

FOLLOW THE WATER

Data Centers #3 · A Channel 5 Kids Adventure
with Lena Ashgrove and the Infrastructure Guard



CREDITS

Follow the Water · Data Centers #3 · Kids edition (ages 6–9)

Story and production: GOTB Consulting, Chicago

Starring Lena Ashgrove, Undertow, Gridline and Commons

AI-GENERATED ART, FICTIONAL CHARACTERS

All characters, the town of Prairie Bend and Channel 5 are fictional. Any resemblance to real people is a coincidence. No real logos are shown.

Facts in this book were checked against public sources before printing.

Water safety: never swim near water intakes or plant equipment, and stay away from open trenches.

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MEET YOUR GUIDES



**LENA
ASHGROVE**

Channel 5 host. She asks the big questions.



GRIDLINE

Keeps the power moving.



UNDERTOW

Water hero. Knows every pipe and tunnel.



COMMONS

Public works boss with a lantern.



LENA

LAST TIME WE FOLLOWED THE POWER. TODAY:
WHERE DOES THE WATER IN YOUR FAUCET
COME FROM? LET'S FOLLOW THE WATER!



oo

Our water starts in Lake Michigan, at little island buildings called cribs, about two miles out.



UNDERTOW

WATER RUSHES THROUGH TUNNELS DEEP
UNDER THE LAKE BED. WAY DOWN, ABOUT 200
FEET DEEP!



UNDERTOW

VERIFIED

WELCOME TO THE WATER PLANT! THE CITY'S
BIG ONE IS THE LARGEST PLANT OF ITS KIND
IN THE WORLD.



UNDERTOW

FIRST, BIG SCREENS CATCH STICKS, LEAVES
AND EVEN FISH. BYE, FISHY!



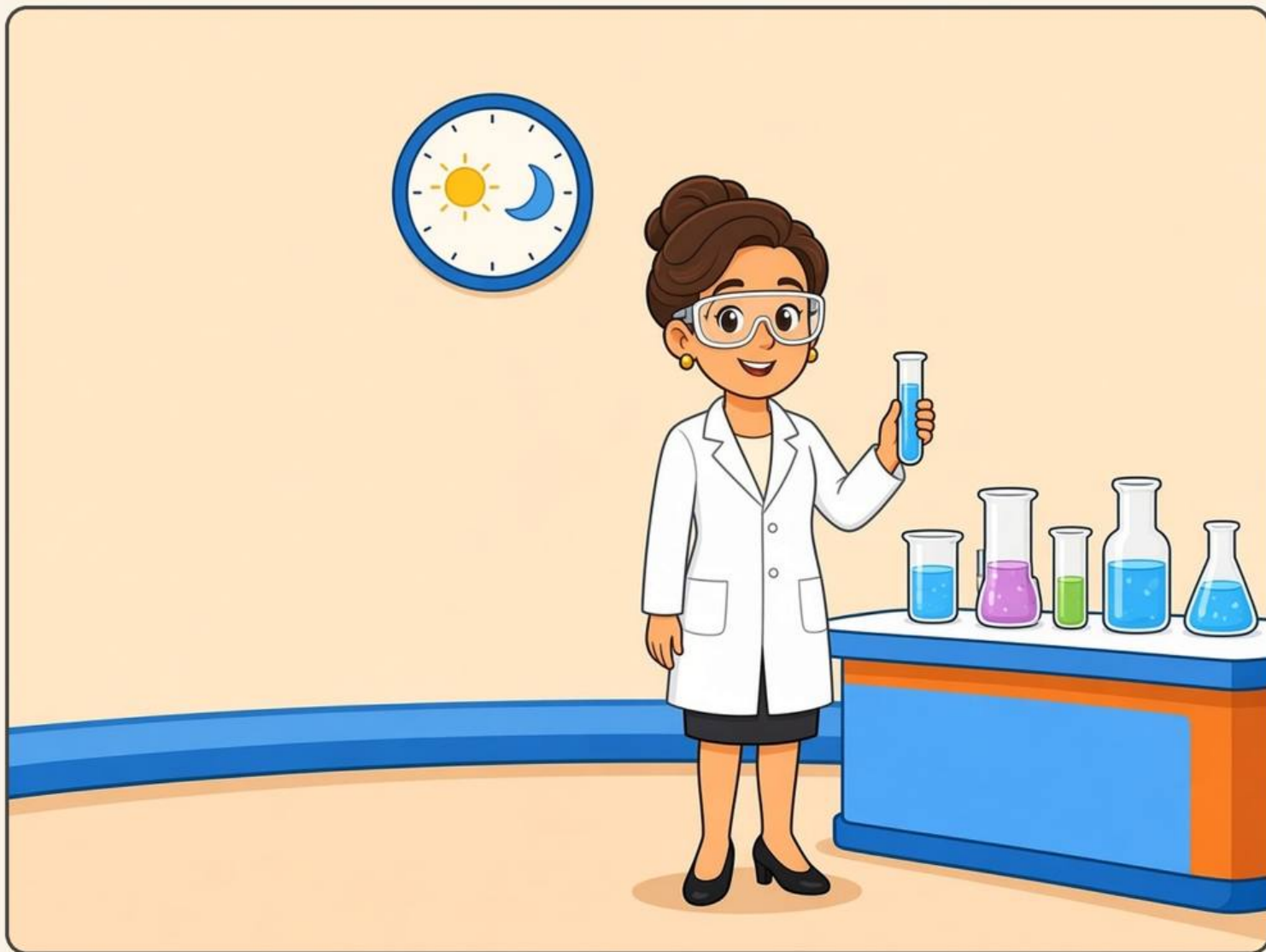
UNDERTOW

WE ADD HELPERS THAT MAKE TINY BITS OF
DIRT STICK TOGETHER INTO CLUMPS. THEN
THE CLUMPS SINK!

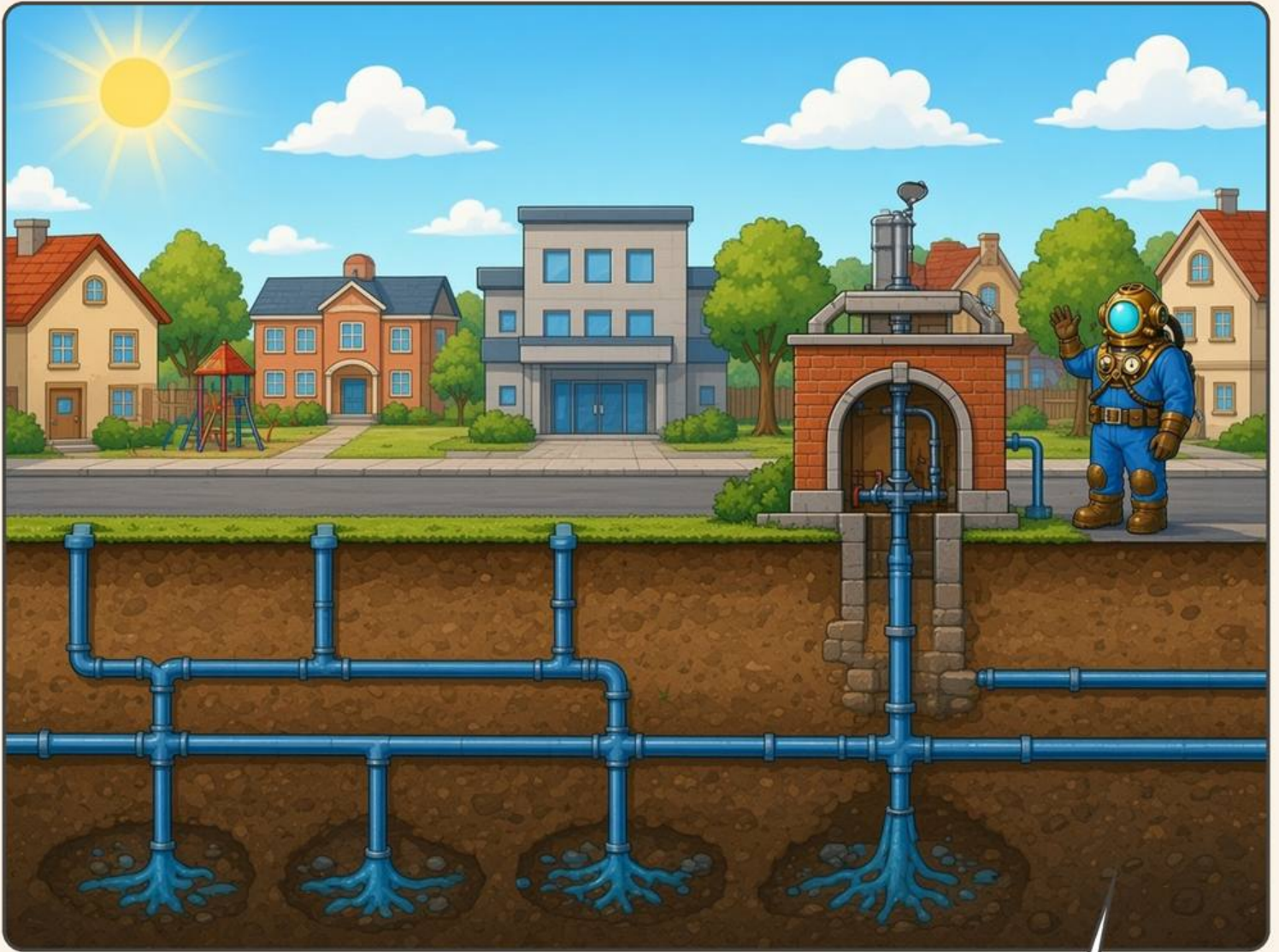


UNDERTOW

LAST, THE WATER TRICKLES THROUGH SAND
AND GRAVEL, LIKE A GIANT STRAINER. CLEAN
AND READY!



Scientists test the water all day and all night, every day of the year.



UNDERTOW

PUMPING STATIONS PUSH WATER THROUGH
4,300 MILES OF PIPES UNDER THE CITY, TO
HOMES, SCHOOLS AND BUILDINGS.



UNDERTOW

SOME DATA CENTERS USE WATER TO STAY COOL.
MANY REUSE THE SAME WATER IN A LOOP,
ROUND AND ROUND!



COMMONS

OLD PIPES WEAR OUT. CREWS FIX AND
REPLACE THEM SO WATER KEEPS FLOWING.
THAT'S TEAMWORK!



LENA

FROM THE LAKE TO YOUR GLASS, THAT'S A
LONG TRIP! THANKS FOR FOLLOWING THE
WATER WITH CHANNEL 5!

Made with GOTB Consulting, who help plan the power, water and public works behind places like this.

WORDS TO KNOW

CRIB

A little building out in the lake where water goes in.

TUNNEL

A long pipe deep under the lake bed.

SCREEN

A big net that catches sticks and leaves.

CLUMP

Tiny bits of dirt stuck together.

FILTER

Sand and gravel that strain the water clean.

PUMP

A machine that pushes water through pipes.

WATER MAIN

A big pipe under the street.

COOLING LOOP

Water that goes round and round to cool machines.

FOLLOW THE WATER

Trace the path with your finger, from start to finish.

LAKE

Water starts in the big lake.



CRIB

It flows in at a little island building.



TUNNEL

It rushes under the lake bed.



WATER PLANT

Screens, clumps and sand make it clean.



PUMPS AND PIPES

Pumps push it under the streets.



YOUR FAUCET

Clean water, ready to drink!

WORD SEARCH

Find these words. They go across, down, or slanted.

P	U	M	P	F	W	B	C	L	E	A	N
P	H	C	G	G	W	W	T	C	D	S	P
S	W	A	T	E	R	M	G	K	E	S	N
J	F	I	L	T	E	R	L	O	R	M	K
P	M	I	A	C	F	Y	Y	P	A	P	C
S	U	R	H	T	U	K	S	U	D	F	W
F	S	V	T	L	K	L	A	K	E	L	U
J	A	L	H	U	D	F	C	C	R	I	B
F	N	O	N	L	N	F	W	P	I	P	E
B	D	O	W	R	W	N	H	N	F	T	A
L	P	P	R	M	W	H	E	H	F	S	C
O	N	P	B	J	B	I	W	L	J	B	N

LAKE

CRIB

PIPE

PUMP

SAND

FILTER

TUNNEL

WATER

CLEAN

LOOP

QUICK QUIZ

Circle the best answer!

1. Where does the water start?

The lake

A cloud

2. What catches sticks and leaves?

Screens

Spoons

3. What does the sand do?

Cleans water

Makes it salty

4. Who tests the water?

Scientists

Fish

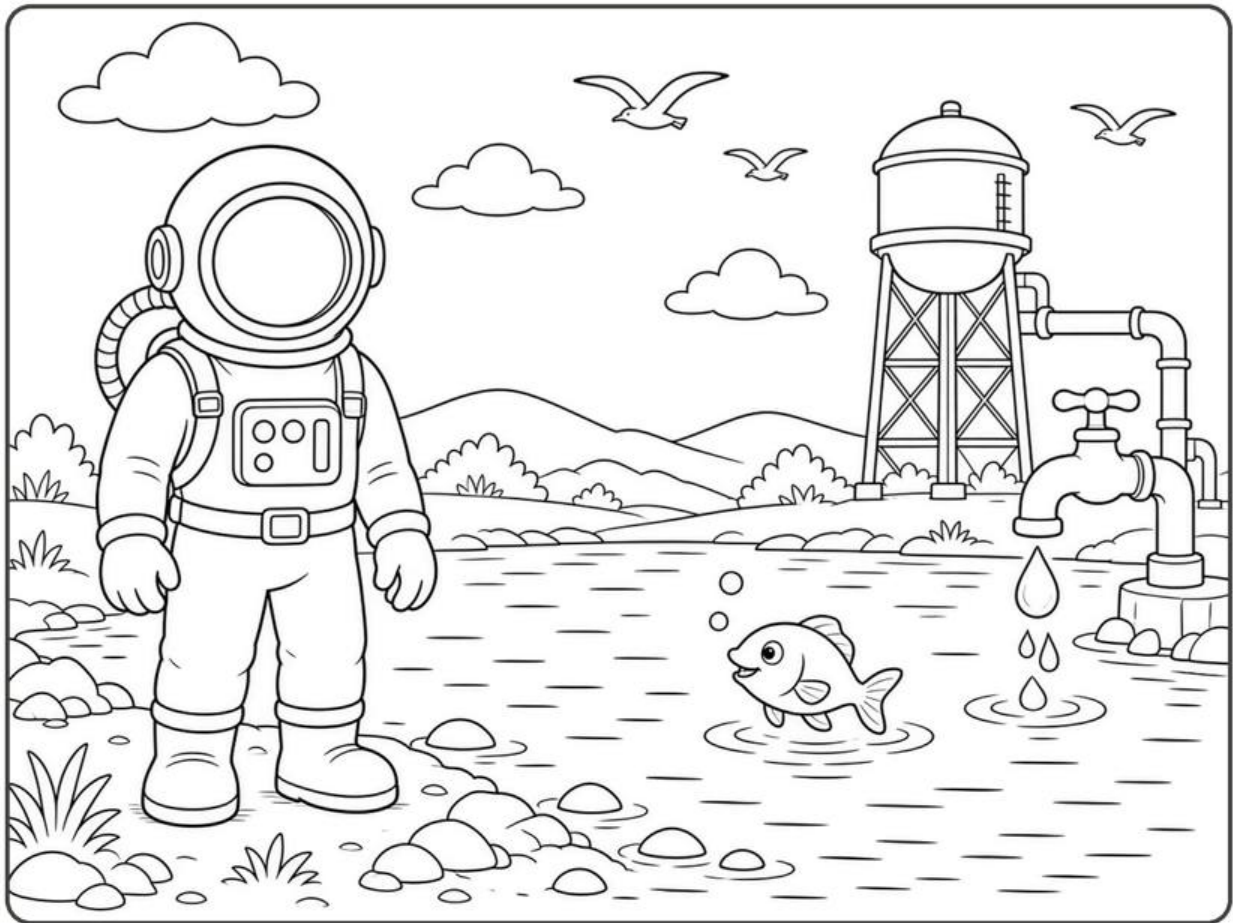
5. What pushes water through pipes?

Pumps

Kites

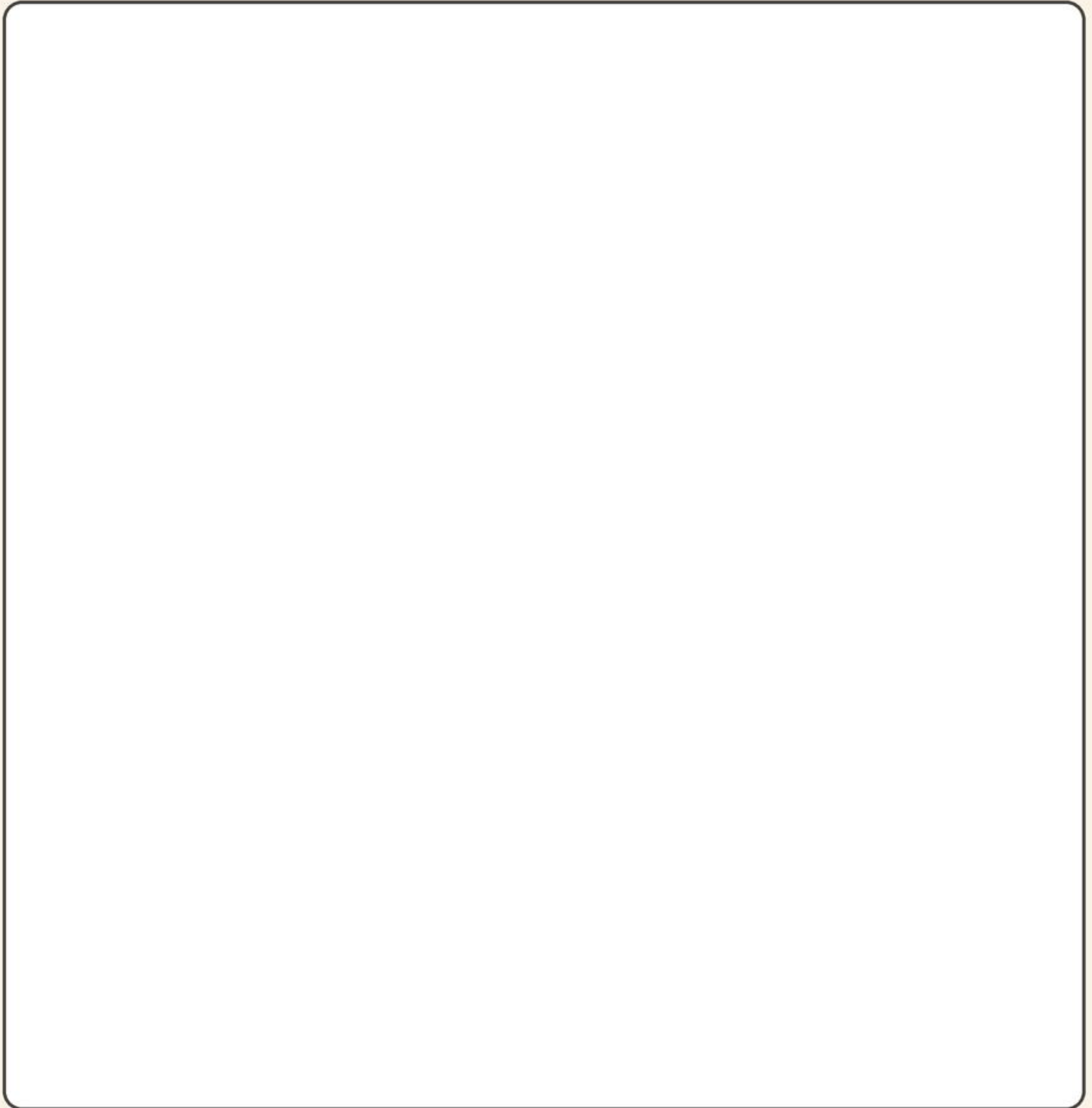
Answers: 1 the lake · 2 screens · 3 cleans water · 4 scientists · 5 pumps

COLOR UNDERTOW BY THE LAKE



DRAW YOUR WATER PATH

Draw how water gets from the lake to your home.



My water comes from: _____

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT

Questions to share with a grown-up

WHERE DOES THE WATER IN YOUR HOME
COME FROM?

WHY DO YOU THINK SCIENTISTS TEST THE
WATER DAY AND NIGHT?

HOW CAN YOUR FAMILY SAVE WATER?

WHAT JOB AT THE WATER PLANT WOULD YOU
LIKE?

ABOUT GOTB CONSULTING

GOTB Consulting is a Chicago team that helps plan the big systems towns depend on.

We work on four things you saw in this book:

DATA CENTERS

Where the cloud lives

POWER

Electricity for homes and buildings

WATER

Clean water and smart cooling

PUBLIC WORKS

Roads, pipes and places for people

THE END!

SEE YOU
NEXT TIME!



THANKS FOR FOLLOWING THE WATER!

Next time: more adventures with the Infrastructure Guard!

GOTB CONSULTING • CHICAGO

Data centers • Power • Water • Public works

AI-generated art, fictional characters