

# Buzz off fruit fly

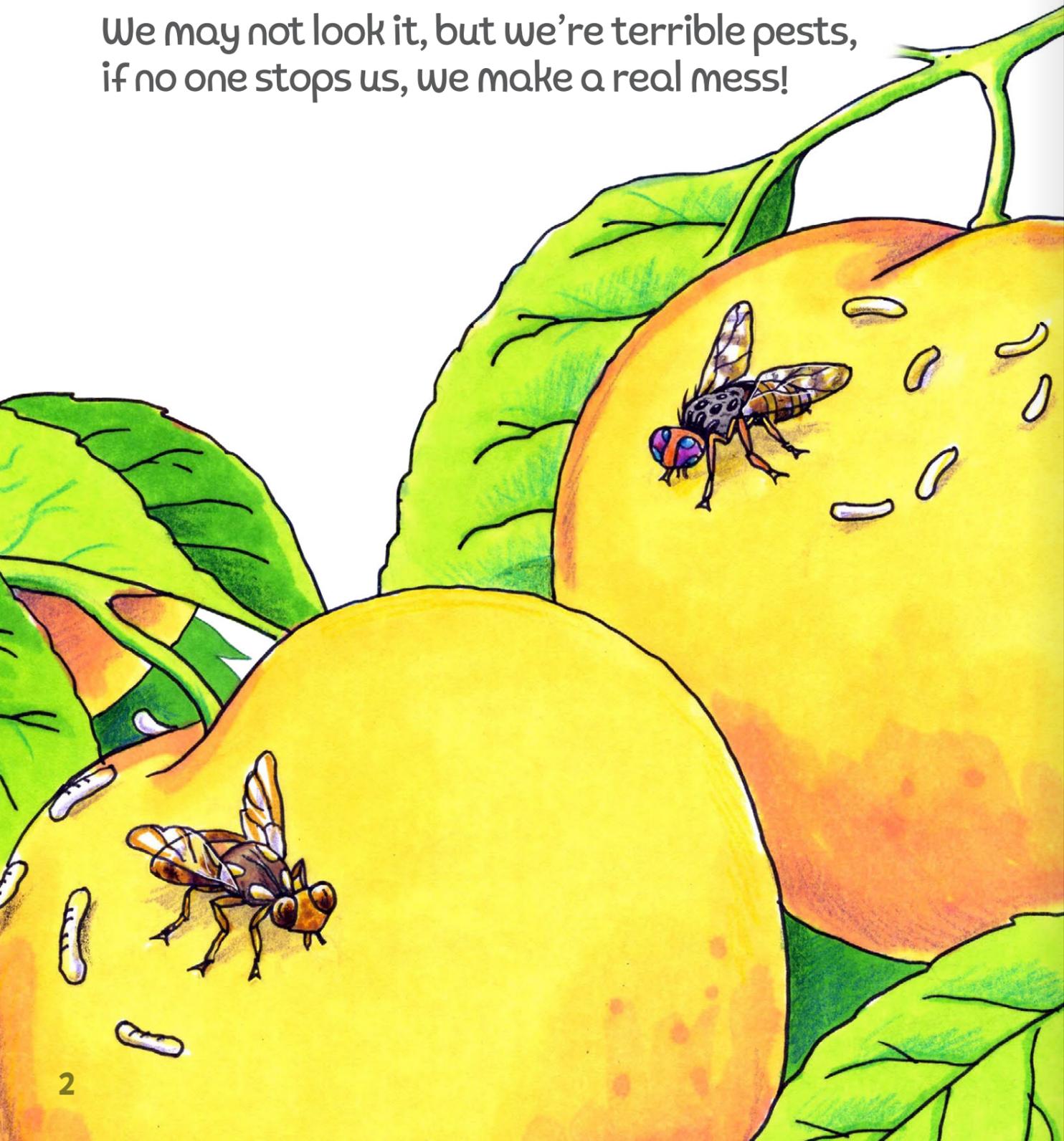


# Have you seen us?

We're fruit flies, have you seen us around?

We like to make our homes in fruit on trees or fallen to the ground.

We may not look it, but we're terrible pests, if no one stops us, we make a real mess!



We love stone fruits, citrus fruits, tropical fruits and more!

Even some vegetables we really enjoy!

We'll eat tomatoes, capsicum – even chilli – right down to the core

We're dangerous, you see – we like to destroy!

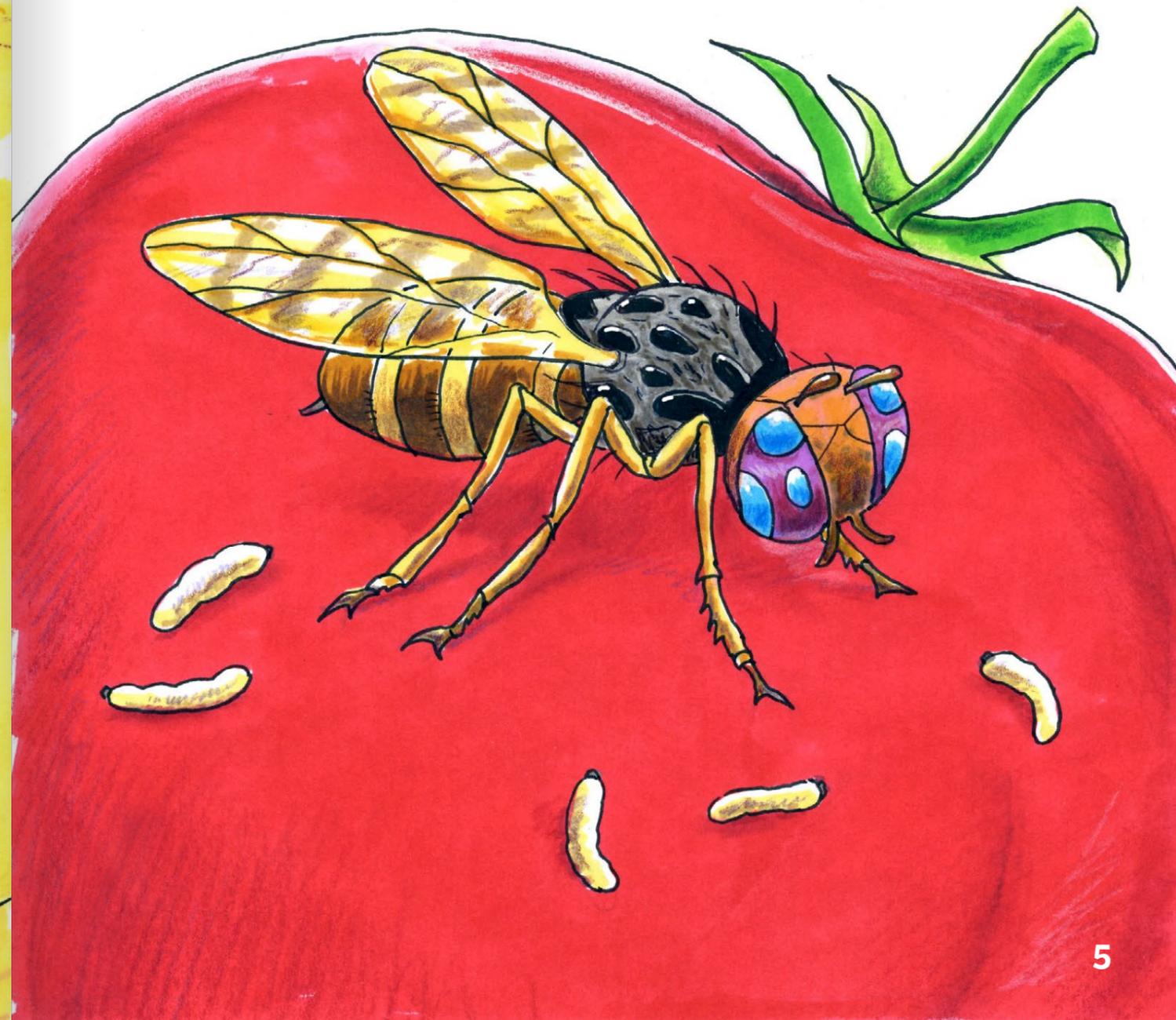
## Queensland fruit fly

I'm the Queensland fruit fly,  
I have thin little legs, I'm yellow and brown.  
And my wings let me fly so I can get around!  
I'm small, only 9 millimetres long fully grown,  
but my maggots are smaller, and wriggle on their own!  
I'm native to sunny Queensland,  
but if I get the chance,  
my territory will expand.



## Mediterranean fruit fly

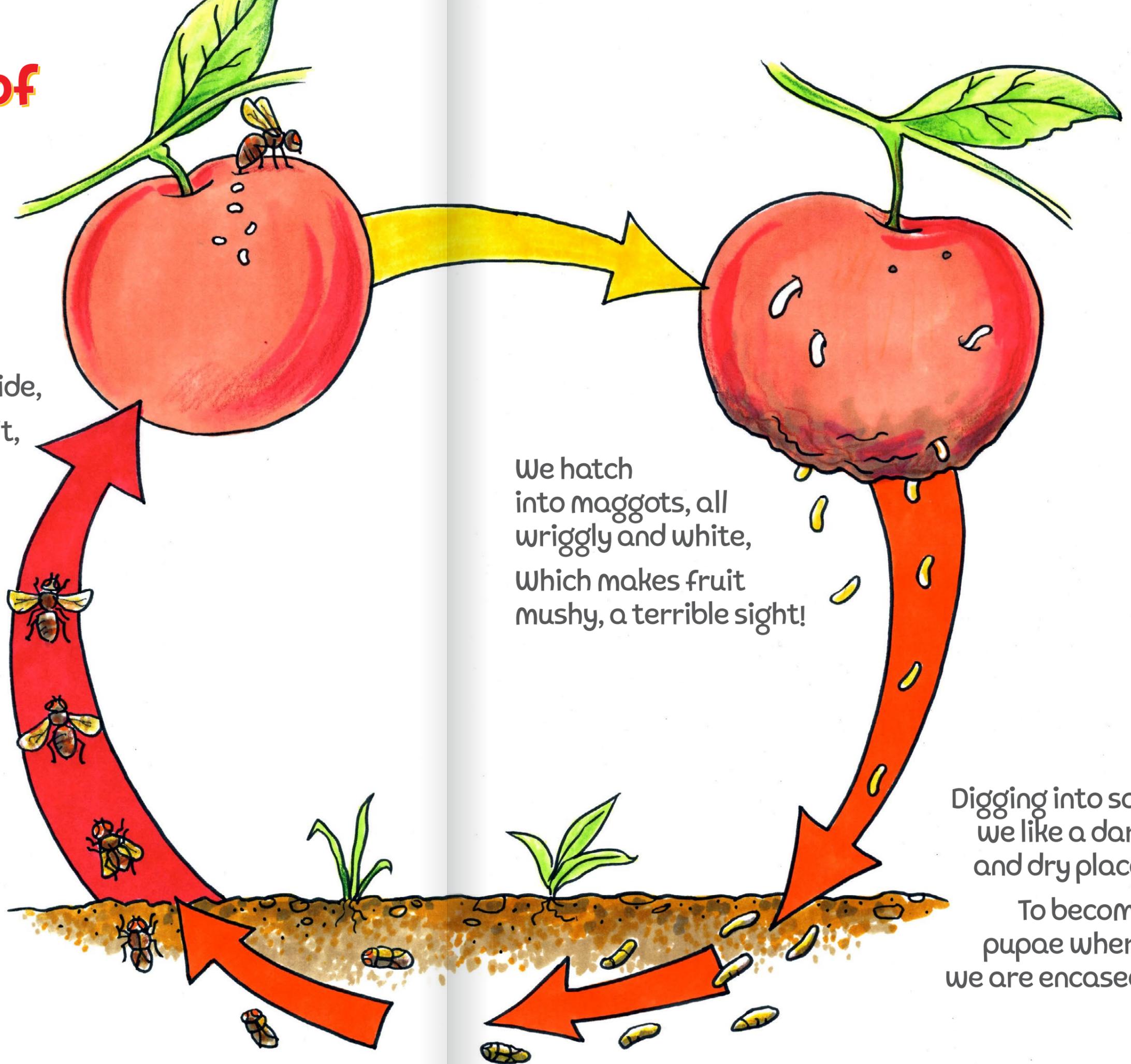
I'm the Mediterranean fruit fly, more colourful  
than my friend and a little wider too,  
With stripes and spots from end to end,  
and eyes of red, purple and blue.  
Up close I'm iridescent, but don't let my beauty fool you.  
I'm greedy and destructive, just like the rest.  
I can be found in Australia's west, and I am a true fruit pest!



# Life cycle of a fruit fly

Our mum stings the fruit to lay eggs inside,  
We feed off the fruit,  
we like to hide.

Emerging as flies,  
we settle on a tree,  
We are quite small  
and hard to see!



We hatch  
into maggots, all  
wriggly and white,  
Which makes fruit  
mushy, a terrible sight!

Digging into soil  
we like a dark  
and dry place,  
To become  
pupae where  
we are encased.

## What happens if we're found?

If you find us and we've infested your fruit, it's a fruit fly outbreak!

To get rid of us, they start a program. They'll clear us out, and make us scam!

A perimeter is set, kilometres wide, to bait and get rid of all us flies inside.

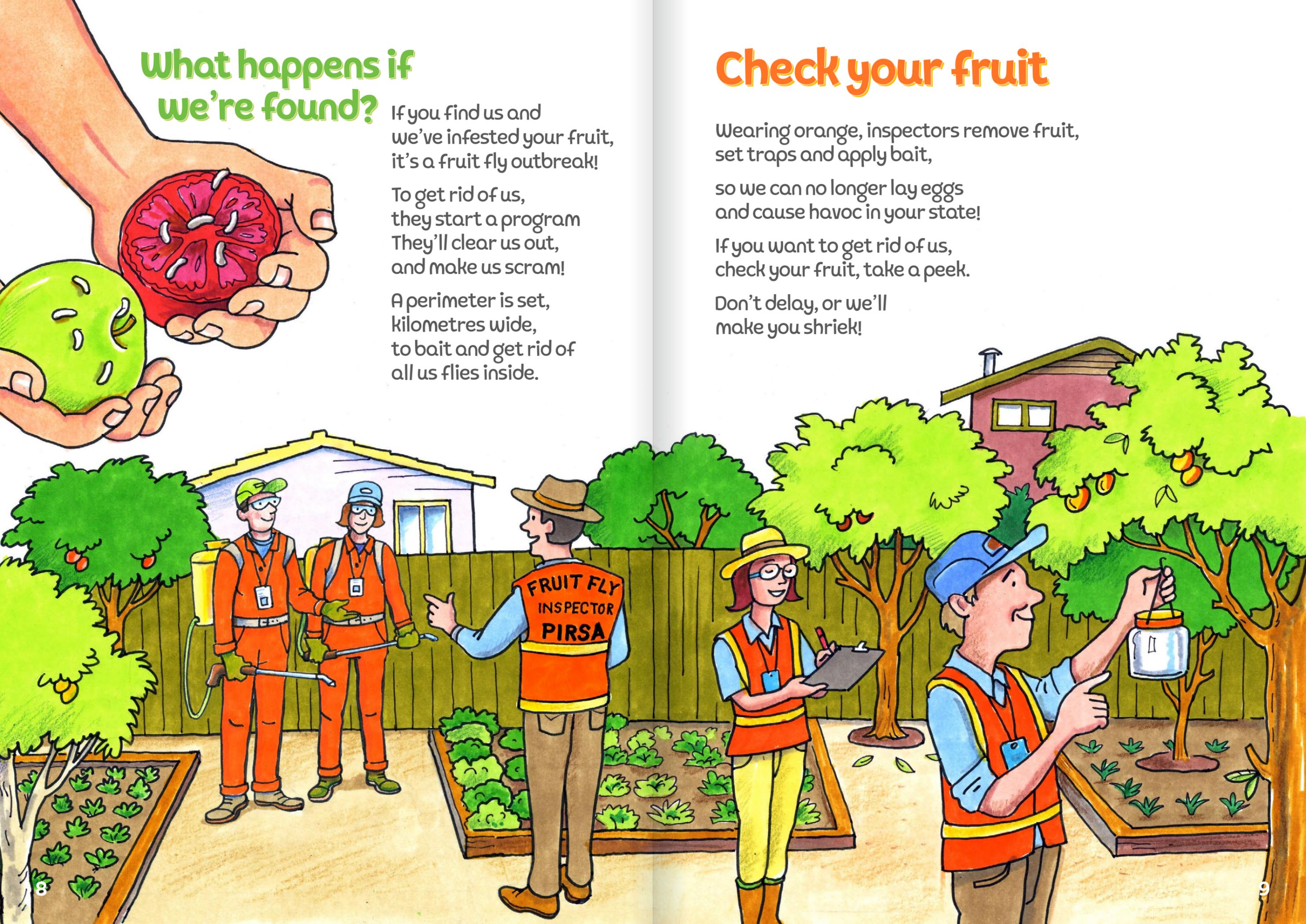
## Check your fruit

Wearing orange, inspectors remove fruit, set traps and apply bait,

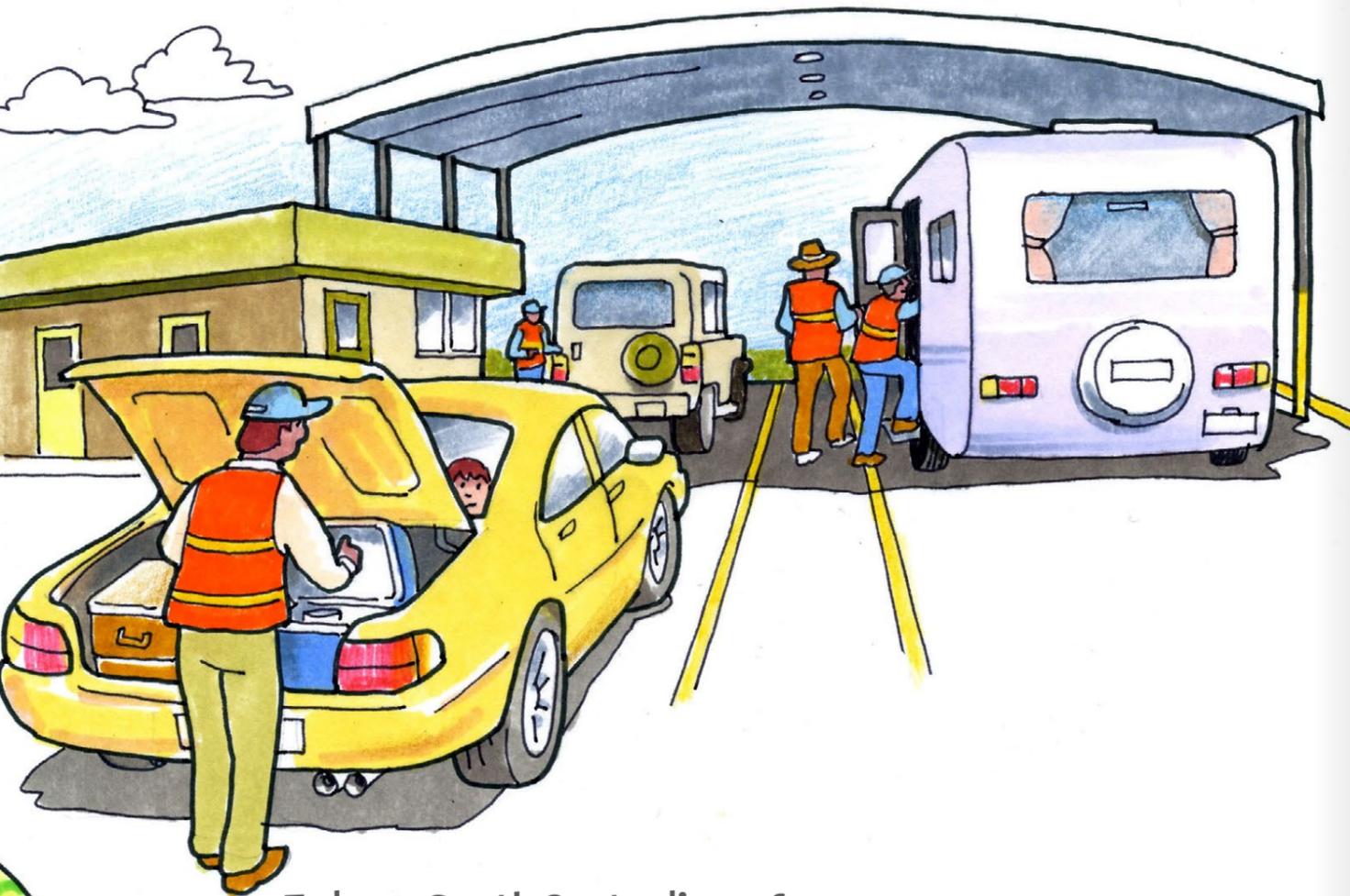
so we can no longer lay eggs and cause havoc in your state!

If you want to get rid of us, check your fruit, take a peek.

Don't delay, or we'll make you shriek!



# Keeping SA safe



To keep South Australia safe,  
no fruit can come across the border.

They have fruit checking stations,  
to make sure we don't spread any further.

Before you reach the state,  
make sure you bin or eat  
all your fruit - don't wait!

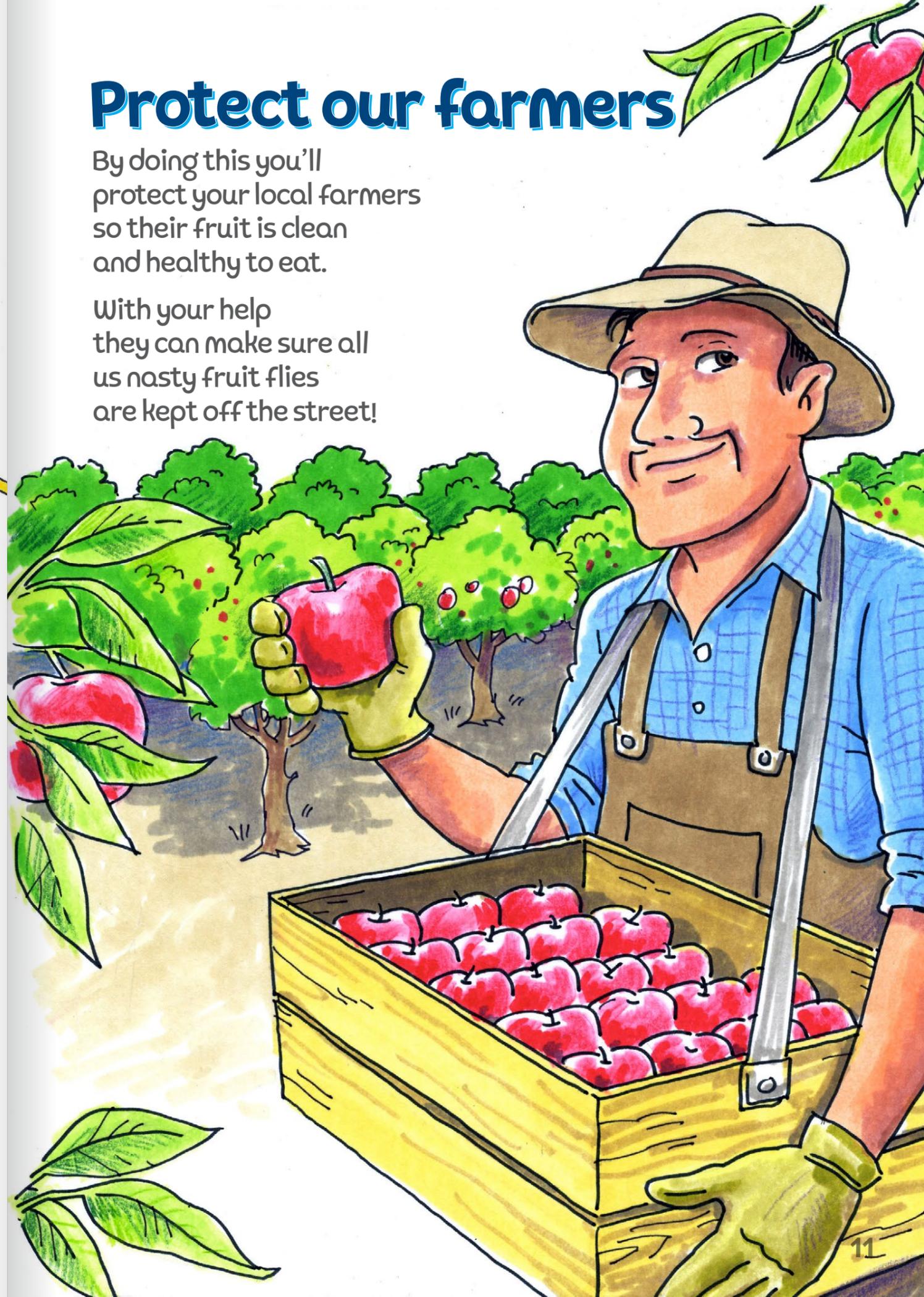
They have bins all along the way,  
to keep us harmful flies out of SA.



# Protect our farmers

By doing this you'll  
protect your local farmers  
so their fruit is clean  
and healthy to eat.

With your help  
they can make sure all  
us nasty fruit flies  
are kept off the street!



# Report fruit flies if you find them

So, how can you make sure I don't make a home in your oranges, apples or chillies?

Keep an eye out for me! I'll wreck all your fruit and drive you silly.

Check all your fruit – on the ground and in the tree!

And if you find me hiding, call this number please, so South Australia can stay fruit fly free!

Fruit Fly Hotline  
**1300 666 010**



# Fruit fly check list

## Fruit fly like to lay their eggs in:

- Stone fruits like apricots, peaches, nectarines, plums and cherries
- Pome fruits like apples, pears and quinces
- Citrus like oranges, lemons, limes, grapefruit and cumquats
- Flowering plants like loquats, figs and feijoas
- Tropical fruits like bananas, avocados and mangoes
- Fruiting vegetables like tomatoes, capsicums, chillies, eggplant and tamarillo

## Be a home garden hero!

You can help stop fruit fly in your garden by following these easy steps:

1. Check your backyard fruit and vegetables for bruises, stings and maggots.
2. Clean up your yard and throw all fallen fruit into your green bin.
3. Call the Fruit Fly Hotline on 1300 666 010 and report those maggots or fruit flies!

# What to do in a fruit fly outbreak

1. Check the fruit fly map.
2. Find out what you can pack for lunch.
3. Continue to enjoy fruit and vegetables – just make sure you know about the ones you can't move.



## Take the fruit fly quiz:

Q: What are the two main types of fruit fly?

A:

List three fruits and vegetables that fruit fly like to lay their eggs in.

1  
2  
3

Q: What do you do if you find maggots or fruit flies?

A:



## **Government of South Australia**

Department of Primary Industries  
and Regions

© Copyright the Government of South Australia 2021.

### **DISCLAIMER**

PIRSA and its employees do not warrant or make any representation regarding the use, or results of the use, of the information contained herein as regards to its correctness, accuracy, reliability and currency or otherwise. PIRSA and its employees expressly disclaim all liability or responsibility to any person using the information or advice.

### **Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA)**

GPO Box 1671, Adelaide SA 5001 | T +61 8 8226 0995 | E [pirsa.communications@sa.gov.au](mailto:pirsa.communications@sa.gov.au)