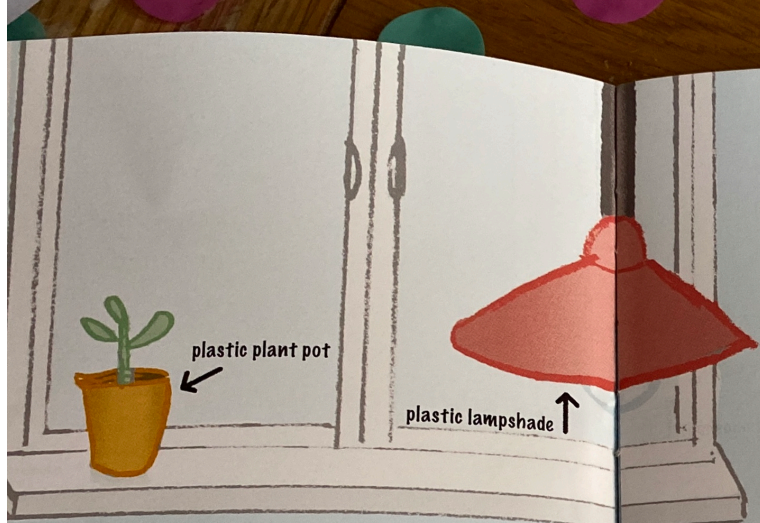


NEAL LAYTON

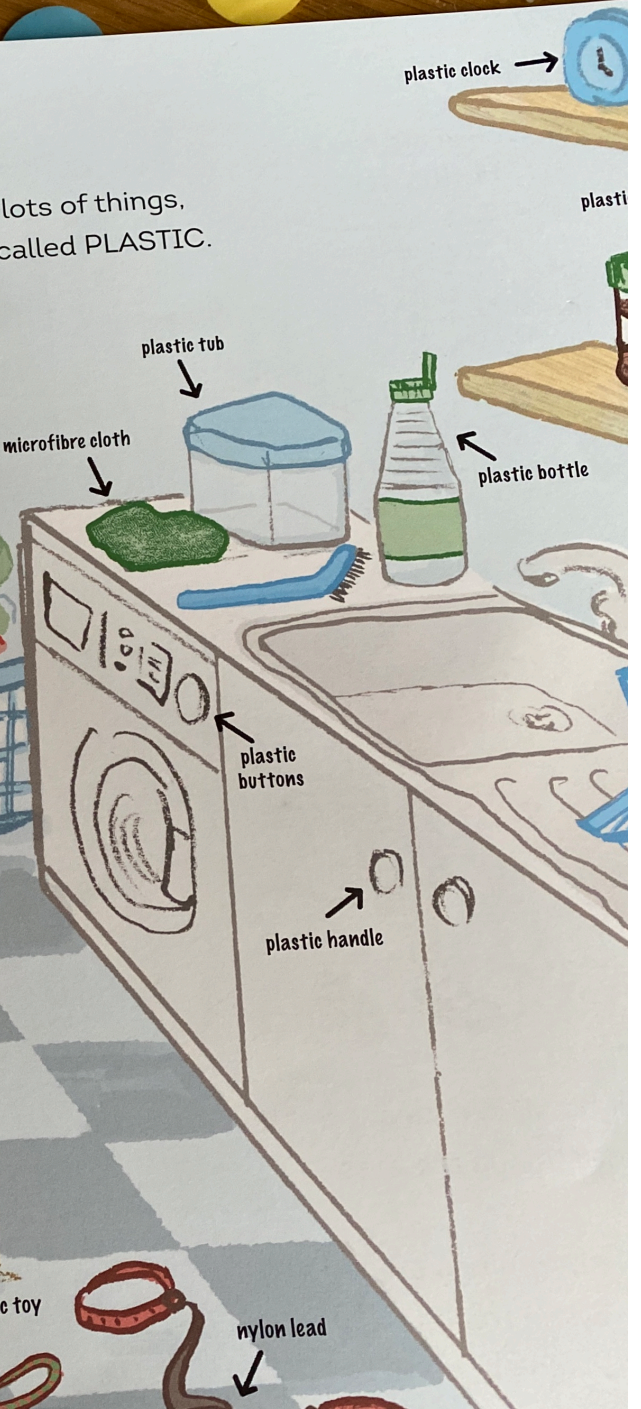
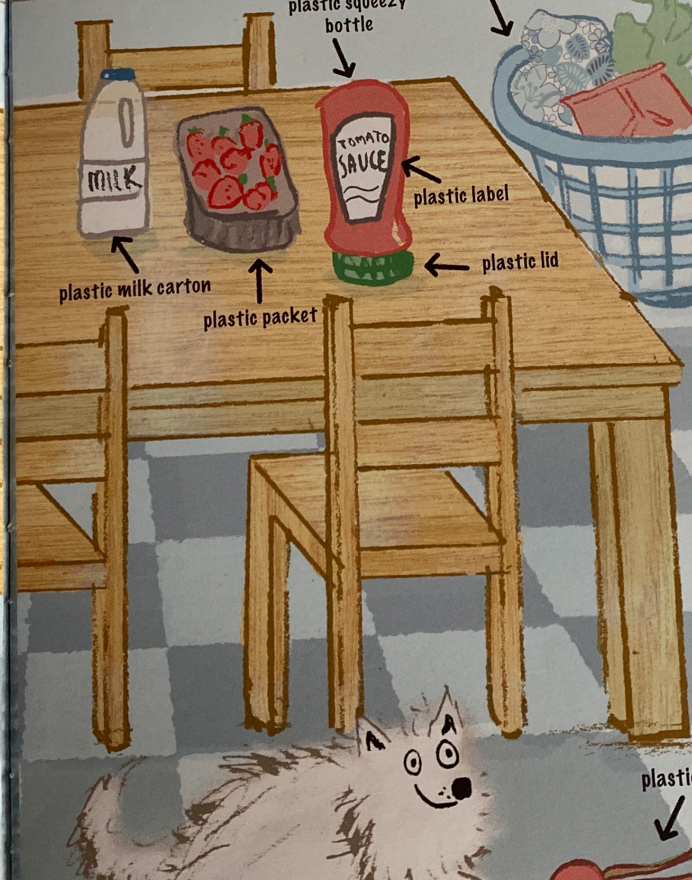
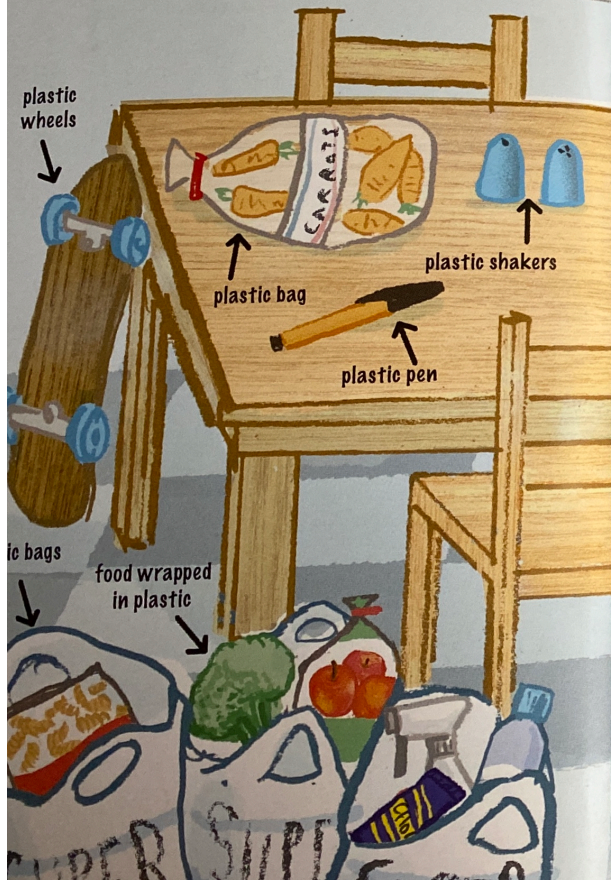
A PLANET FULL OF
PLASTIC

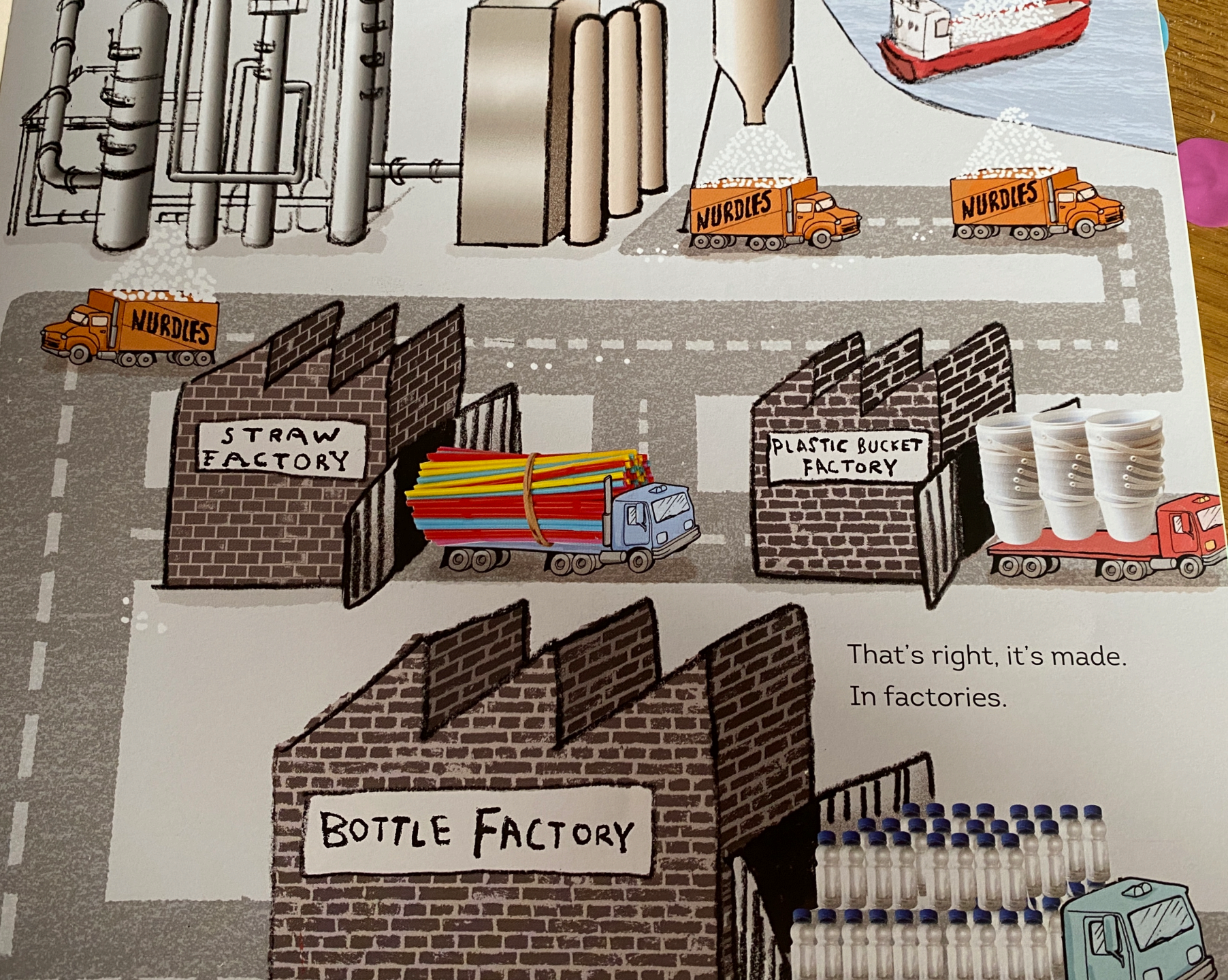


AND HOW
YOU CAN
HELP



But some things, in fact lots of things, are made of something called PLASTIC.



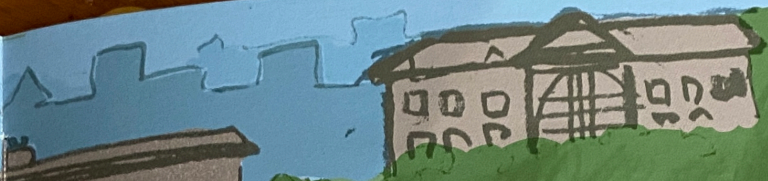
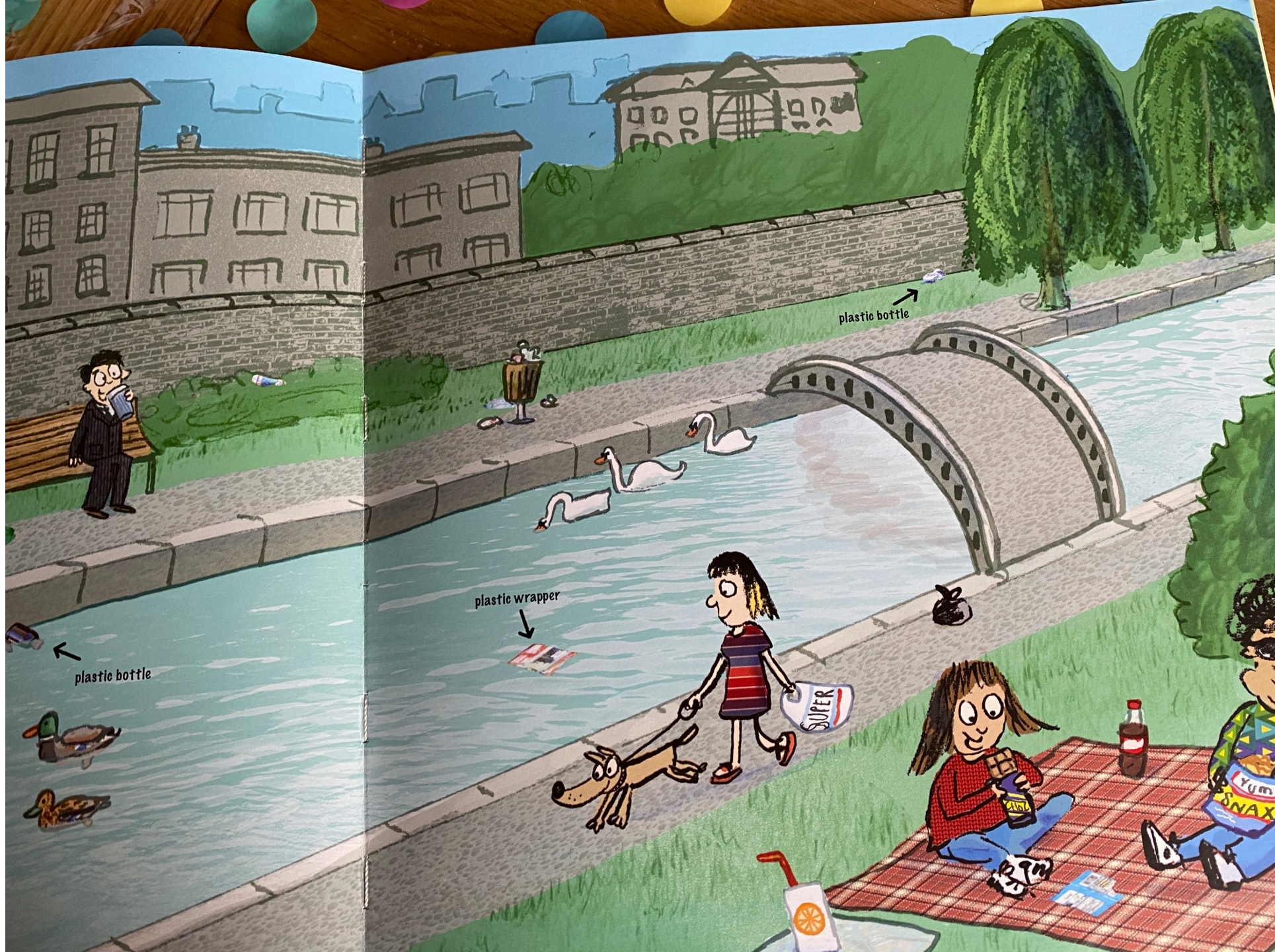


That's right, it's made.
In factories.

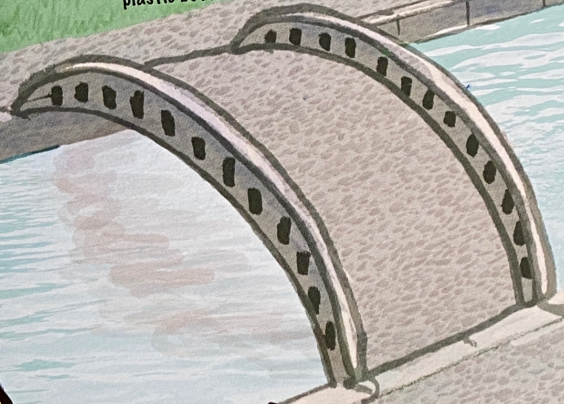
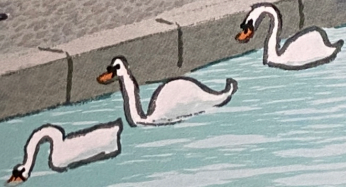
You see, 150 years ago there wasn't any plastic.
Only materials like wood, metal, paper and stone.

And then one day, super-chemist Mr Baekeland
made an incredible discovery...





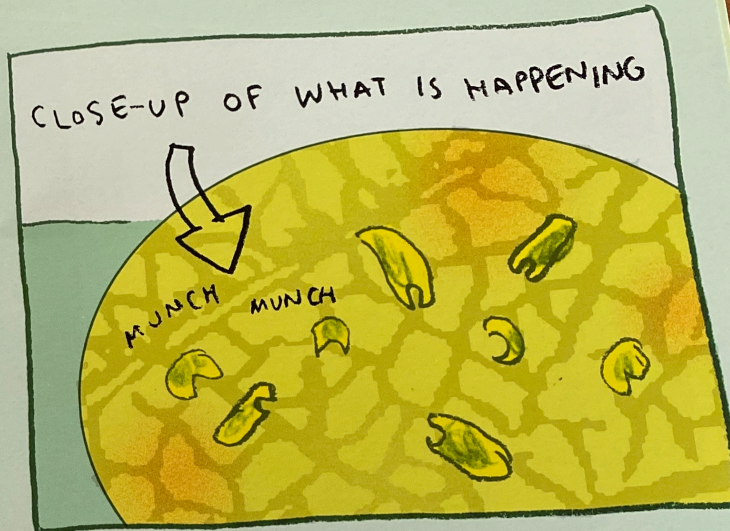
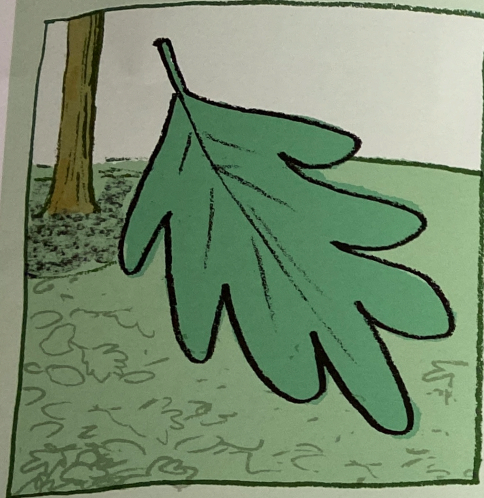
plastic bottle



plastic wrapper

plastic bottle





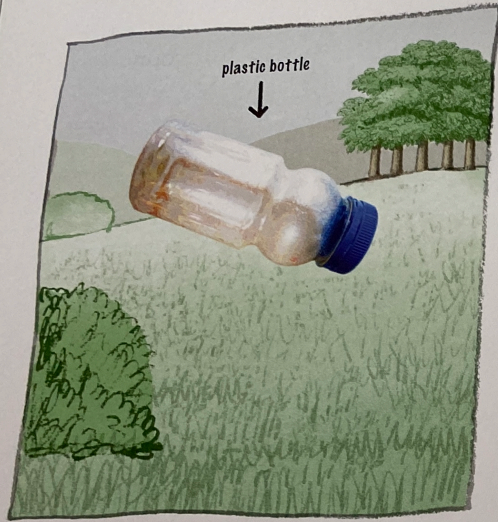
How long things take to BIODEGRADE

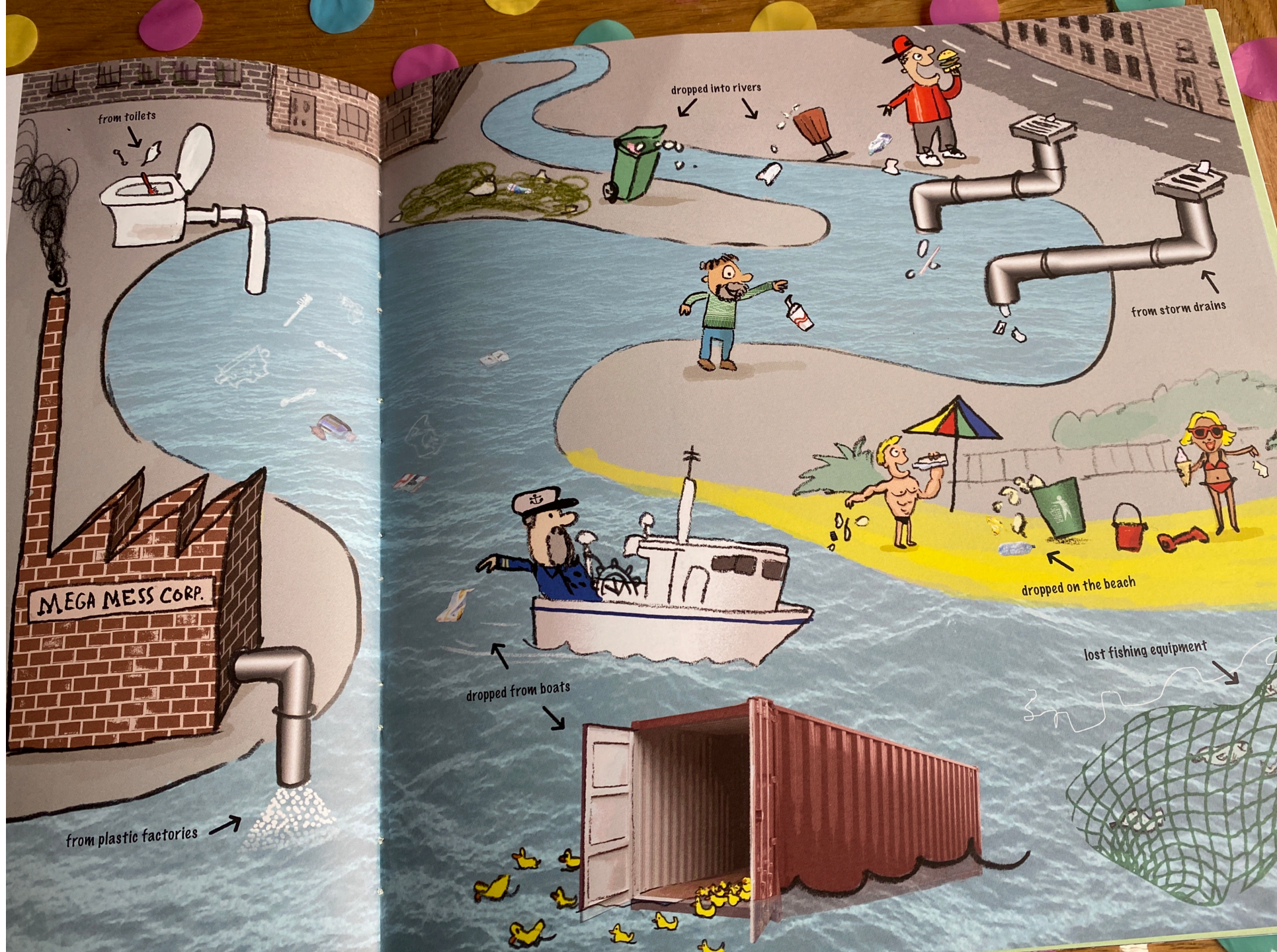
twig - over a year

paper - four weeks

leaf - six months

banana peel - six weeks





from toilets

dropped into rivers

from storm drains

MEGA MESS CORP.

from plastic factories

dropped from boats

dropped on the beach

lost fishing equipment

Because of circular currents in the oceans, the bits of plastic have collected together, creating five enormous garbage patches full of plastic.

The most famous is called the North Pacific Garbage Patch. It is currently **THREE TIMES** the size of France.

