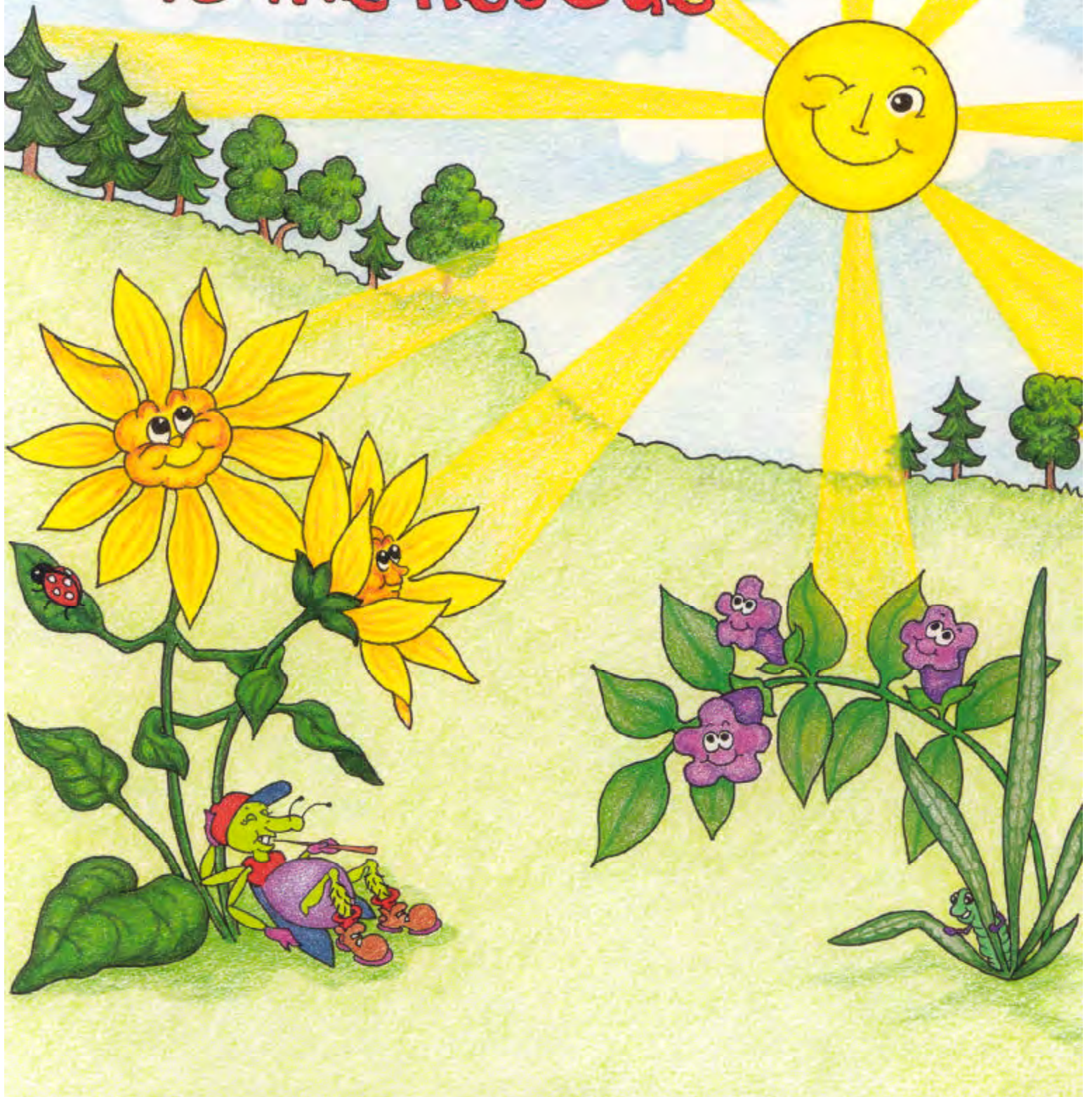
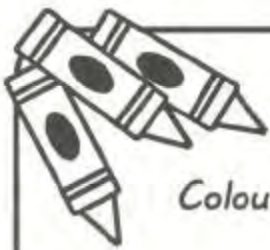
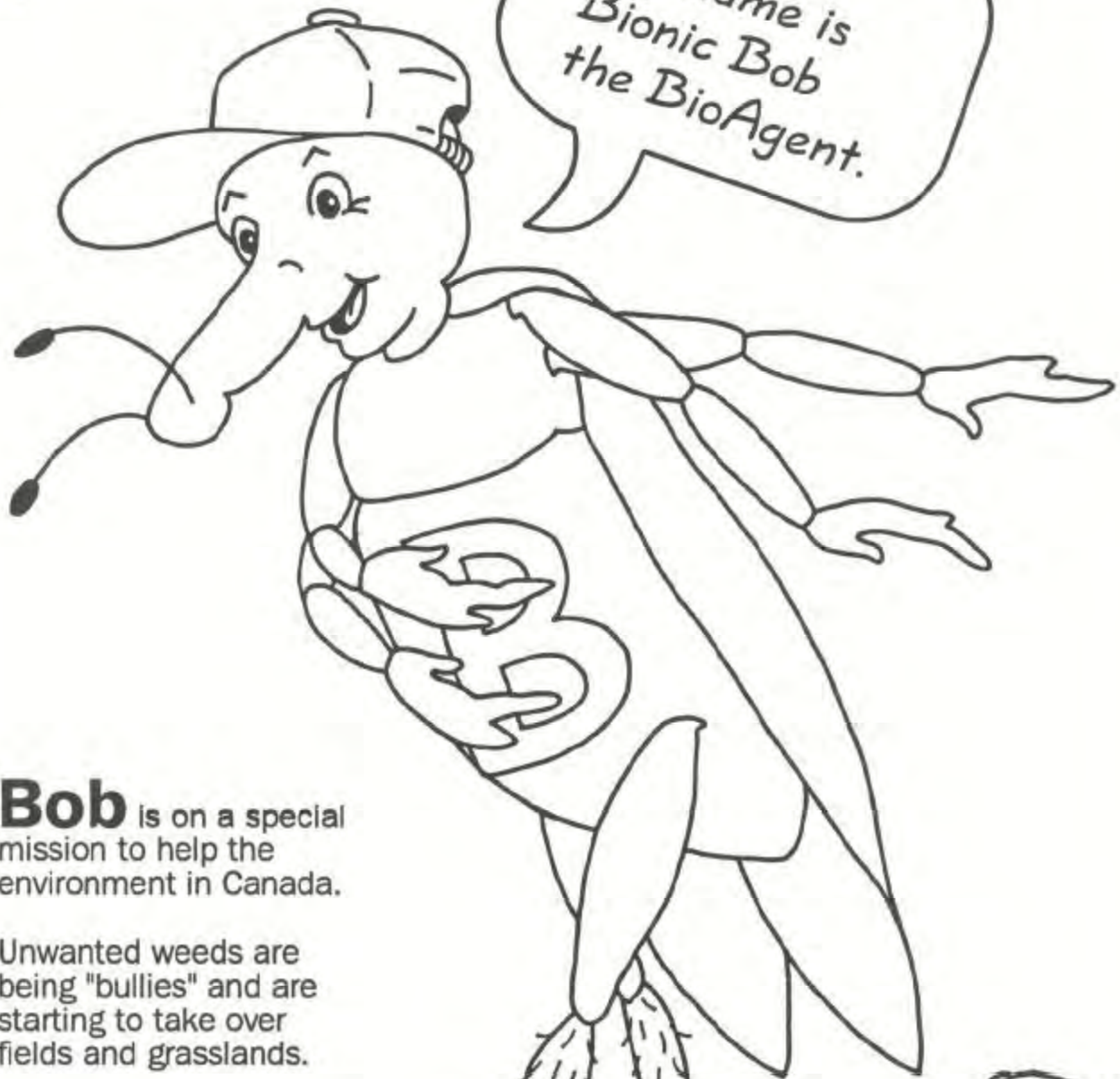


# BIONIC BOB to the Rescue





Colour me!



**Bob** is on a special mission to help the environment in Canada.

Unwanted weeds are being "bullies" and are starting to take over fields and grasslands.

Ranchers, foresters, and people who like to walk and hike in the outdoors are concerned because these "bully" weeds are super-strong and are slowly moving in and replacing the natural flowers and grasses that have always grown here.



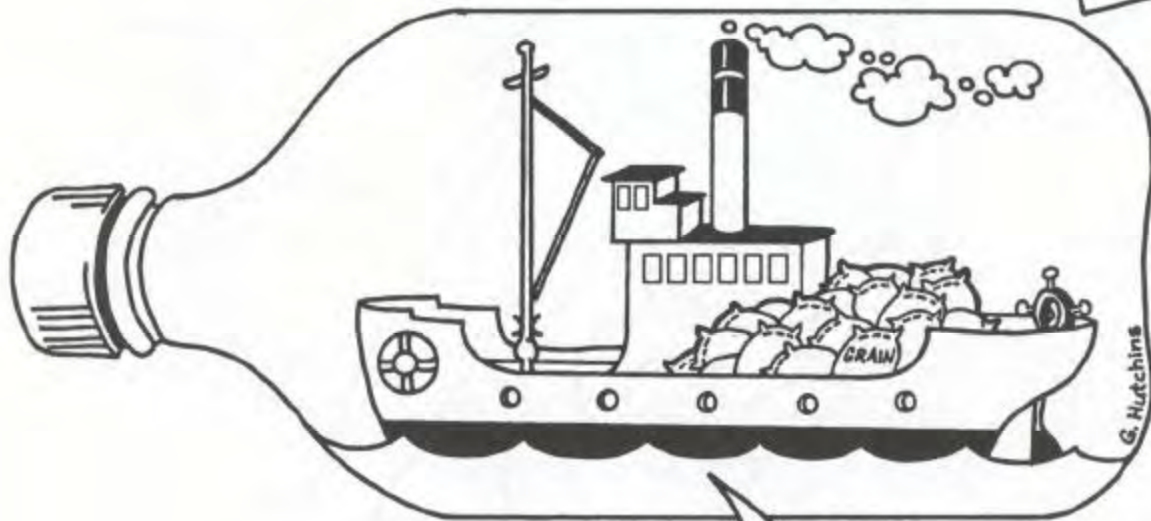
G. Hutchins



Come along as I demonstrate my super-bug powers at work!

# Some weed seeds

first came to Canada  
as stow-aways in bags of grain  
from faraway places  
like Europe and Asia.



# Weeds

from other places like it here.

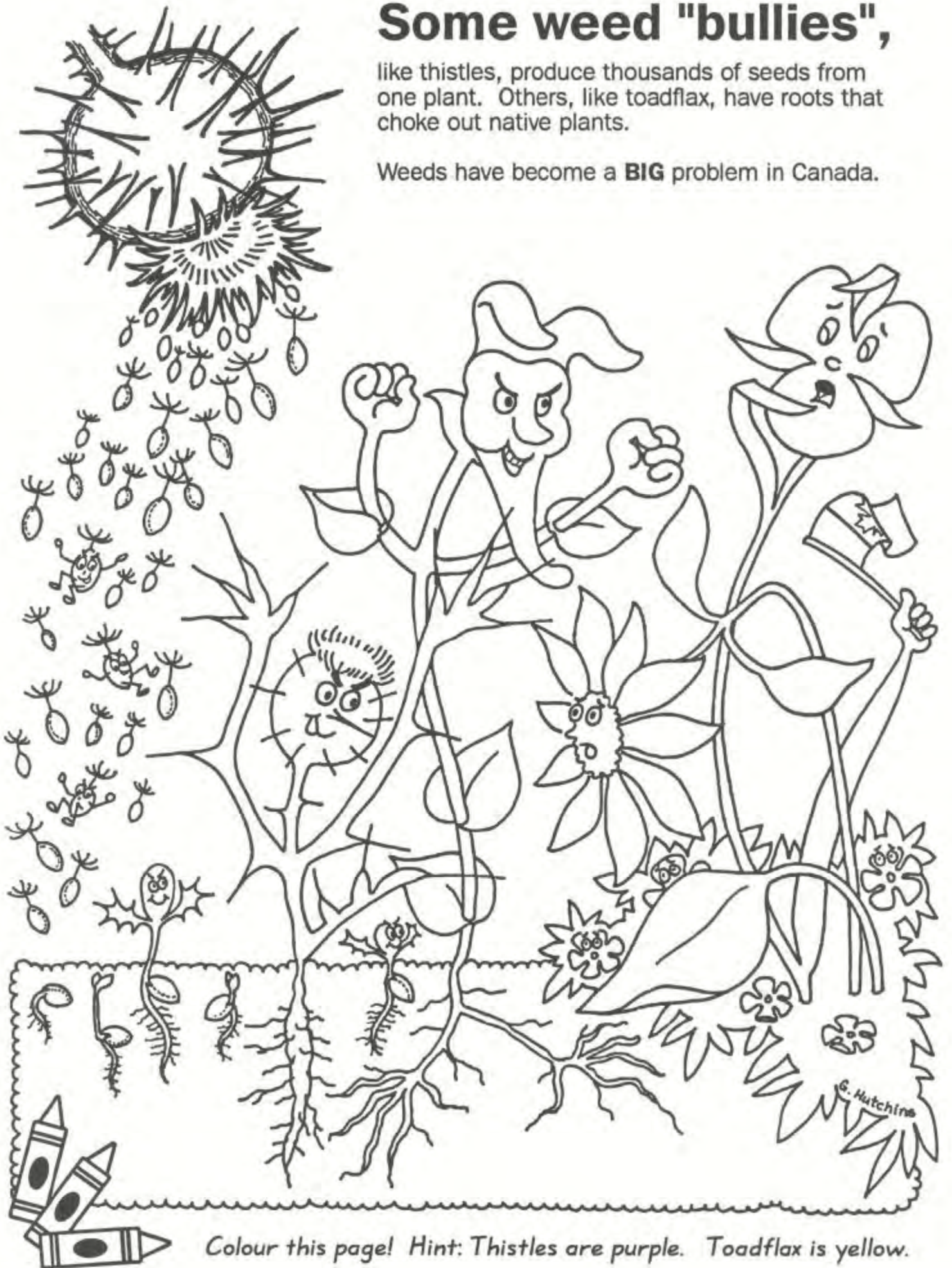
They quickly grow and  
spread because there  
are no insects from  
their home countries,  
like Bionic Bob, that will  
eat them. Cows and  
deer often do not like  
the taste of them.



# Some weed "bullies",

like thistles, produce thousands of seeds from one plant. Others, like toadflax, have roots that choke out native plants.

Weeds have become a **BIG** problem in Canada.



Colour this page! Hint: Thistles are purple. Toadflax is yellow.

# BIONIC BOB the BIOAGENT to the Rescue!



*Here's where I enter the picture ... I was brought over from the country where the unwanted weeds came from.*

*Some of my family and friends are coming over too, once Scientists check them out.*

*Colour me  
and my pals!*



# Before Bob could come

to Canada, Scientists had to make sure that he would eat only the certain "bully" weed for which he was chosen, and that he would not start munching on any native plants.

Scientists call me a  
"BioAgent".

Has a nice ring to it,  
don't you think?



Colour me!

Colour me! The plant is a balsam root. Its flowers have yellow petals with a brown center.



I'd rather  
DIE  
than eat  
this!

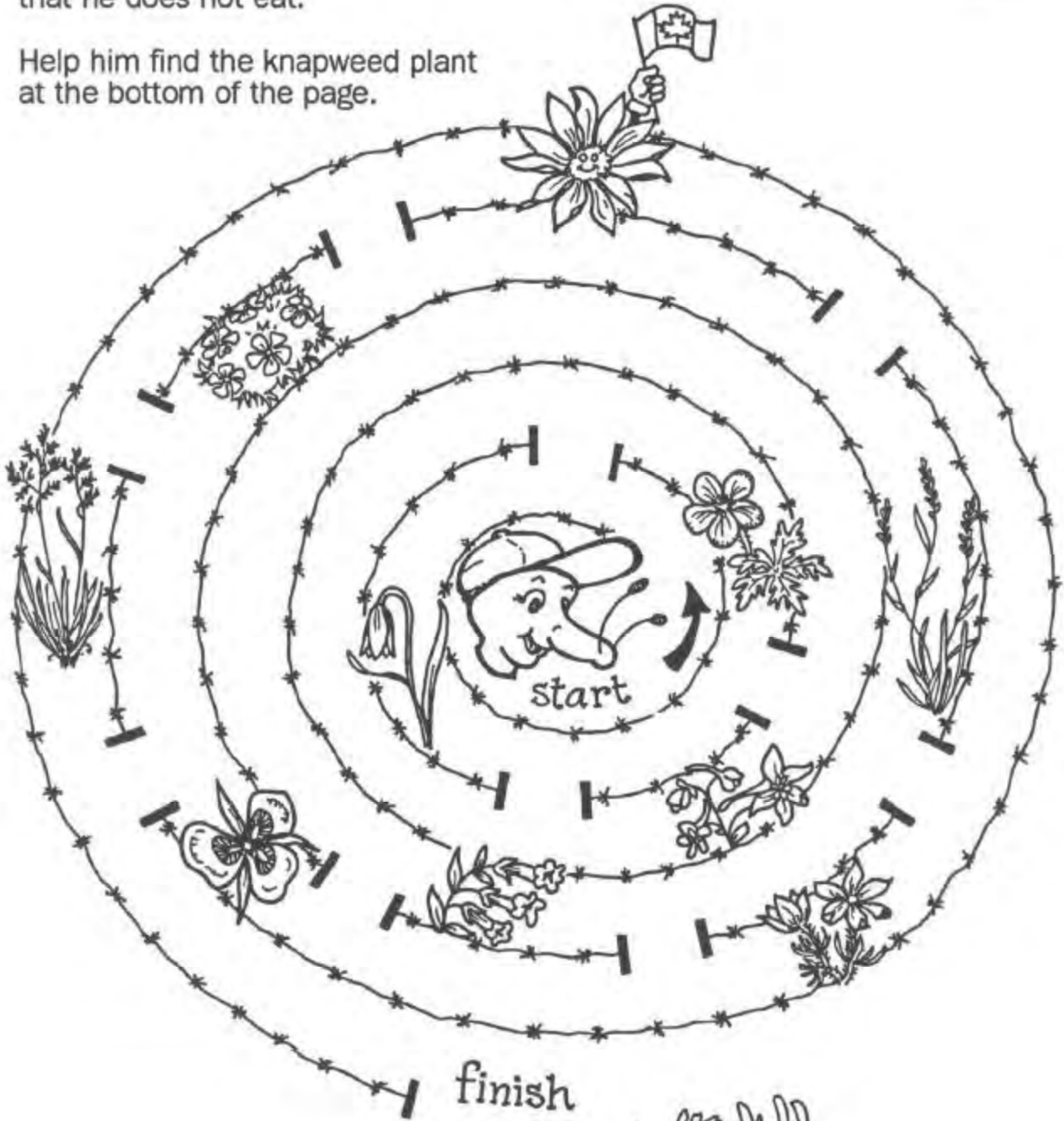


Glenda Hutchins

# NATIVE PLANT MAZE

Bionic Bob is hungry! But he is surrounded by native North American plants that he does not eat.

Help him find the knapweed plant at the bottom of the page.





WOW!

Looks like your native  
plants could use some  
help in this field.  
I'll zoom on in and see  
what I can do!

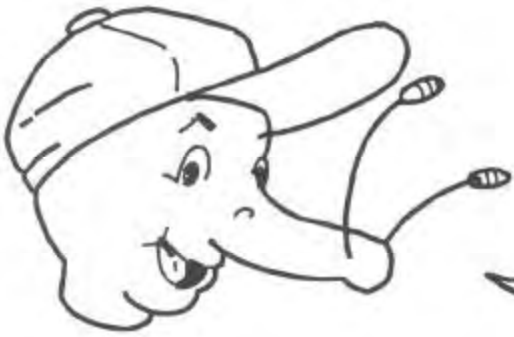


# How many of Bob's buddies can you find in this picture?

There are lots because there is plenty for them to eat with so many "bullies" on the loose!



# FAR-OUT FACTS



*Here's a close-up look at 4 of the bullies that are invading grasslands and forests in B.C.*

## ST. JOHN'S WORT

The first bionic BioAgents ever released in B.C. were invited to dine on my roots and leaves. Now I am under control.

My flowers are yellow.



## DALMATIAN TOADFLAX

Another name for me is "Butter and Eggs". Do not let my sunny yellow colour fool you because I, too, am on the unwanted weeds list. You can find me along roadsides and even in people's gardens!



## SPOTTED KNAPWEED

I can produce over 1000 seeds in one season. I spread my seeds by hitch-hiking on people's trucks or on animals' fur.

Colour my "hair"  
purple.



## LEAFY SPURGE

Watch out when you break open my stem. I ooze a milky-coloured juice that can poison cows and other livestock. It is no wonder they want to get rid of me.

I am a yellow-green  
flower.

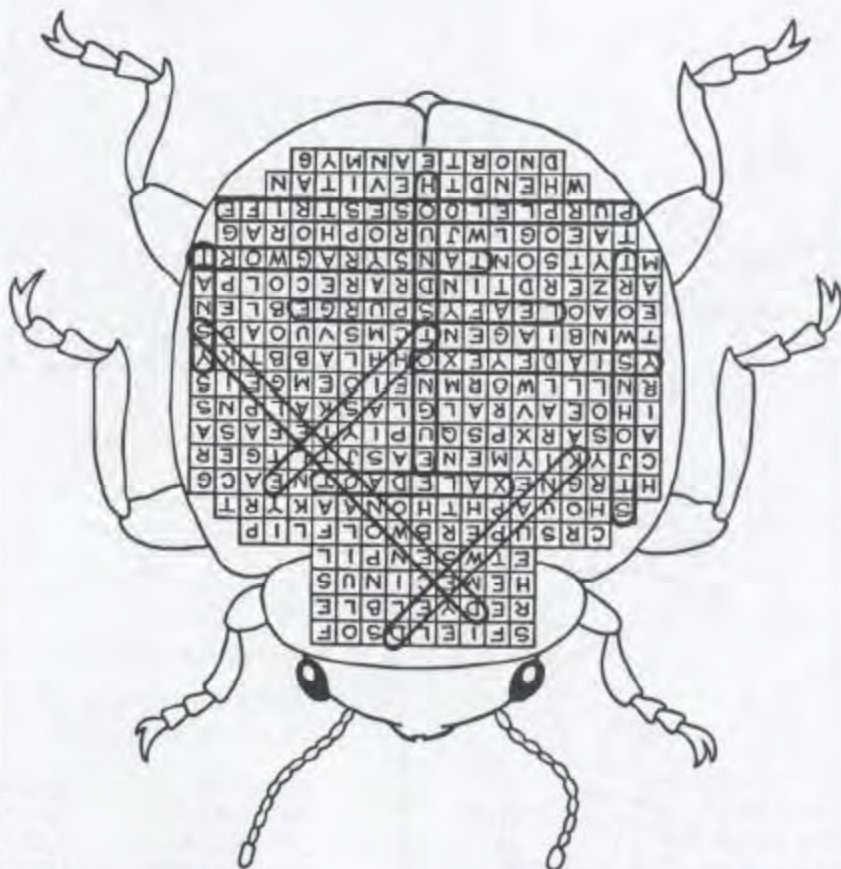
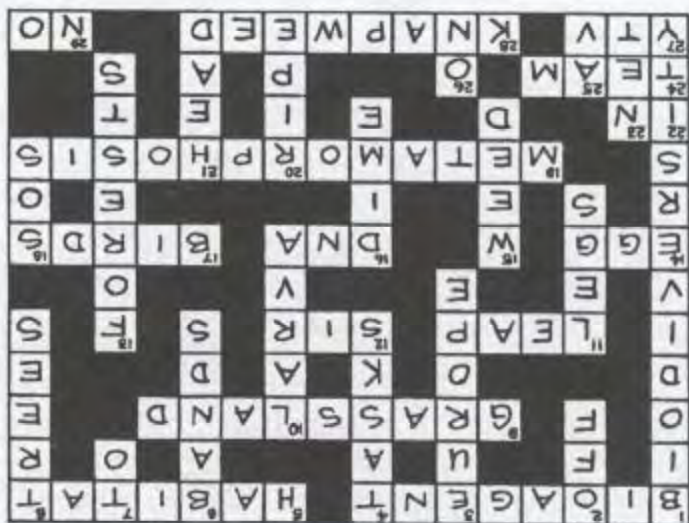




## CLUES DOWN:

1. The right number of plants and animals in an area is called -----.
2. Turn the light --- when you leave a room
3. Place where many weed seeds came from
4. Bionic Bob and his friends have many important ----- to perform
6. Birds that are being studied may have ----- around their legs
7. -- and fro
8. Forests have lots of these
10. The wingless, often wormlike form of a newly hatched insect
11. An insect has six ----
13. Find this Ministry number in your phone-book if you see unwanted weeds
15. An unwanted plant is called a ----
16. Penny, nickel, ----
18. Morse code for "Help"
20. Don't pick fruit until it's ----
21. An insect has three body parts: ----, thorax and abdomen
23. A --- comes in handy when catching butterflies (Please release them after you've studied them!)
25. Abbreviation for "audiovisual"
26. Opposite of OFF

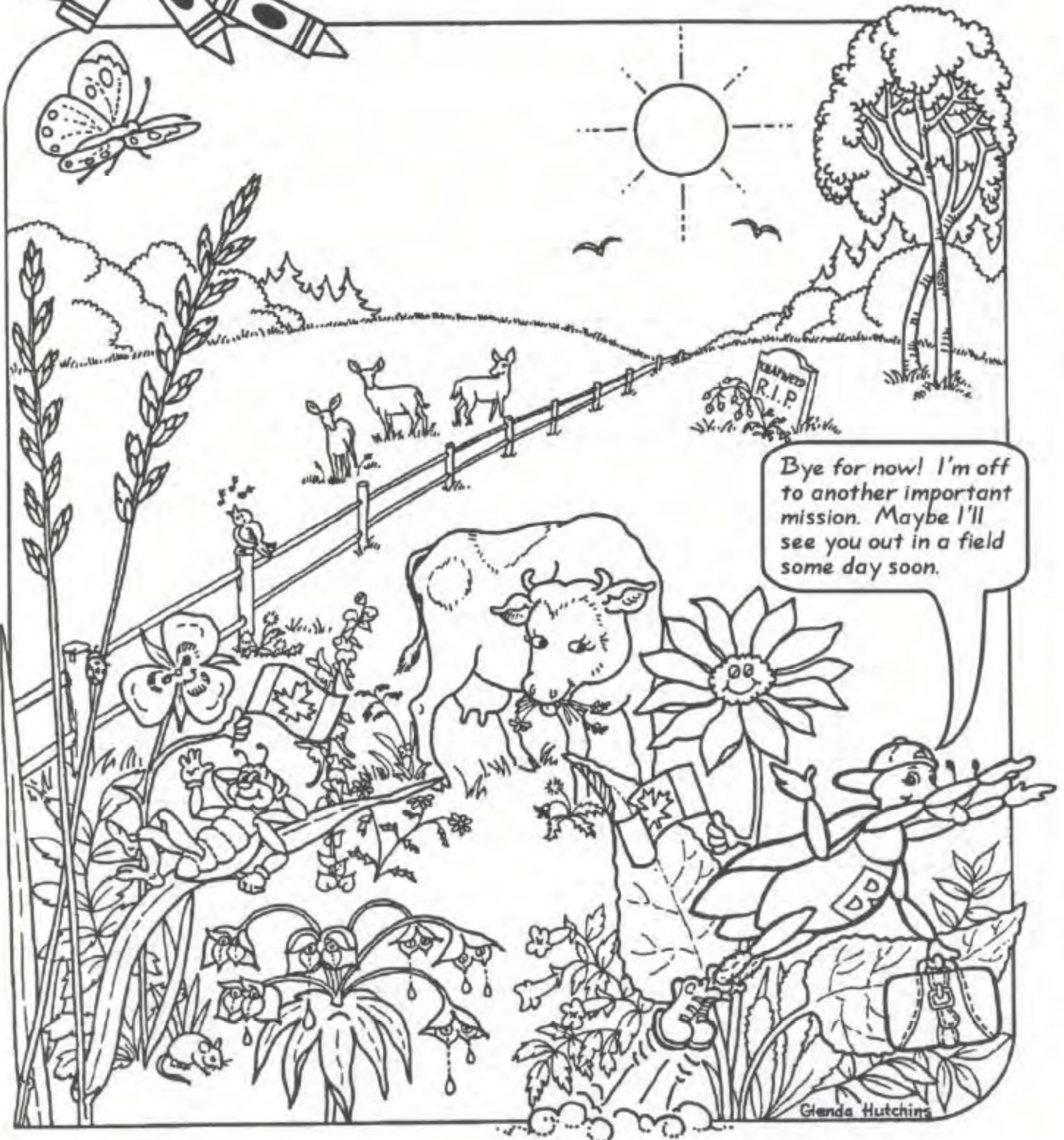
Here are the solutions to the puzzles.  
No peeking until you are done!







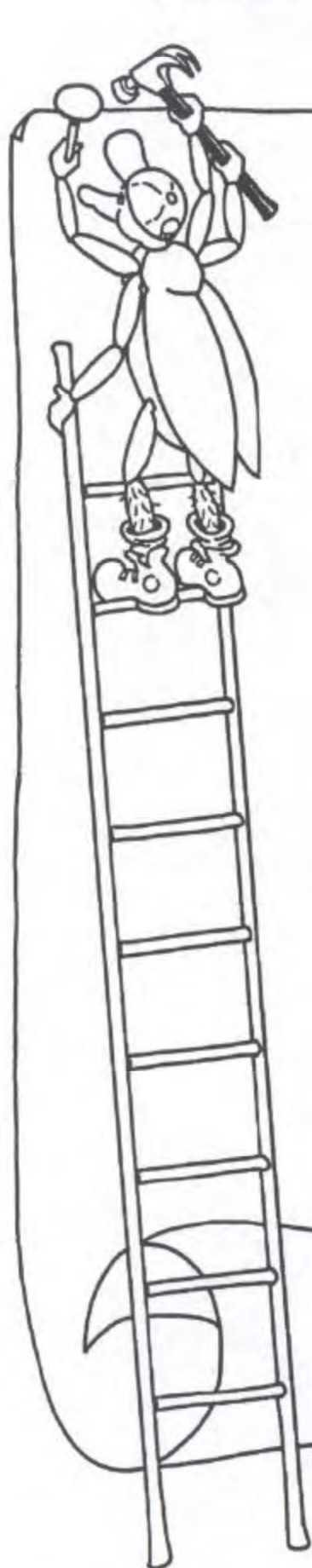
WOW! This is looking much better! It has taken a long time, but now there are fewer bully weeds and many more natural grasses and flowers. Since there are not as many weeds, there are fewer of my pals, too. Native plants now have a better chance to grow and survive, thanks to a job well done by me, Bionic Bob, and all my pals!



Bye for now! I'm off to another important mission. Maybe I'll see you out in a field some day soon.



# Here's how YOU can help Bob!



## Un-WANTED WEEDS

- ① Learn to recognize "bully" weeds that now make their home in B.C.
- ② Explore your backyard and school grounds for unwanted weeds. Report sightings to the nearest Forest Service office.
- ③ Pull out weeds by their roots.
- ④ Be a scout and check around your parents' vehicle before leaving a weed-infested area. Remove attached weeds.
- ⑤ There are other "bullies" on the unwanted weeds list. Find out more by contacting the Forest Service.

*Thanks  
for helping!*





LEAFY  
SPURGE



THISTLE



DALMATIAN  
TOADFLAX



HOUND'S-TONGUE



RUSH  
SKELETONWEED



SPOTTED  
KNAPWEED



ST. JOHNS-WORT

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*Illustrations: Glenda Cole*

*Text: Nancie Dohan*

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of Forests



Canada

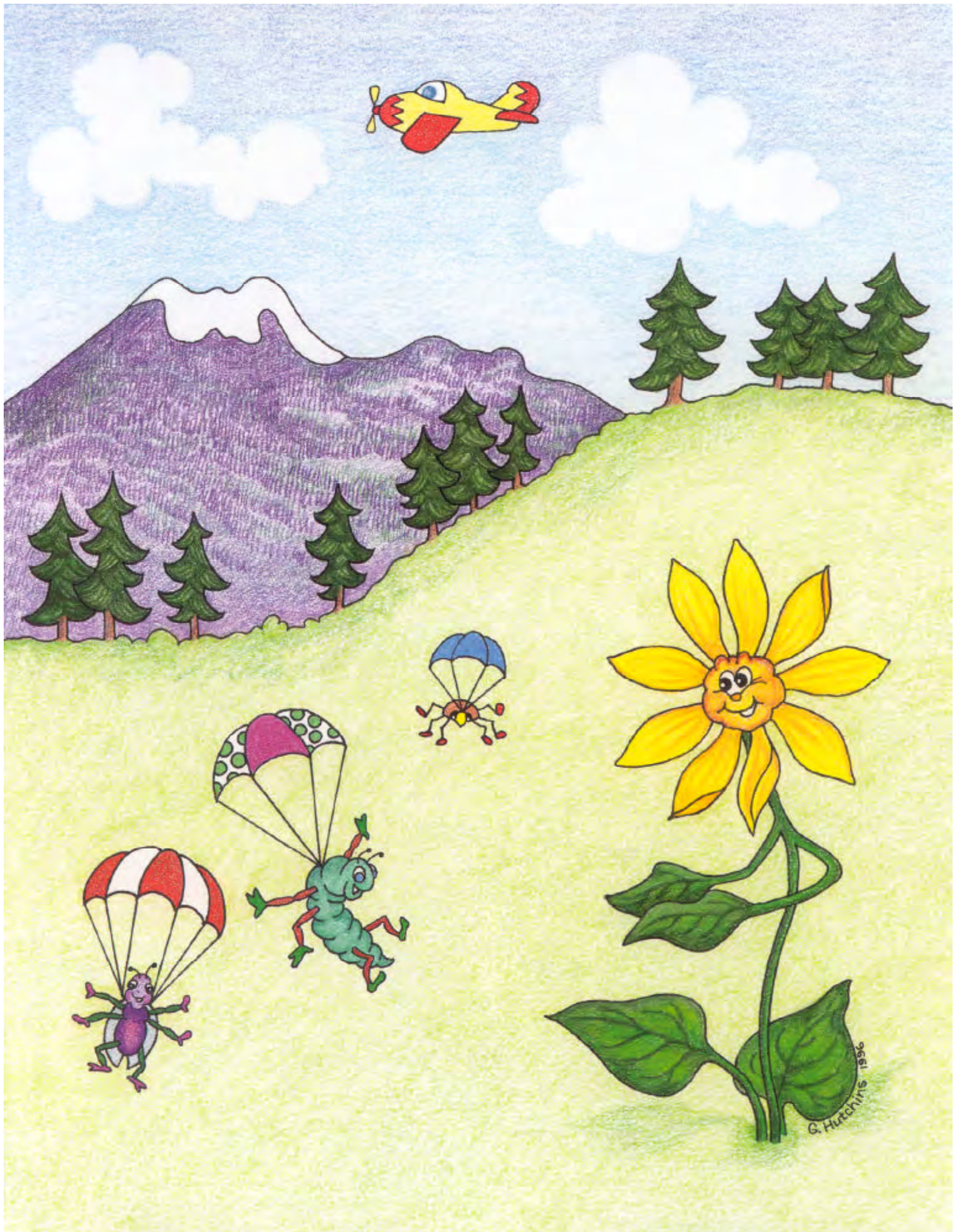
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FOREST RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT:  
FRDA II

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QP 19952/1



G. Hutchins 1996