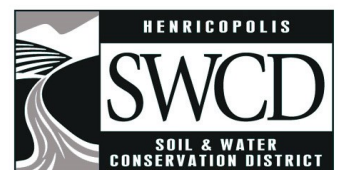
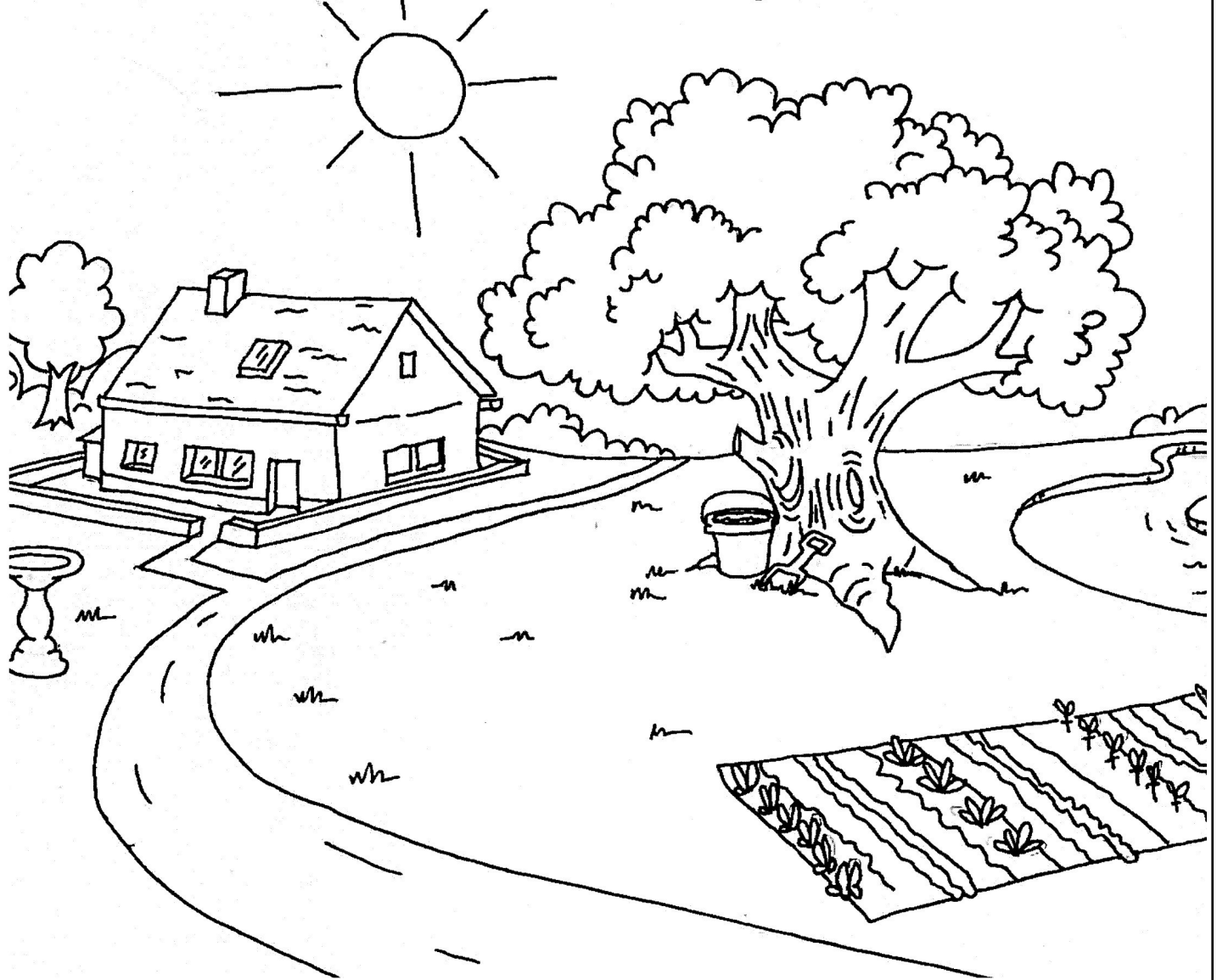
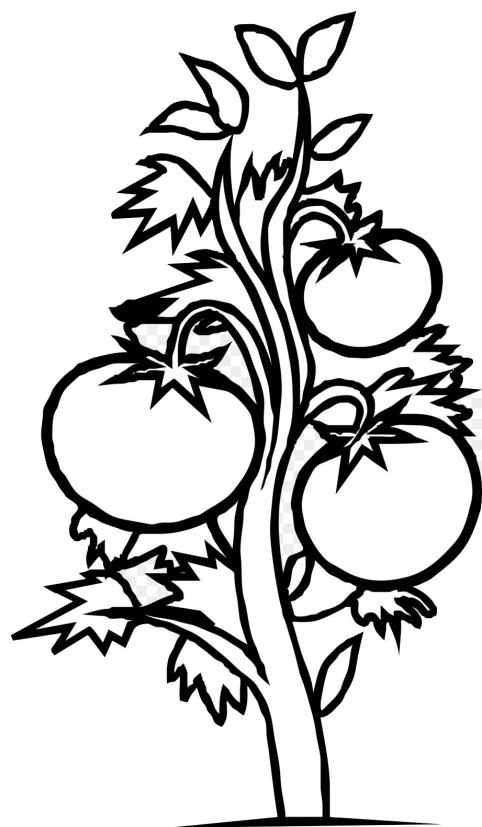
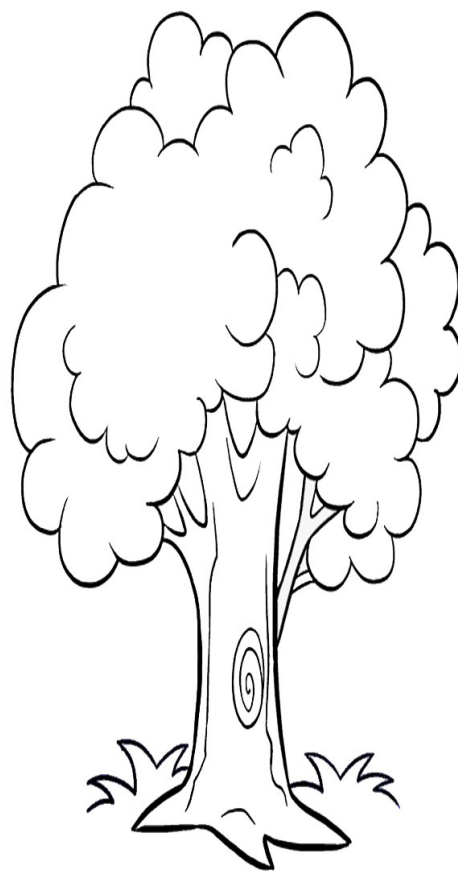


# Eddie's Bug Hunt

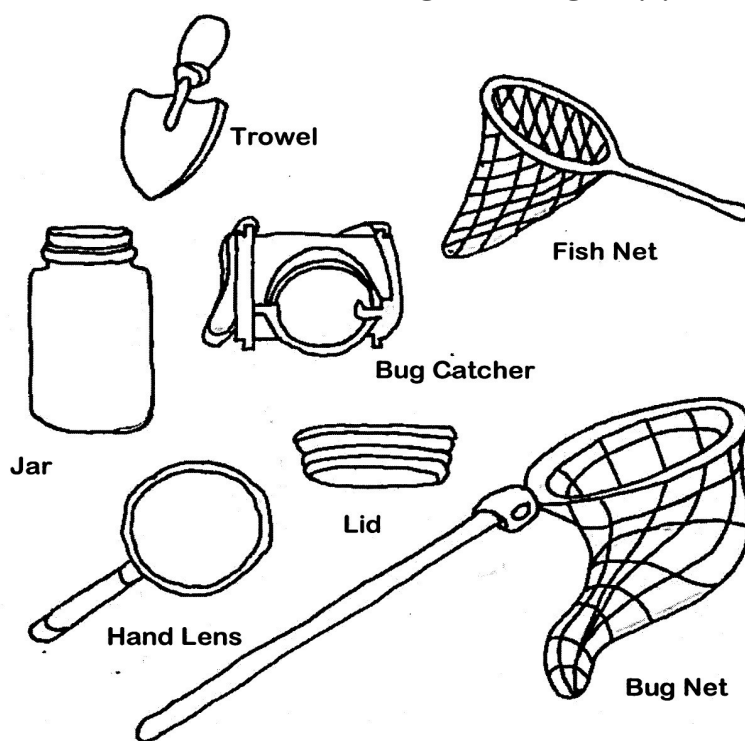




Eddie and his Dad are going on a bug hunt today.



Before setting out, they gathered their bug hunting supplies.



Their first stop was at the creek along their property.

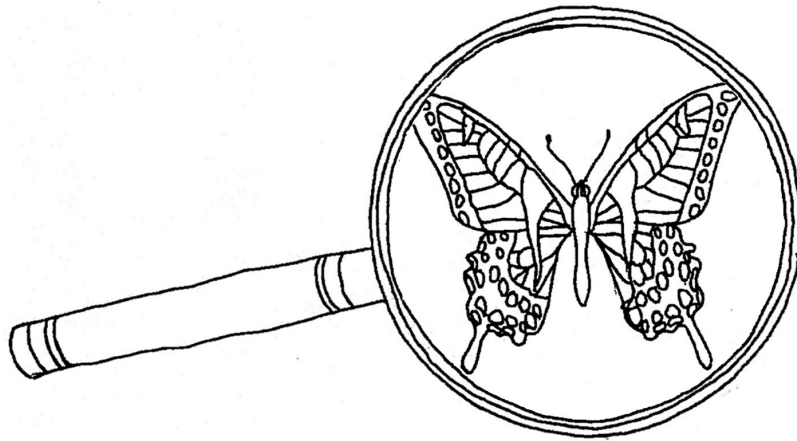
Kick over that small rock, stir up the soil behind where the rock was, and dip your net. I'll fill the jar with water.

Great job, Eddie! Now turn the net over and carefully knock the bug you collected into the jar.



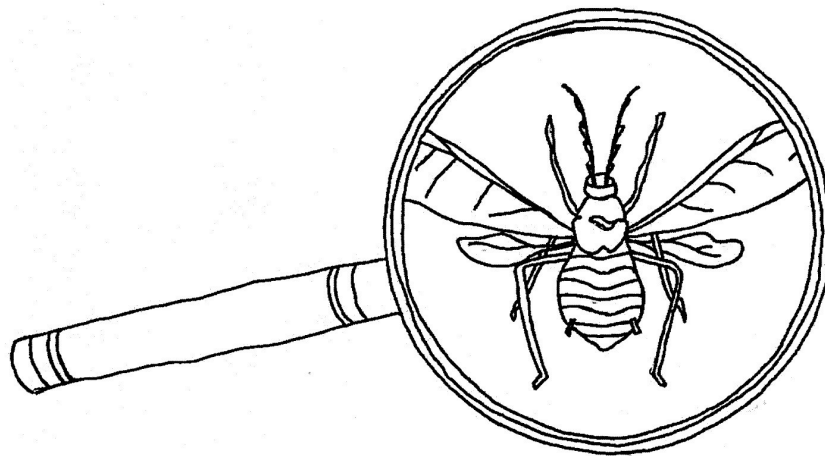
Eddie and his Dad had collected a **Mayfly**. After looking at it, they returned it to the creek

As they were walking back toward their house, a **Butterfly** flew by. Eddie used his net to carefully catch the **Butterfly**. His Dad removed it from the net and placed it under the viewer.



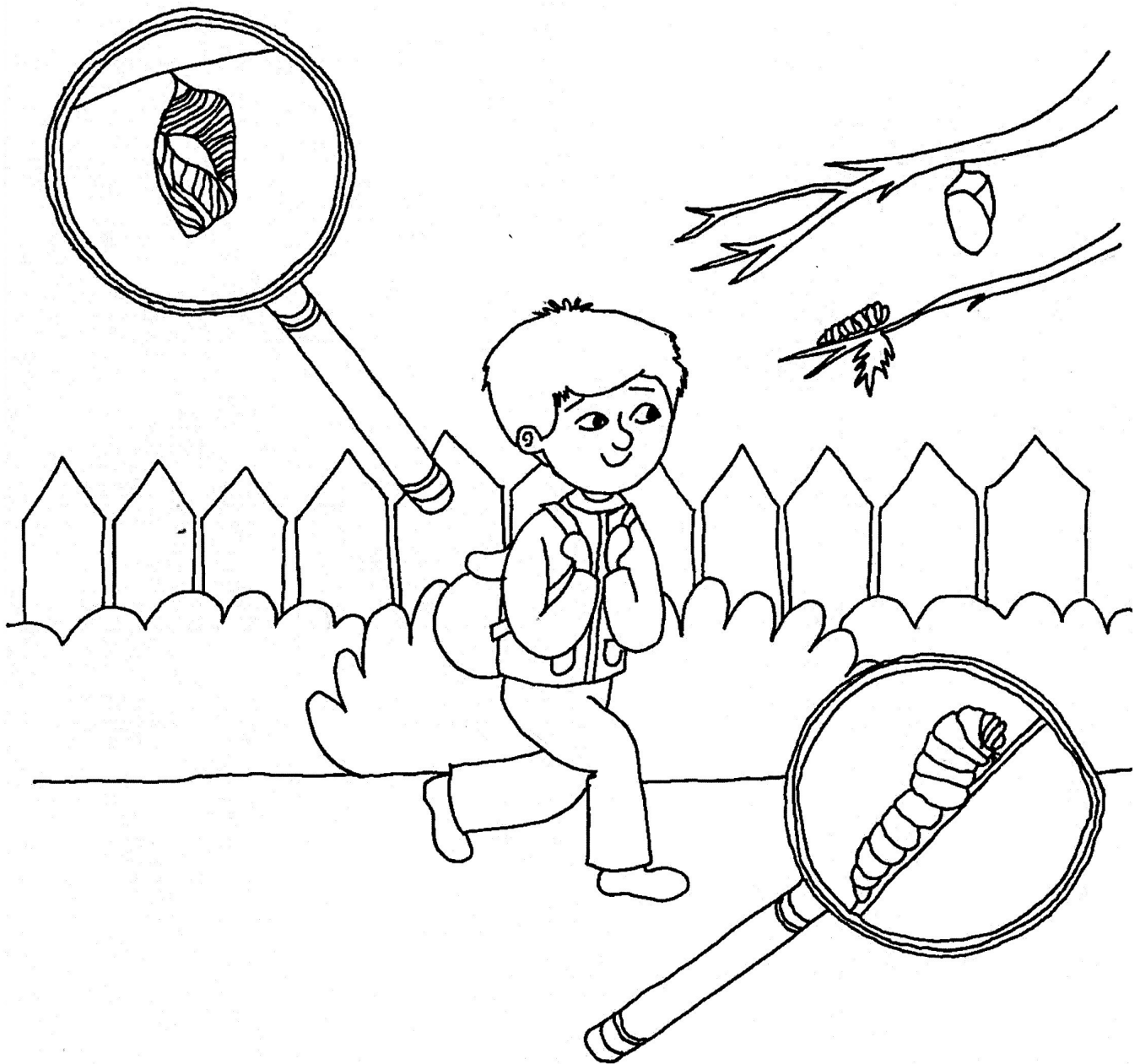
Eddie had caught a **Tiger Swallowtail**. It is the **Virginia State Butterfly**. This is the adult stage of this insect. Eddie and his Dad released the **Butterfly** where they had caught it and continued to walk to Eddie's Mother's vegetable garden.

In the vegetable garden, they looked at a pepper plant that Eddie's Mom said wasn't growing well. Using the hand lens, Eddie looked at the growing tip of the plant and observed many small bugs around it.



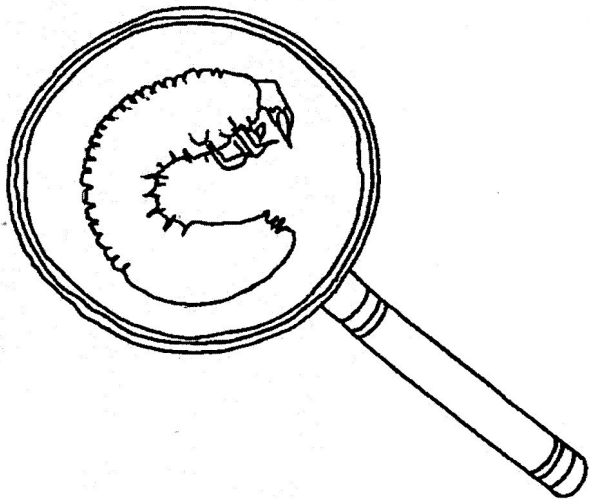
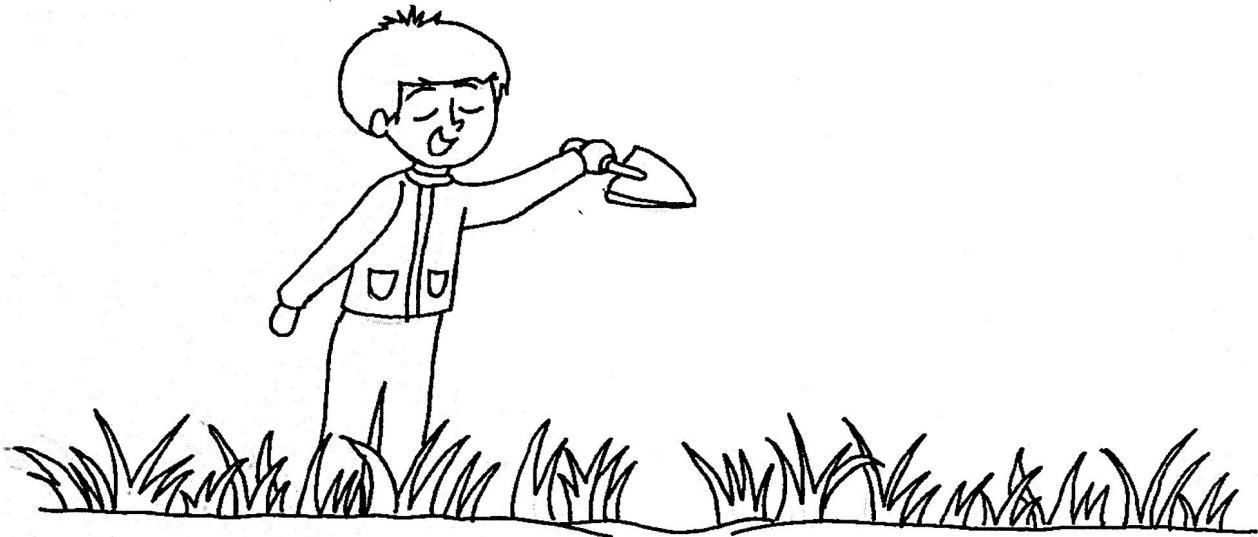
This is what Eddie saw under his hand lens. This insect is called an **Aphid**. It sucks the nutrients out of the plant, making it weak. This bug is very easy to identify because of the two "tail pipes" coming from the end of its body.

Eddie and his Dad then walked over to a small tree growing along the wood's edge. His Dad told him the tree was a wild black cherry tree. Eddie noticed a **Caterpillar** on a branch and a dark hanging object.

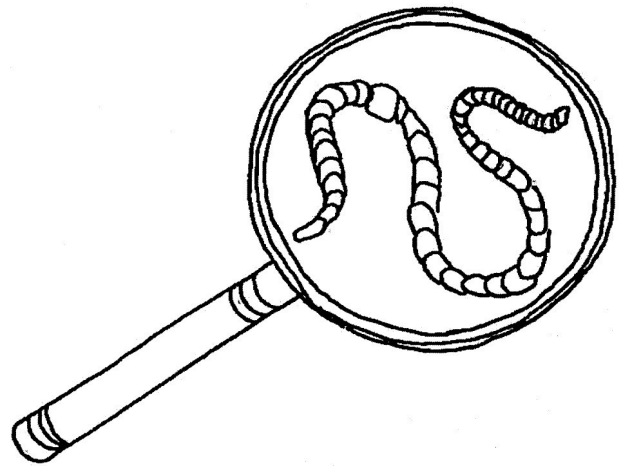


What Eddie saw was a **Tiger Swallowtail Caterpillar**. They have a large green head with two false eyes that make them look even bigger to animals that might eat them. The dark object that was hanging from the branch was a **Chrysalis**. This is the **Tiger Swallowtail Caterpillar** that is changing into a **Butterfly**.

Next, Eddie and his Dad started to head over toward the bird feeder. But along the way, they stopped to look at a patch of grass that was not growing well. His Dad suggested they dig in the poorly growing patch to see if any bugs were eating the grassroots.

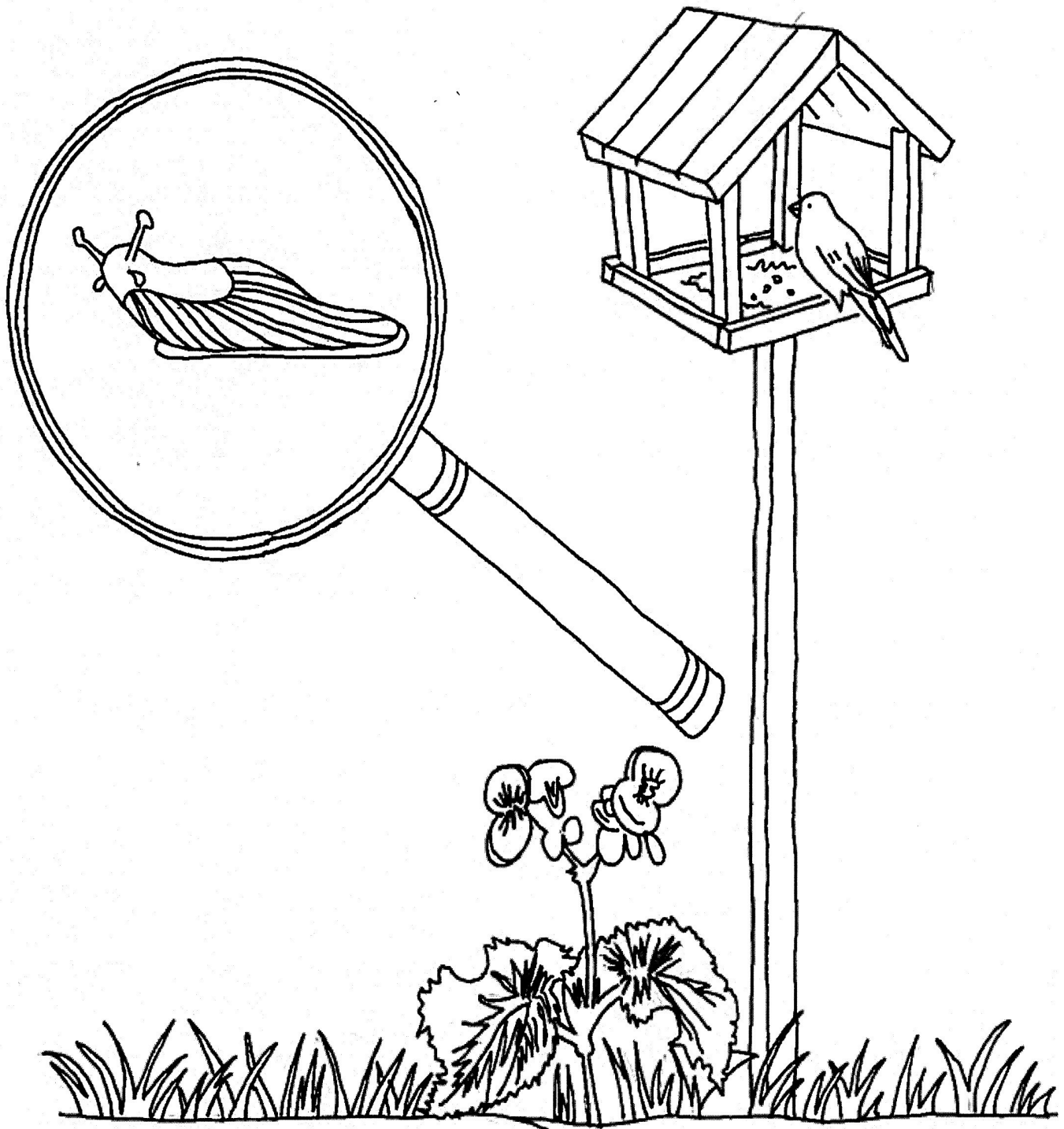


The first bug they observed was a **White Grub**. This is the larva of a **June Bug** or **Beetle**. For almost eleven months, it lives in the ground eating plant roots until it pupates and emerges from the ground as the **Beetle**.



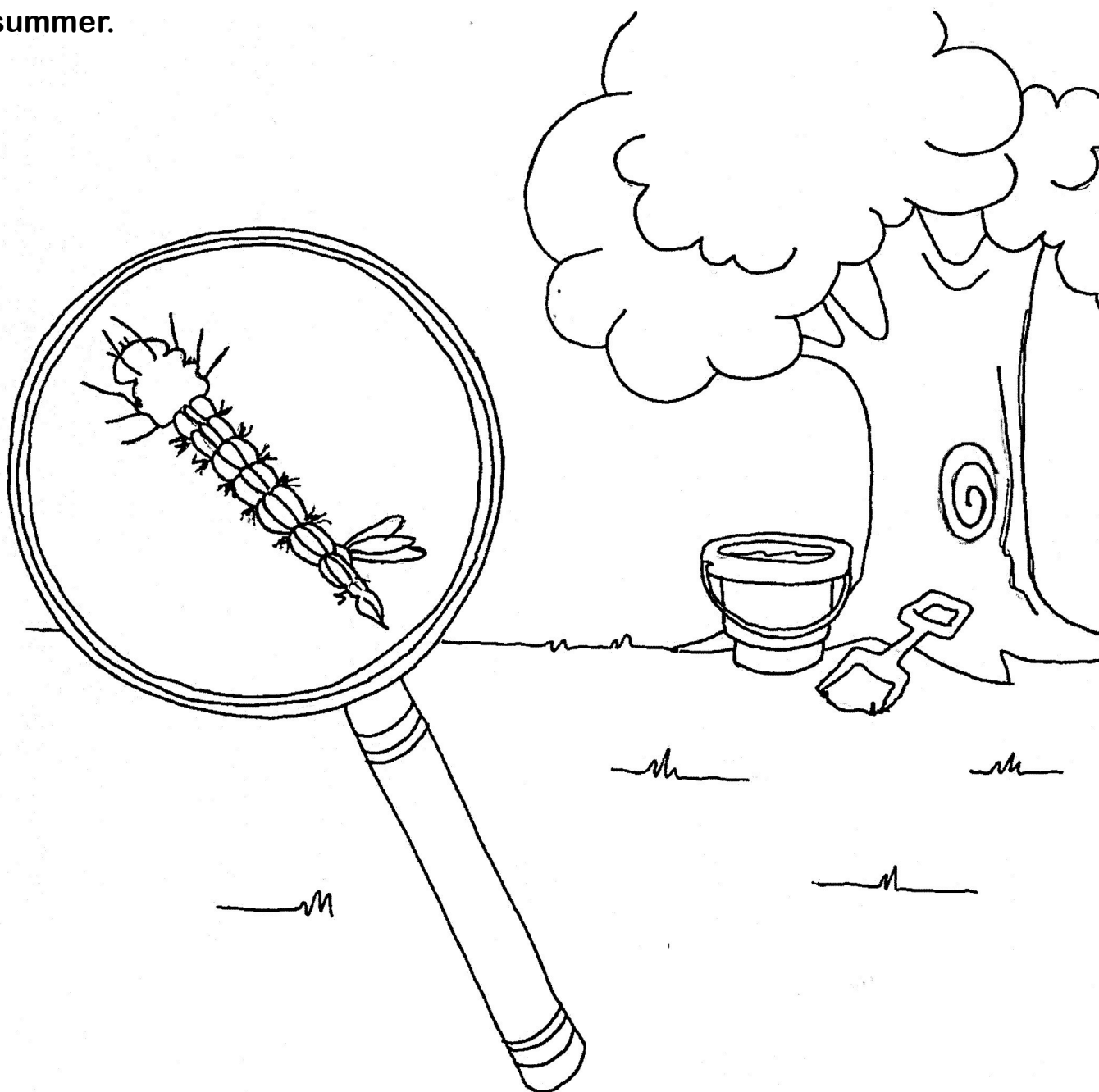
The other bug was an **Earthworm**. Eddie noticed the different rings on the **Earthworm** as it wriggled in his viewer. The **Earthworm** eats dead plant material, so it is not causing the grass to die like the grub is. Eddie's Dad suggested they keep the grub and worm — and go fishing with them after their bug hunt.

As they headed over to the garage to get their fishing poles, Eddie and his Dad stopped to look at the plants under the bird feeder. They had noticed leaves on the begonias had holes in them like something had taken a bite out of them. Eddie laid down and looked with his hand lens and observed a **Slug** next to a begonia.





Under a big tree was a bucket that Eddie had left out. It was filled with water. Before Eddie could pick it up, his Dad picked it up and said they should check in the water to see if they could see anything. Eddie used his hand lens and saw some small bugs wriggling around. His Dad said these were **Mosquito Larva**. He told Eddie that every week they should check their yard for objects that hold water and dump the water out. By doing this, they should not have a problem with **Mosquitos** in their yard this summer.



Eddie and his Dad had a great day walking around the yard looking at bugs! His Dad said that Eddie would make a great **Entomologist**. An **Entomologist** is a person who studies bugs.



This coloring book was written by Ed Olsen, Henrico Agriculture Extension Agent and illustrated by Lindy Durham, Education Specialist for Henricopolis Soil and Water Conservation District. Permission is granted under creative commons to use/adapt. Send us copies.





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