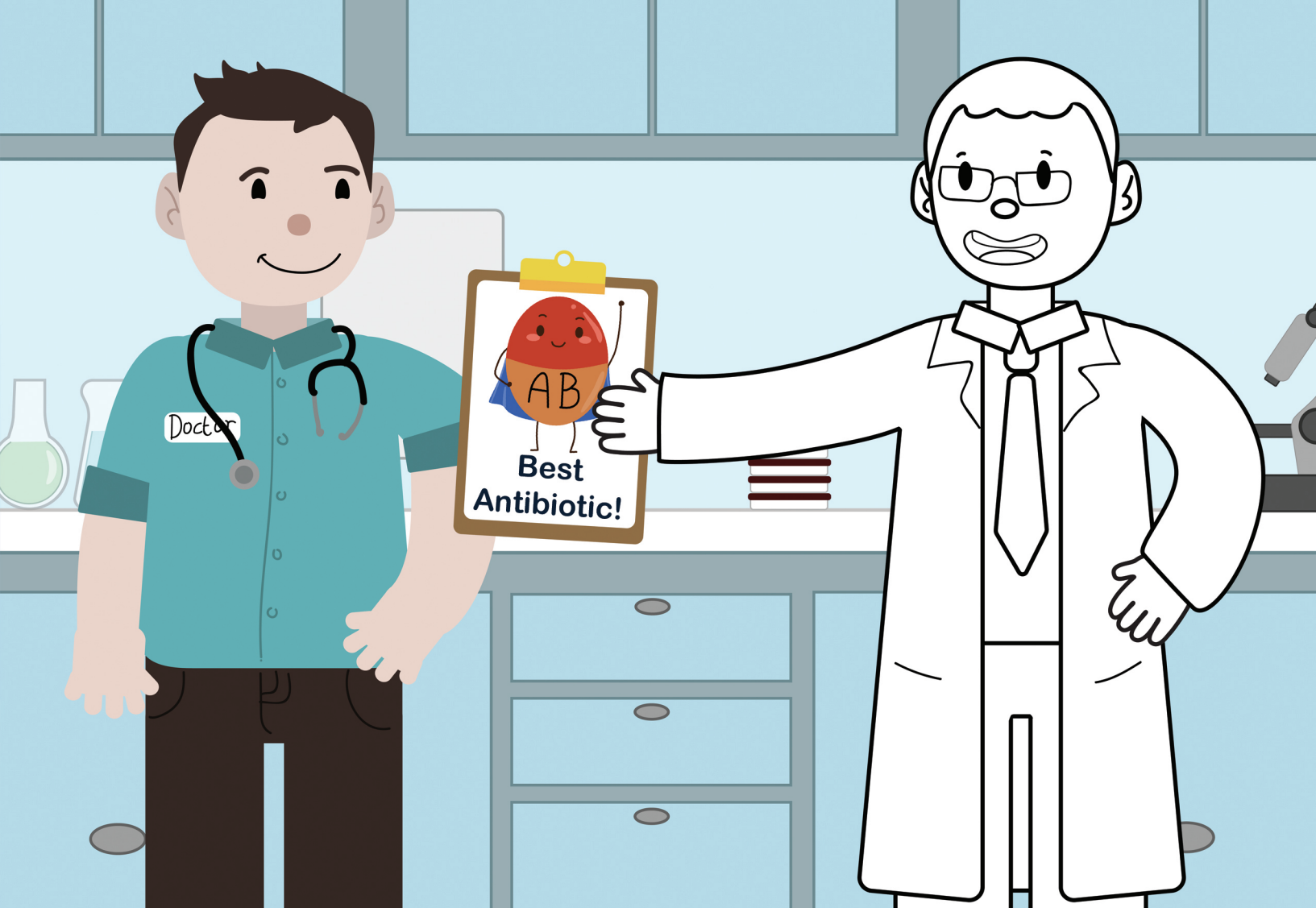
So in the labs we have **BUG DETECTIVES** who look very carefully to see if any bugs have sneaked into your sputum and lungs.

That's why it is very important that you give us a really good sample to work with. The bugs grow on plates containing **BUG JELLY**. They are then vaporised by lasers to produce a bug fingerprint so that we know the name of the bug found.



Medicines called antibiotics are tested to see which ones attack and prevent the bugs from growing.

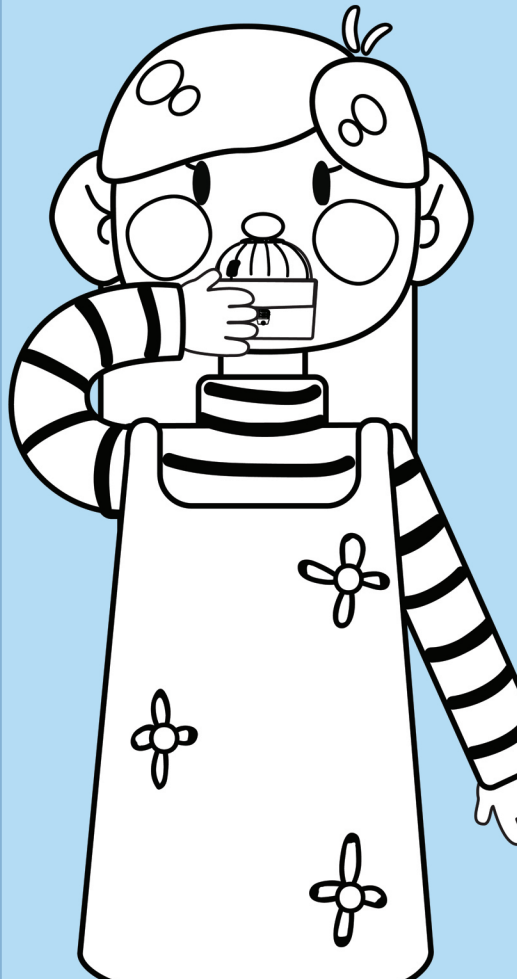
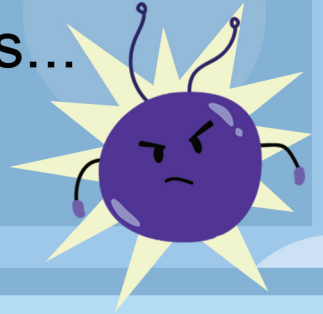


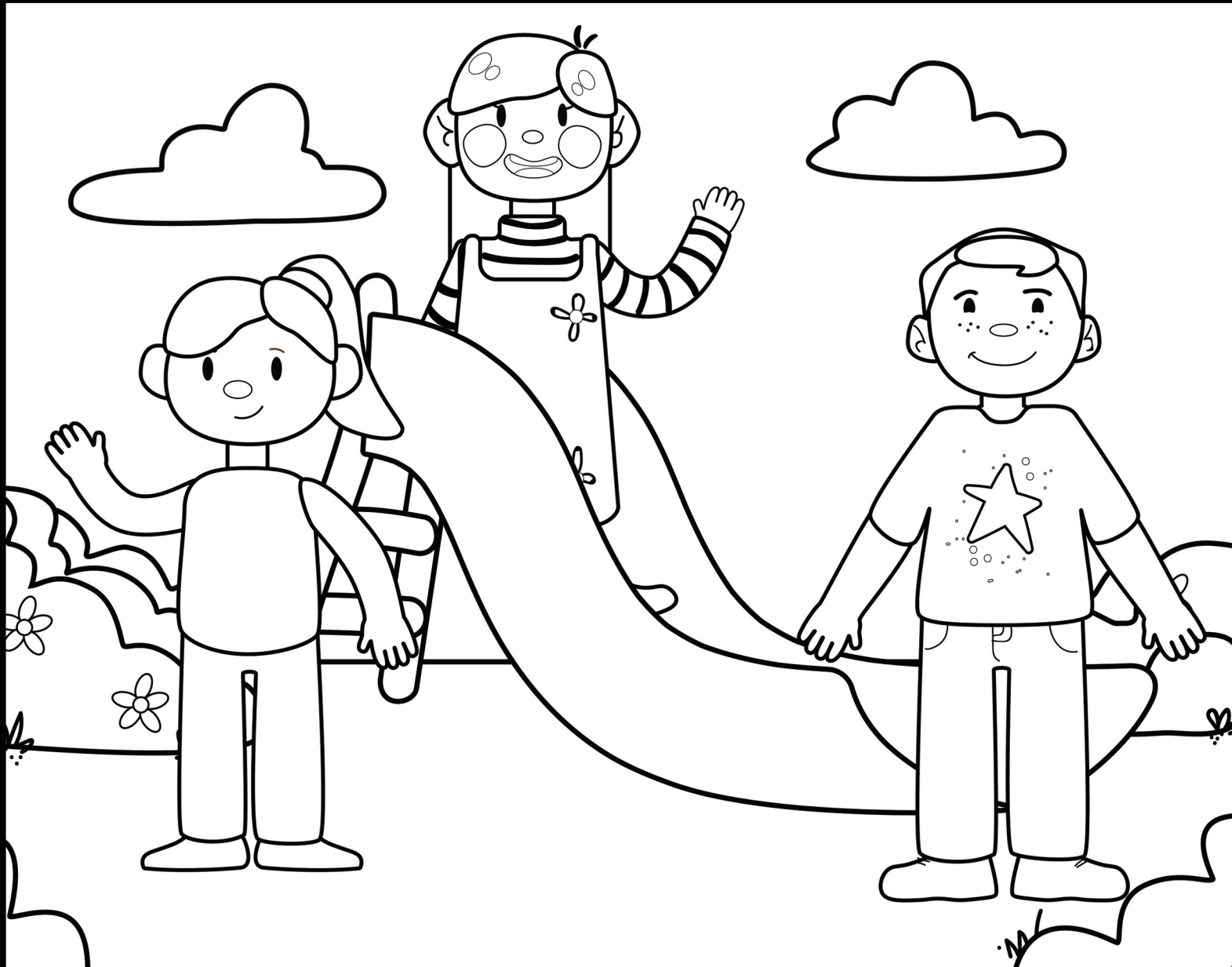


The results are sent to your doctor and the healthcare team decides the best antibiotic especially for you.



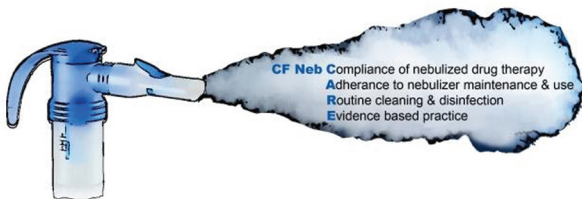
Now I understand why it is important to take all my medicine to **ZAP** all those nasty bugs...





So I can feel better and get back to playing with my friends!

**We hope you
enjoyed this
book!**



**Institute of
Biomedical Science**

