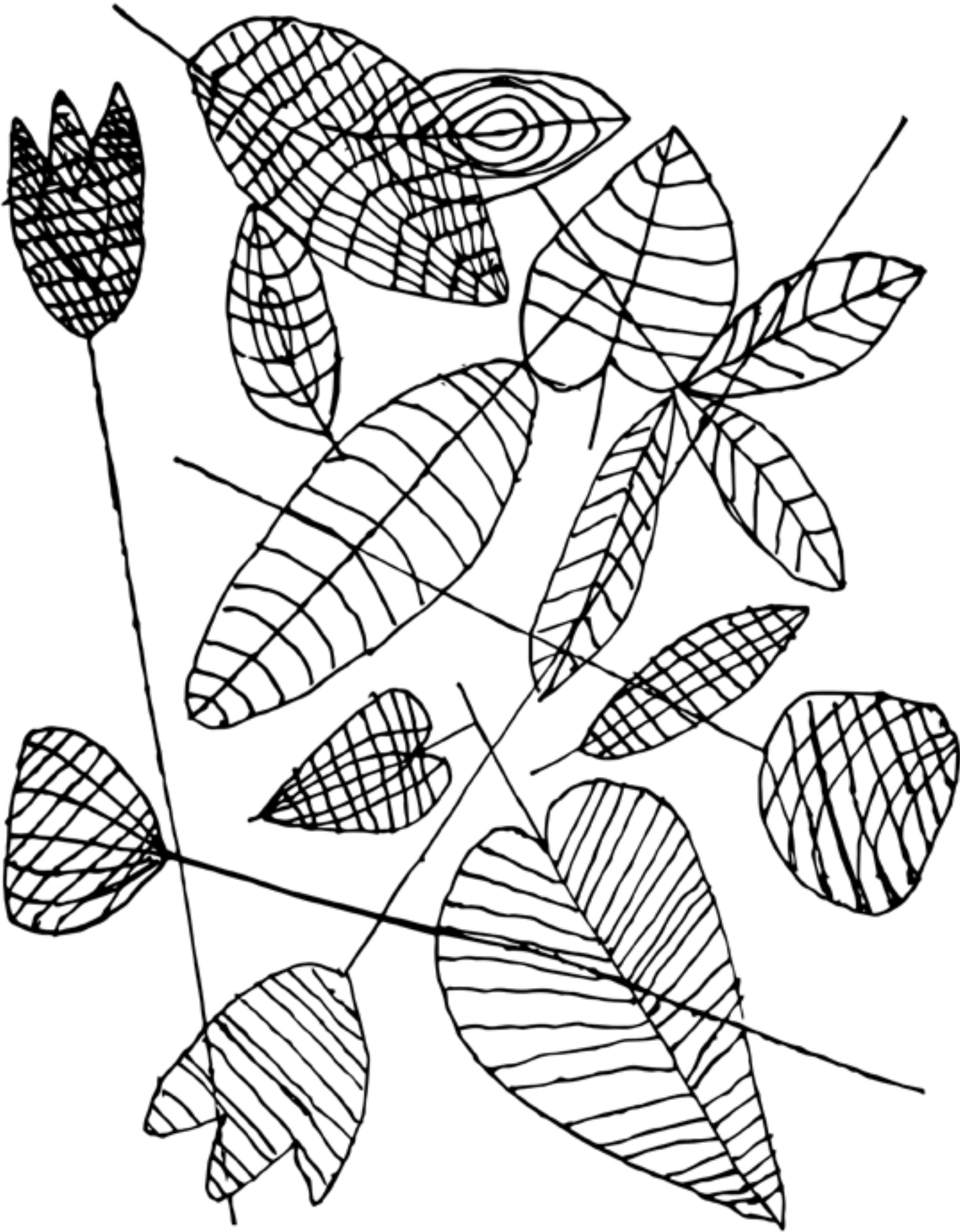




TAKING CARE OF MOTHER EARTH

# TAKING CARE OF MOTHER EARTH

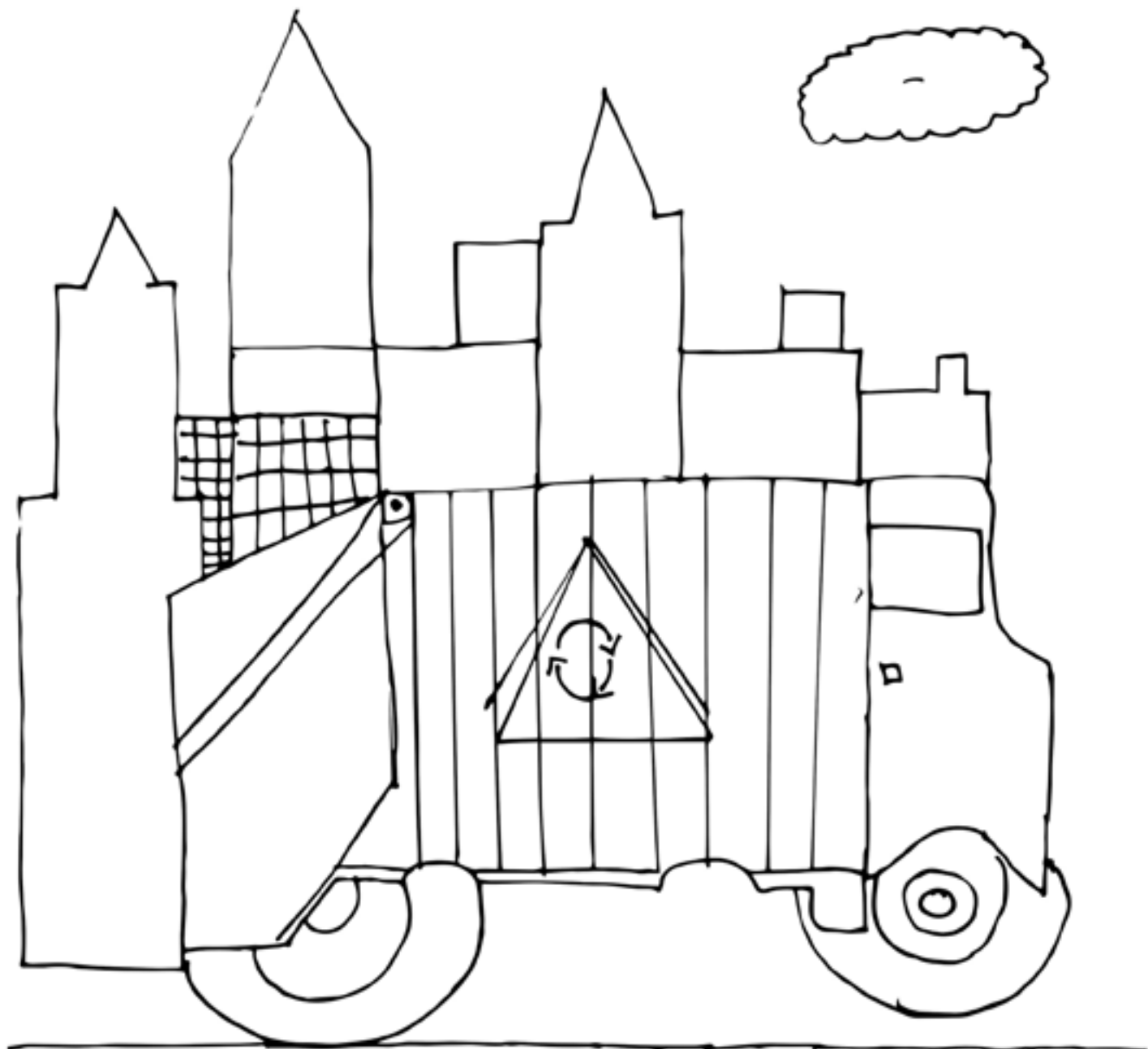
Paige Scott-Cooper  
Rakim Perry  
Breyelle Gupton  
Jamiera Womack  
Jose Pantoja  
Naquan Harmon  
Lawerence Sheared  
Nashay Blancher  
Noellia Rodríguez-Ruiz  
Antoine Rainey  
Abou Diallo  
Abdou Drabo  
Beyonce Harmon  
Devonne Miller



# CAN YOU SEE WHAT RECYCLING CAN DO?

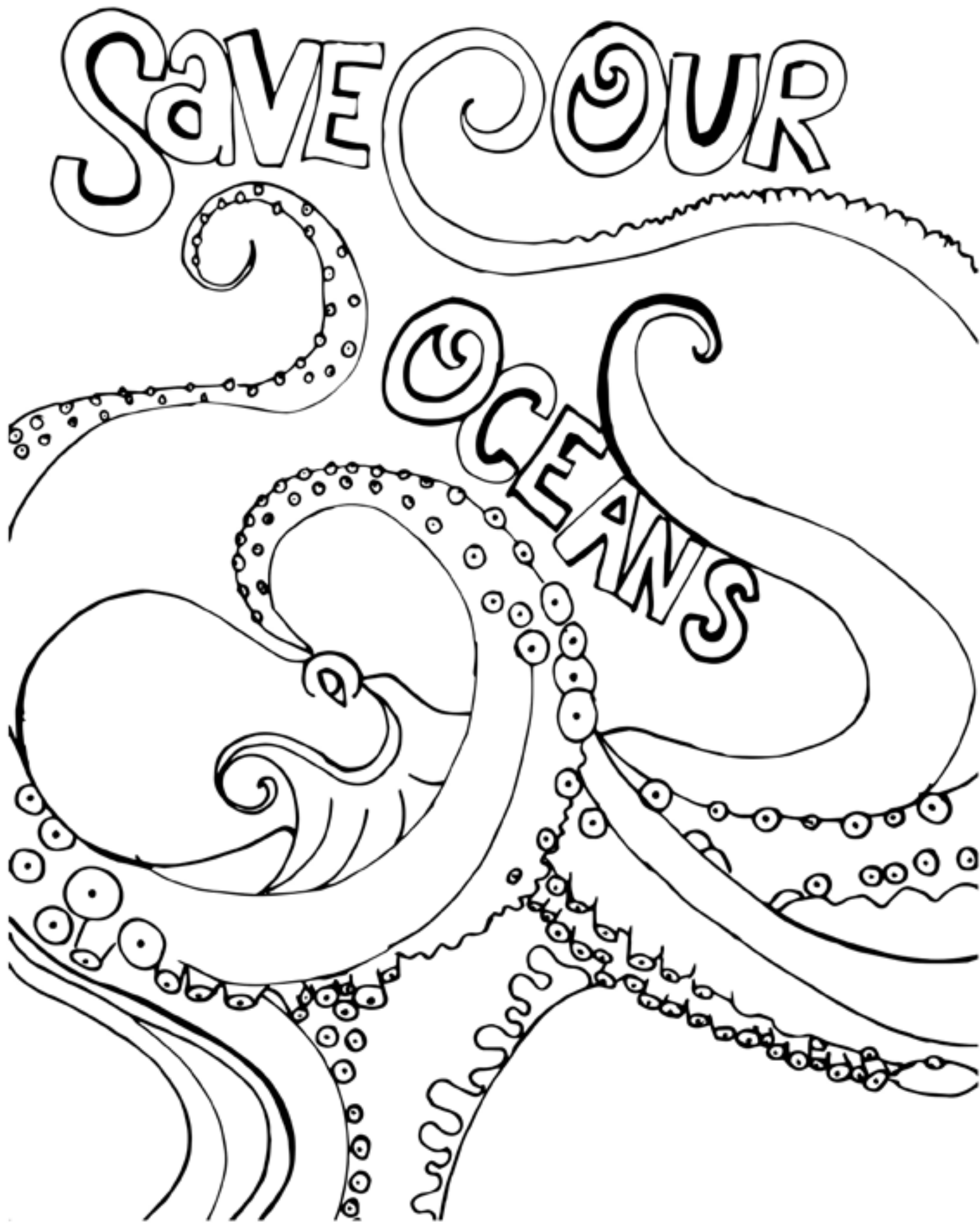


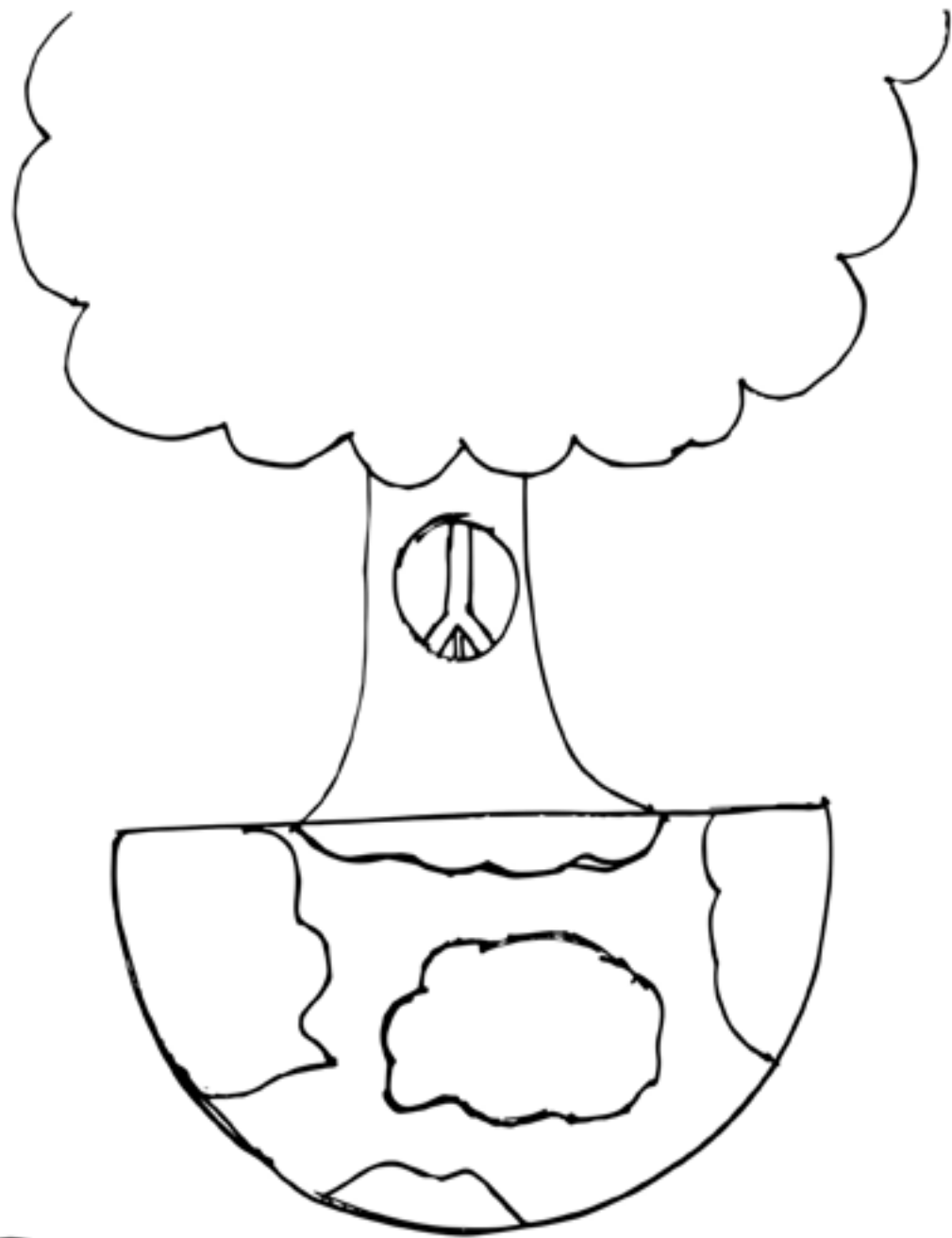
Color in the picture! As you are coloring, see how many items you can think of that can be made from recycled plastic, glass, aluminum or paper. The picture above contains 12 items that can be made from recycled materials. Can you find them all?



Recycle







PEACE AND  
LOVE

# CLOSE THE LOOP:

## BUY PRODUCTS MADE FROM RECYCLED MATERIAL.

Taking your beverage containers to a recycling center is just the beginning of the recycling process. Those materials won't really be recycled until companies use them again to make new things and people buy them. When you buy products made from recycled materials, you are CLOSING THE LOOP.

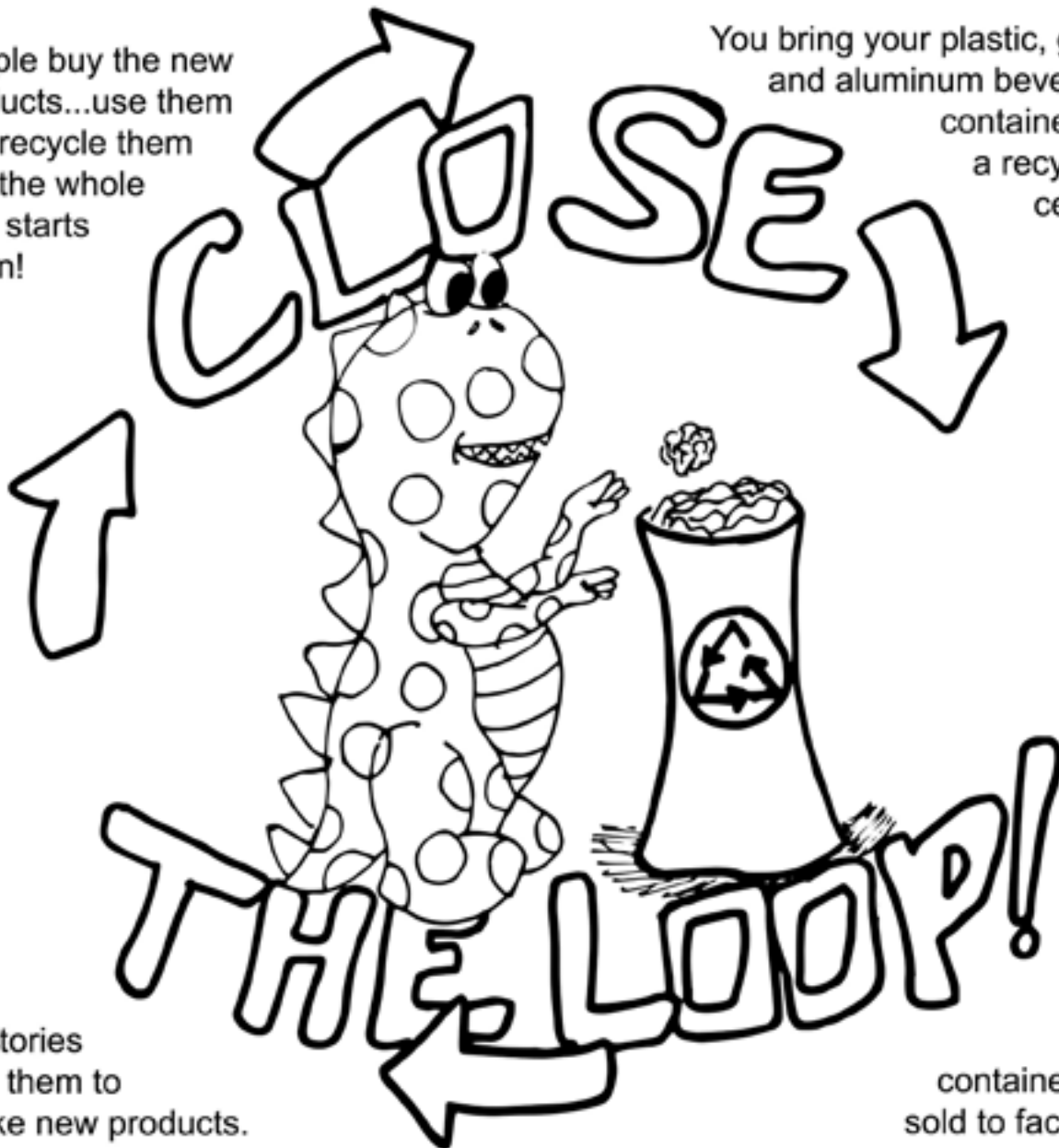
Here's how it works:

**4**

People buy the new products...use them and recycle them and the whole loop starts again!

**1**

You bring your plastic, glass and aluminum beverage containers to a recycling center.



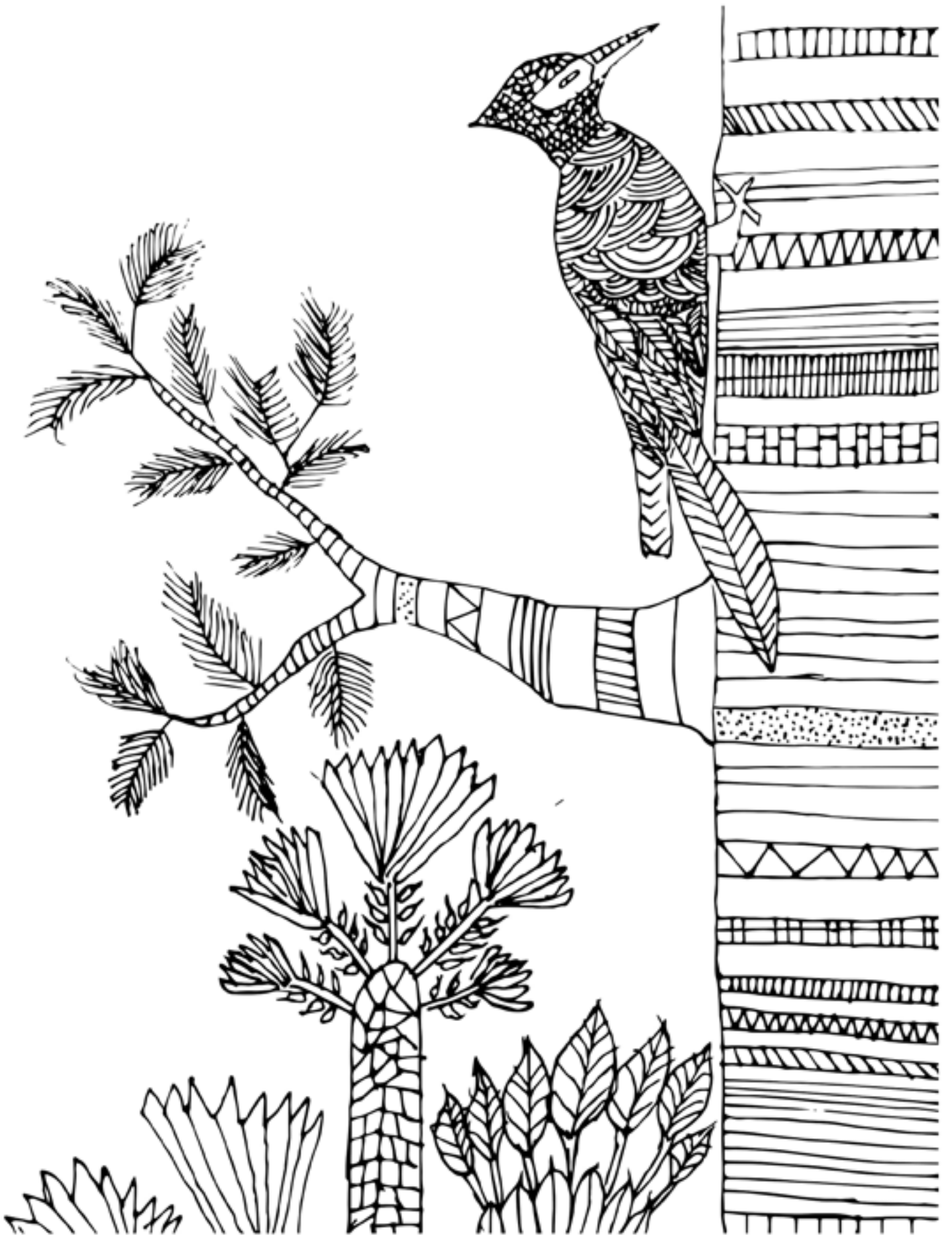
**3**

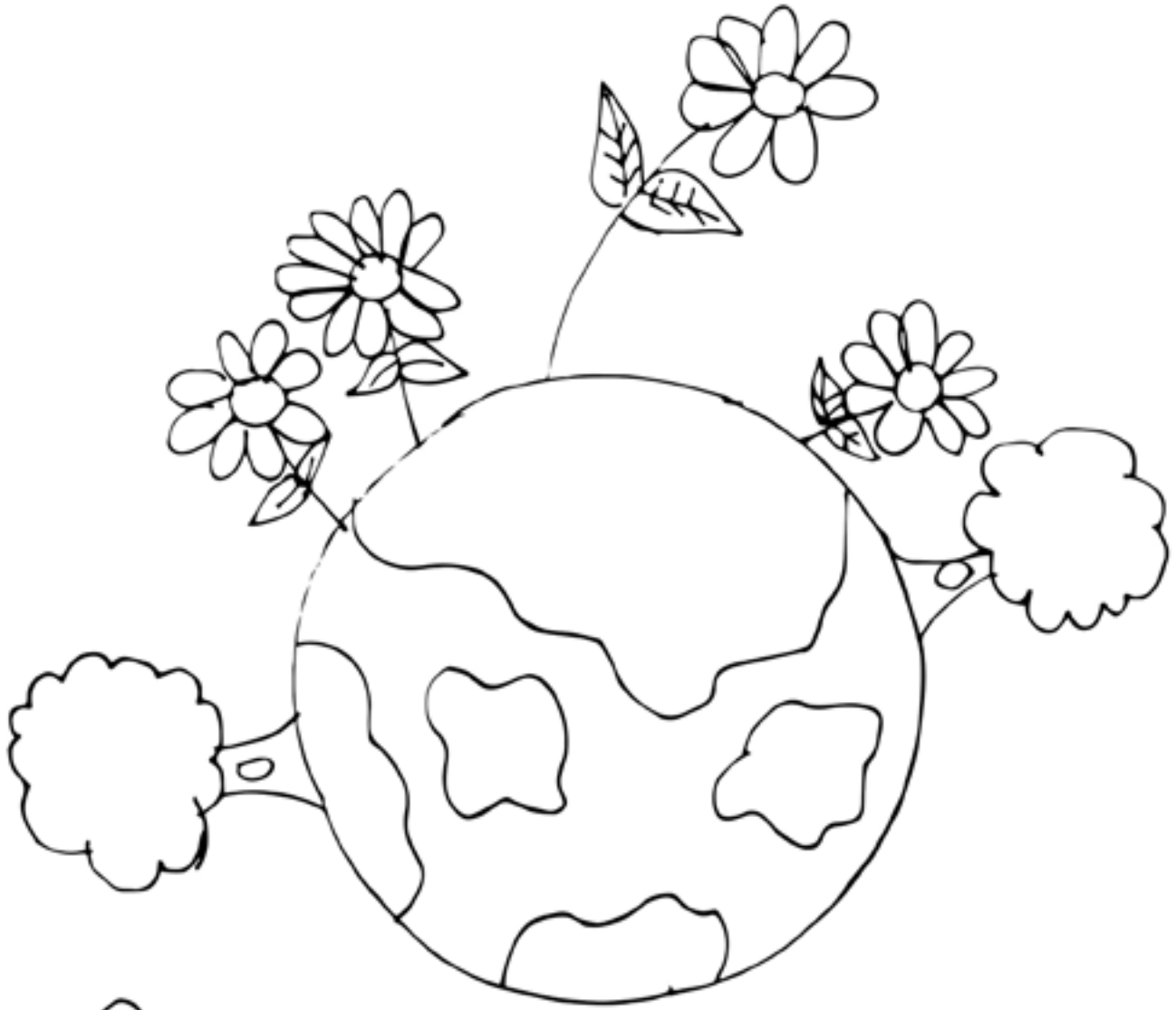
Factories use them to make new products.

**2**

The containers are sold to factories.







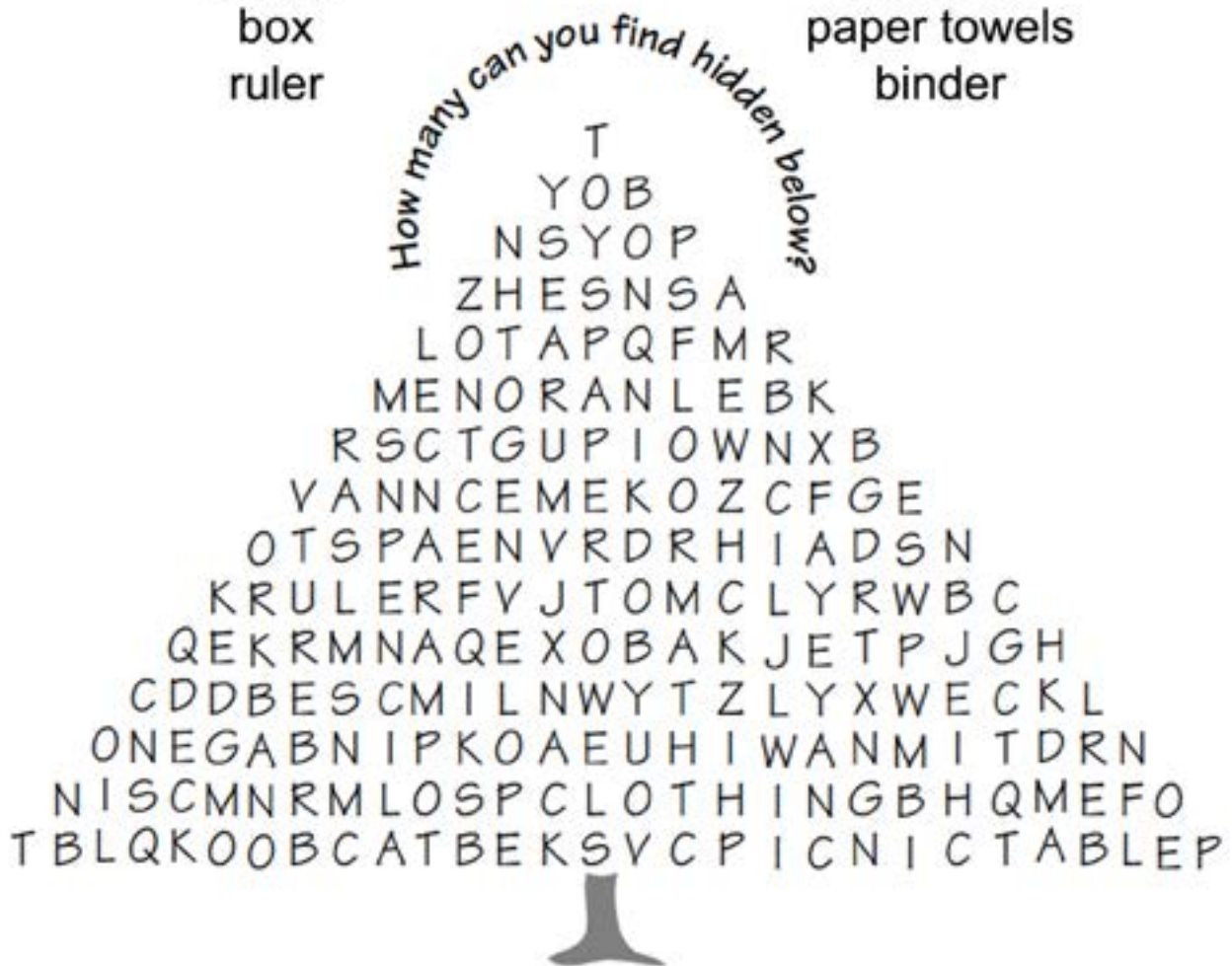
KEEP HER  
PRETTY!

# CLOSE THE LOOP, BUY RECYCLED

All of these can be made from recycled materials.

carpet  
bag  
tile  
shoes  
toys  
pencil  
box  
ruler

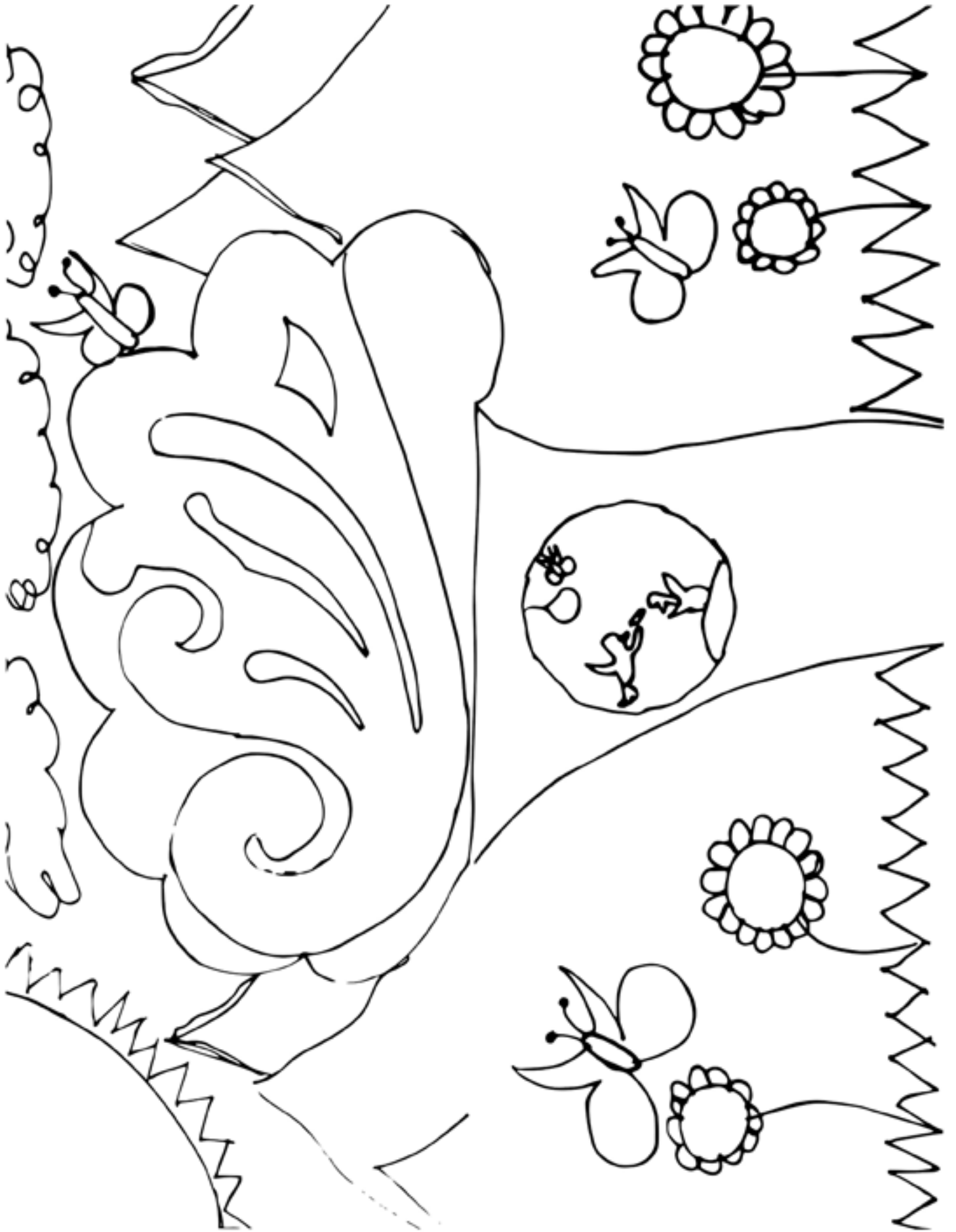
picnic table  
floor mat  
book  
park bench  
clothing  
envelope  
paper towels  
binder





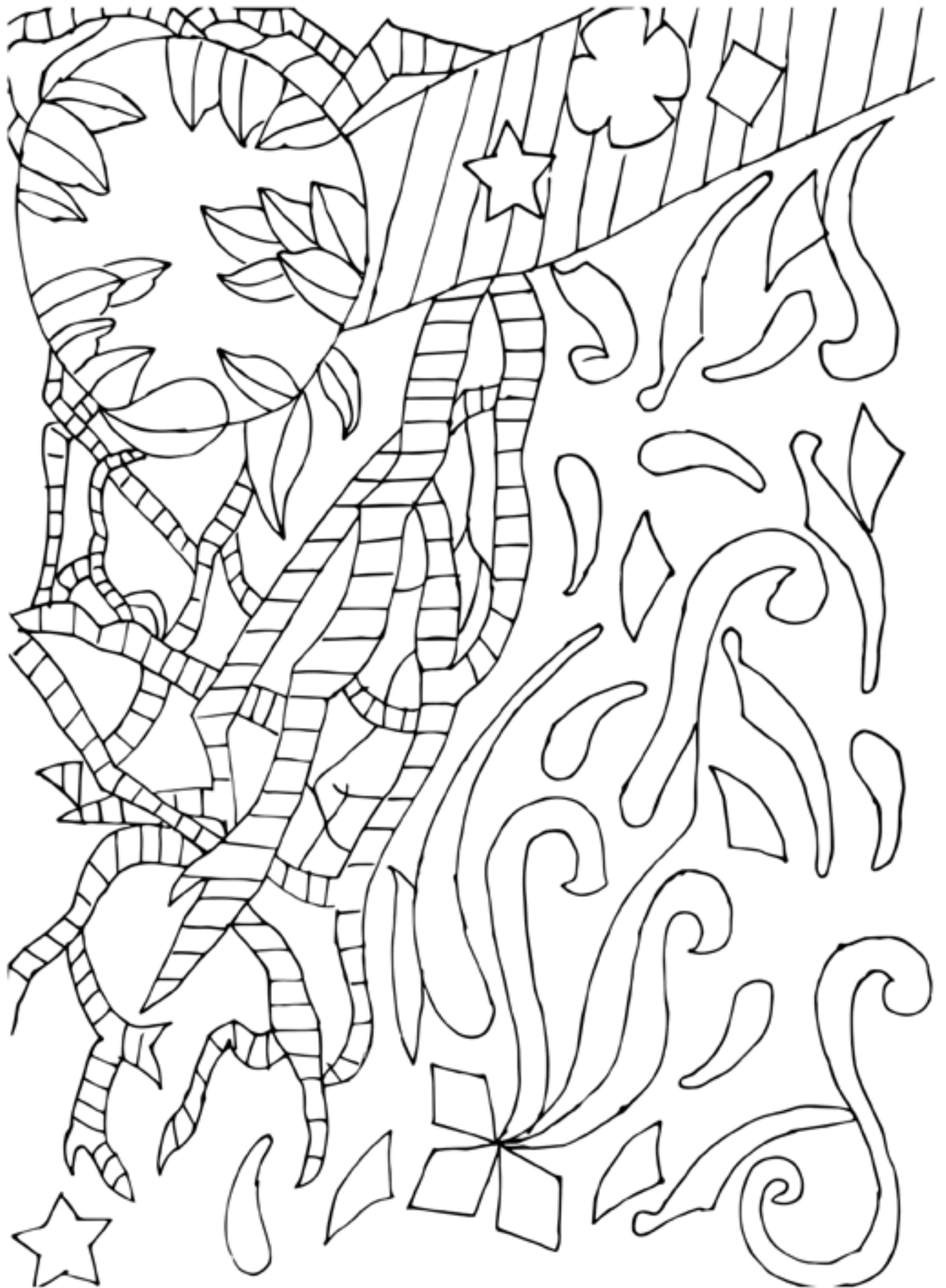
**Be Kind to all Living Things**













Keep Calm



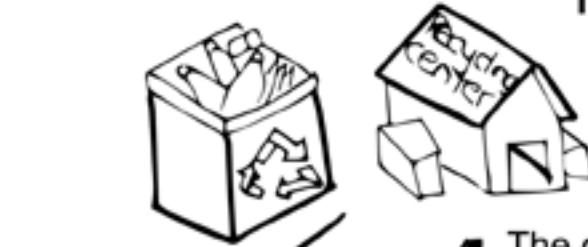
& Keep Earth  
CLEAN

# GLASS RECYCLING PROCESS

Have you ever thought about what happens to the glass bottles that you place into the curbside recycle bin or take to the recycling center to be recycled?

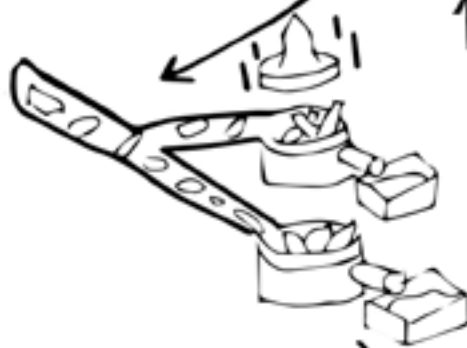
Recycled glass can be used to make marbles, jars, bottles, plates, bowls, tile and more!

This is how:

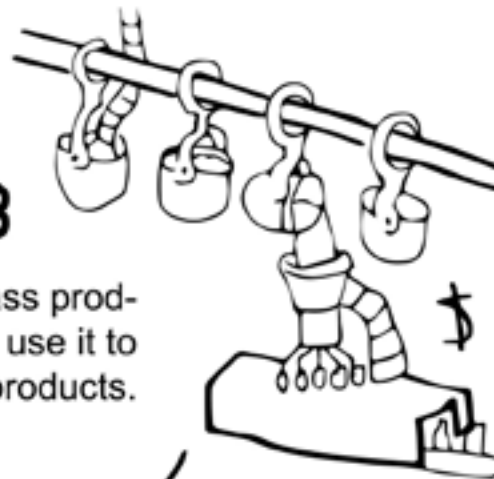


**1** The glass bottles collected from your curbside bins are taken to the recycling center.

**2** At the recycling center, the glass containers are sorted by color and transported to a processing facility where they are cleaned and crushed into tiny pieces called cullet.



**3**



Companies that make glass products buy the cullet and use it to make new products.

This cycle repeats itself again when we buy the new products, such as glass bottles, and recycle them.





# PLASTIC

Recycled soda and water bottles are made from PET plastic. PET is short for Polyethylene Terephthalate (pol-y-'Eth-yl-lene ter-'Eph-tha-late).

You can identify PET Plastic containers by looking for this symbol on the bottom of the bottle.



---

It can take up to 700 years for plastic to decompose (break down and disappear) in our landfills or dumps.

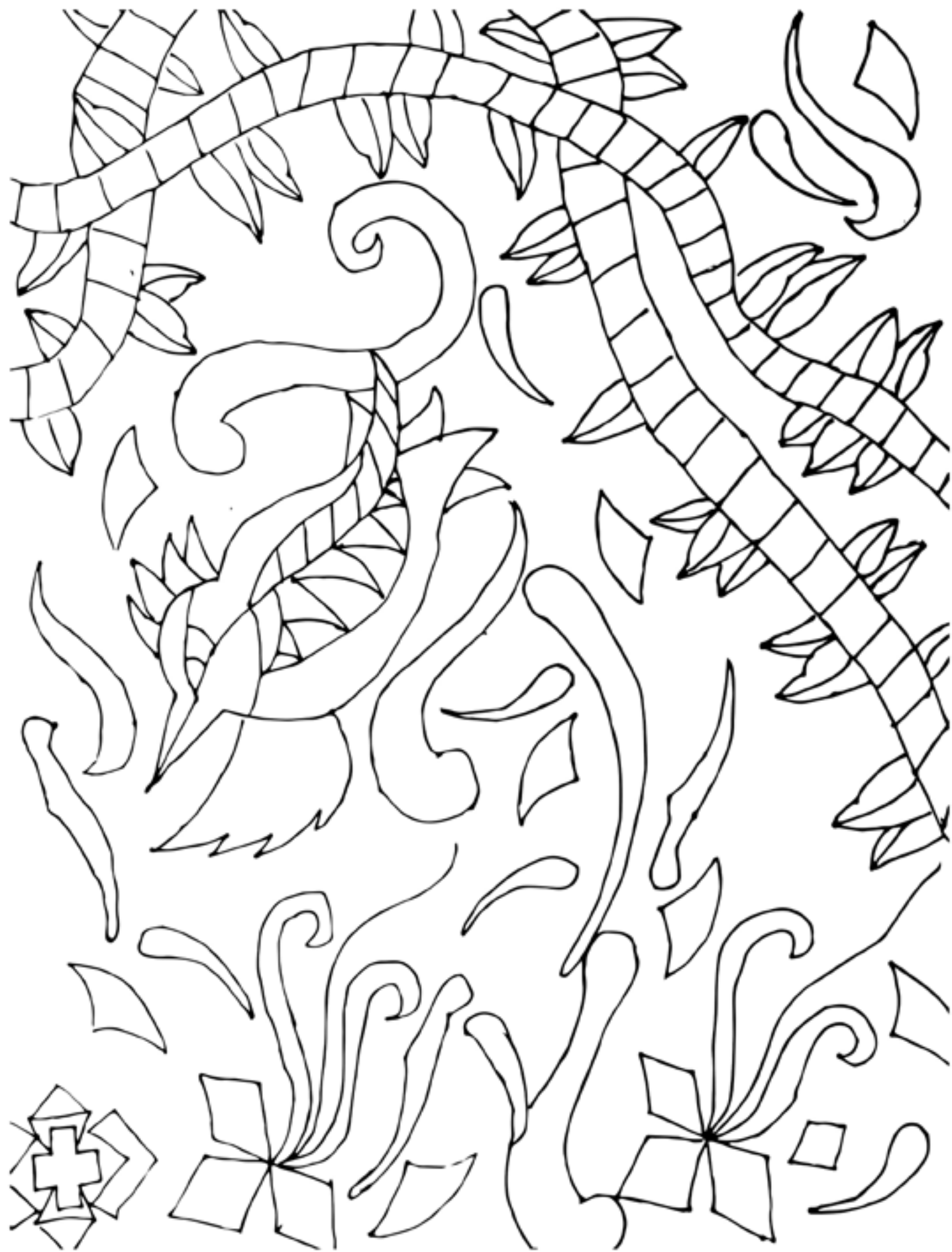
---

PET plastic can be recycled into; clothing, fiberfill for sleeping bags, stuffed animals, toys, rulers, and more!

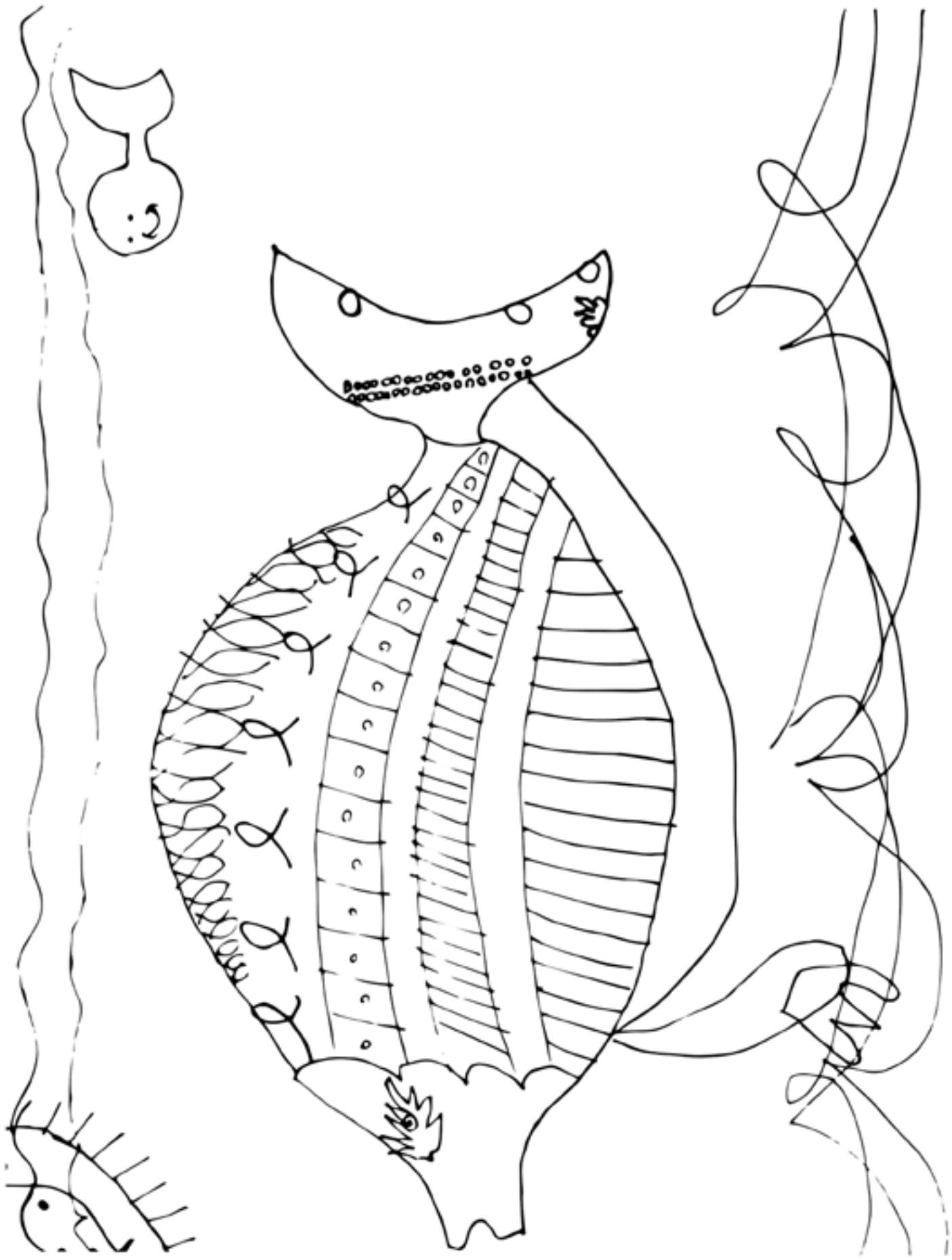
---

Plastic bottles can be recycled and reused. Reuse your plastic bottles by filling them with water or juice and placing them in the freezer. Put one in your lunch box and it will double as an ice pack. At lunchtime, you'll have an ice-cold beverage! When you're done reusing your plastic bottle, recycle it!









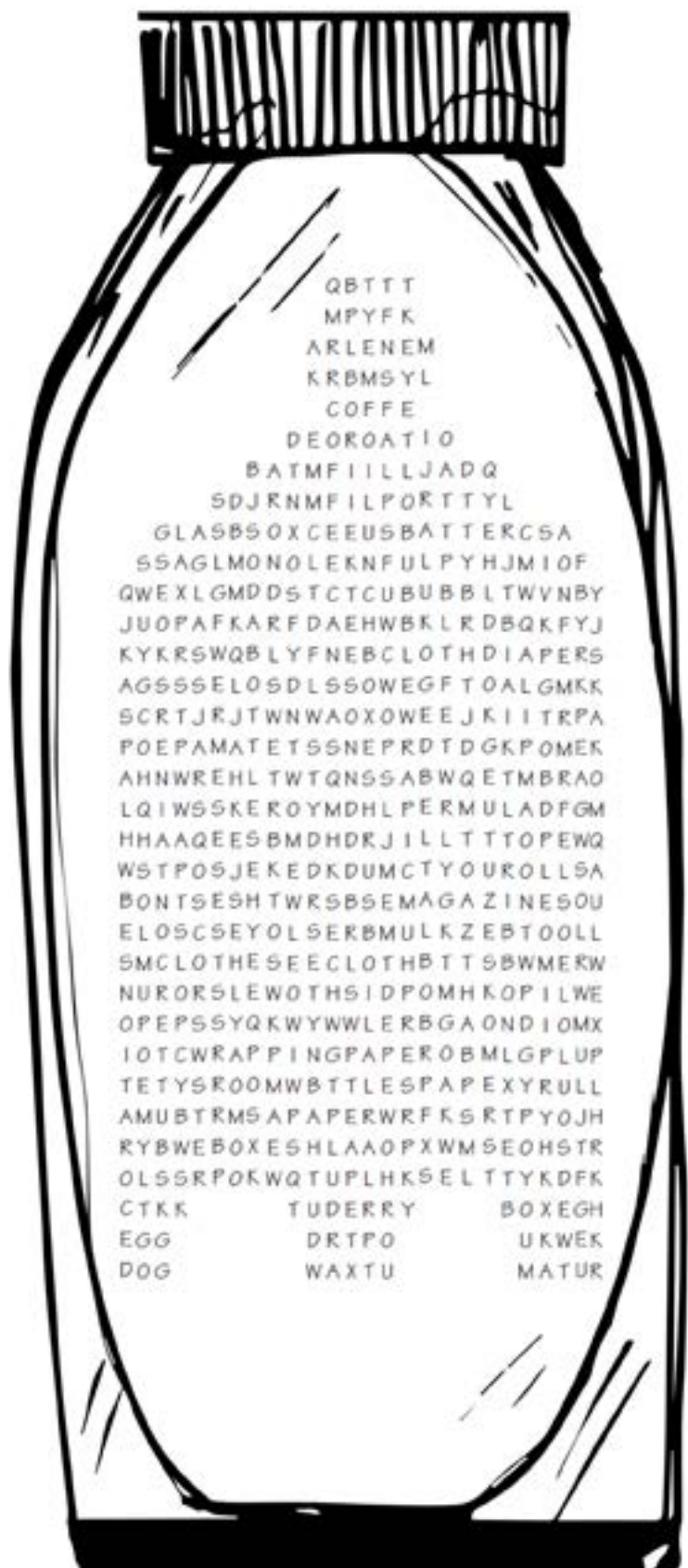




# WHAT CAN YOU REUSE?

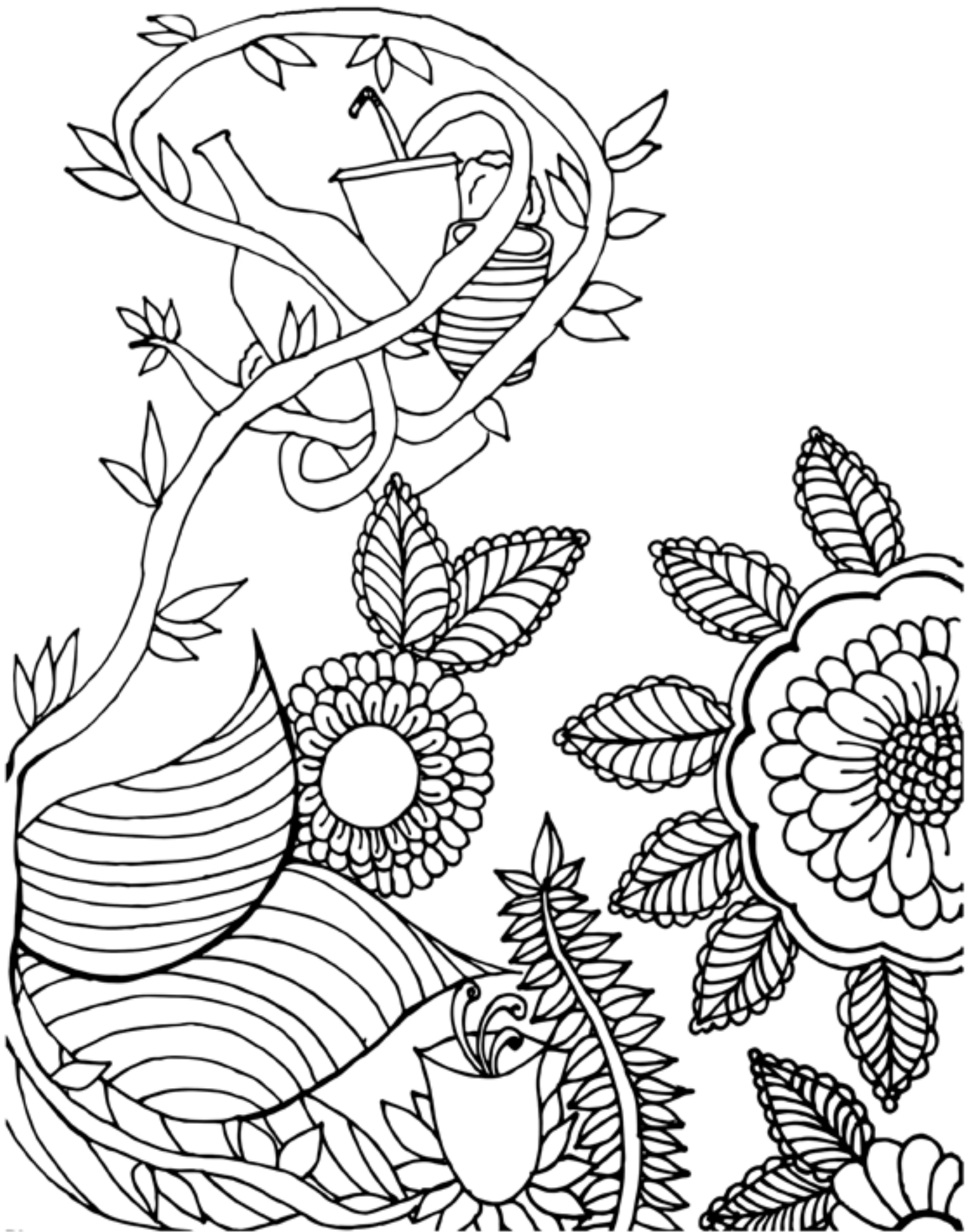
Can you believe that some people think the only thing you can reuse is your toothbrush? We know better, don't we? All the items listed here are examples of things we use everyday that we can reuse over and over and over and over and over (well, you get the idea). See how many of the items you can find in the word search below. Circle each word you find?

- Boxes
- Bubble Wrap
- Butter Containers
- Cloth Diapers
- Clothes
- Coffee Cans
- Decorations
- Dish Towels
- Foil
- Glass Jars
- Lunch Boxes
- Magazines
- Ribbon
- Paper
- Shoes
- Soda Bottles
- Wrapping Paper





Never Miss  
That  
Shot To  
Make  
A  
Difference





KEEP ME  
CLEAN



TAKE OF ME  
CARE



HEAL THE WORLD

# WHAT HAPPENS TO RECYCLED PLASTIC?

**1**

Plastic containers are brought to the recycling center where they are sorted by type and sometimes by color. They are crushed together and formed into a huge cube or bale.



**2**

The bales of plastic are shipped to a plastic processing plant.



**3**

The plastic is broken apart and shredded into flakes or pellets and then cleaned.



**4**

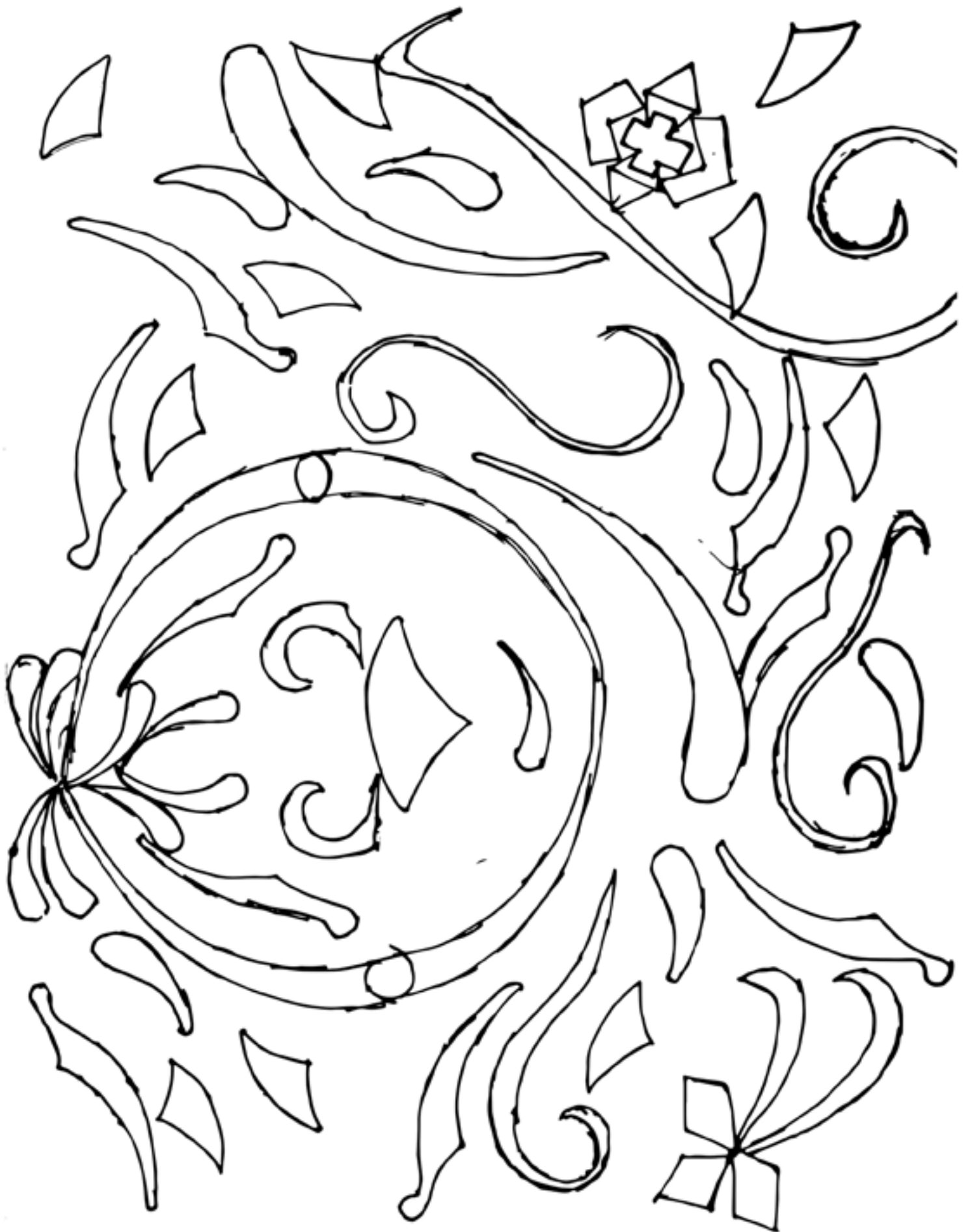
The flakes or pellets are shipped to manufacturers of plastic goods.

**5**

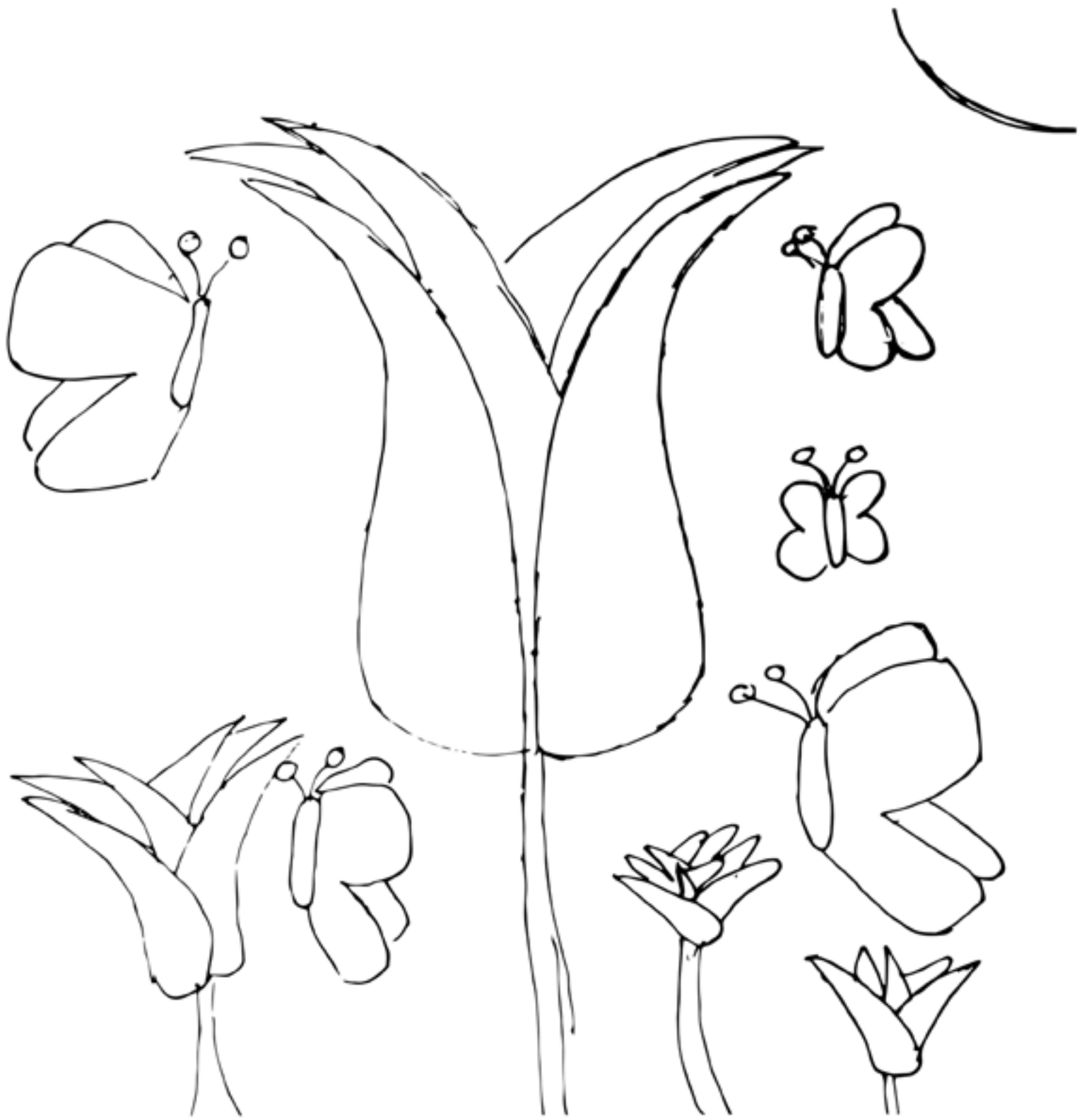
The manufacturer melts the plastic flakes or pellets down for molding into new products like:  
fiberfill for sleeping bags  
plastic lumber  
containers for non-food products  
toys  
compost bins  
rulers  
T-shirts











# Recycle WHY?

Recycling helps us preserve our environment and keeps garbage out of our landfills. There are also a lot of other reasons to recycle. Complete the crossword to find out why we should recycle.

## ACROSS

1. Recycling saves natural \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Recycling, instead of littering, protects \_\_\_\_\_.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ never wears out, it can be recycled forever.
8. Recycling helps keep fewer materials from going to the \_\_\_\_\_. Many are already full which means we need to find new places to put garbage.
9. You can earn \_\_\_\_\_ by turning in your beverage containers at the recycling center.
11. Recycling lets us reuse \_\_\_\_\_ instead of having to get more from the Earth all over again.
12. It takes 20 times more energy to make an \_\_\_\_\_ can from new materials than from recycled materials.

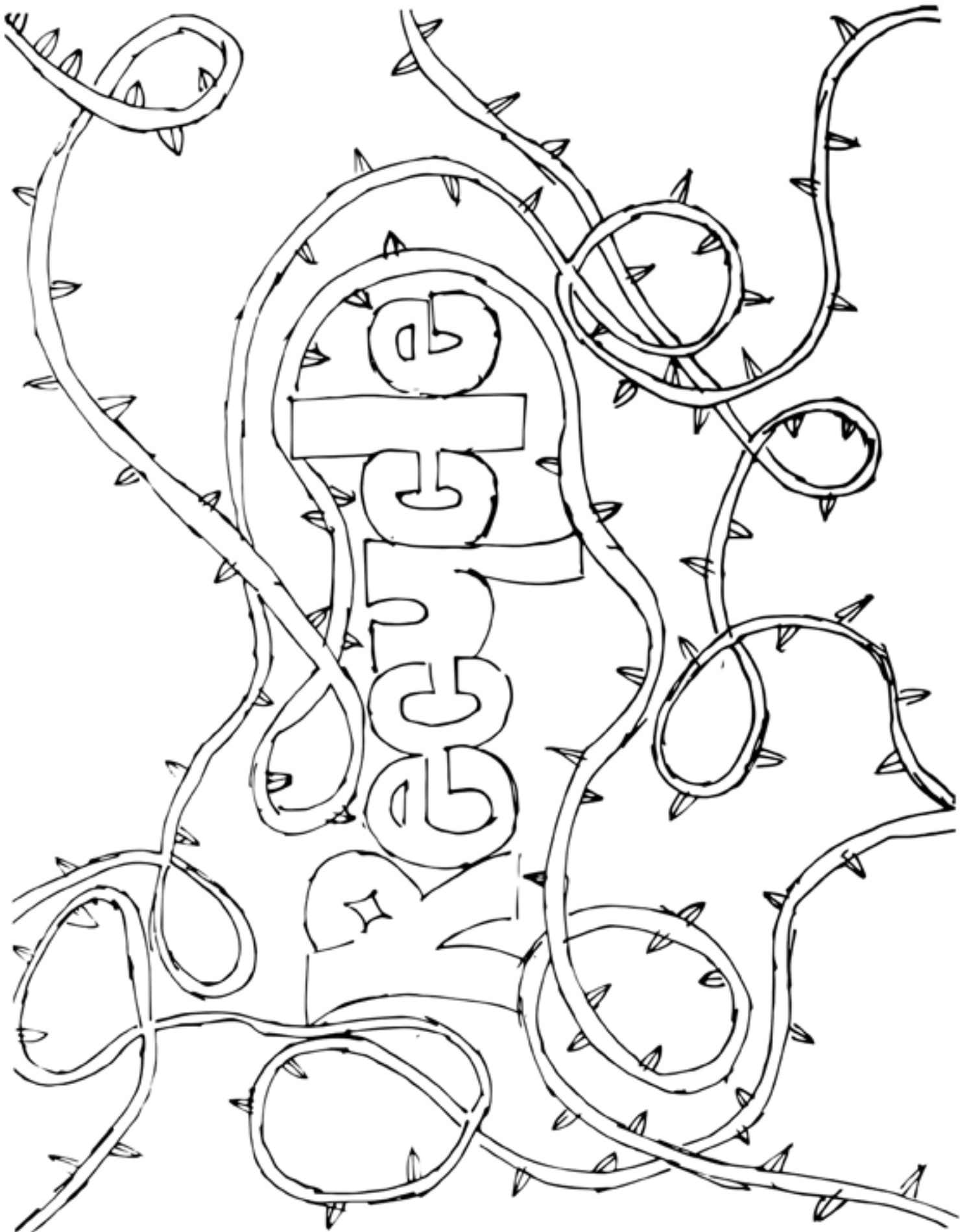
## DOWN

2. Recycling creates less \_\_\_\_\_ in the air.
3. If we create less garbage, our communities can \_\_\_\_\_ landfill space.
5. Taking things that would be \_\_\_\_\_ and reusing them is a great way to help save the Earth.
7. It takes less \_\_\_\_\_ to make a new product from recycled materials than it does from raw materials.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ must recycle in order to make the world a better place.

## USE THESE WORDS

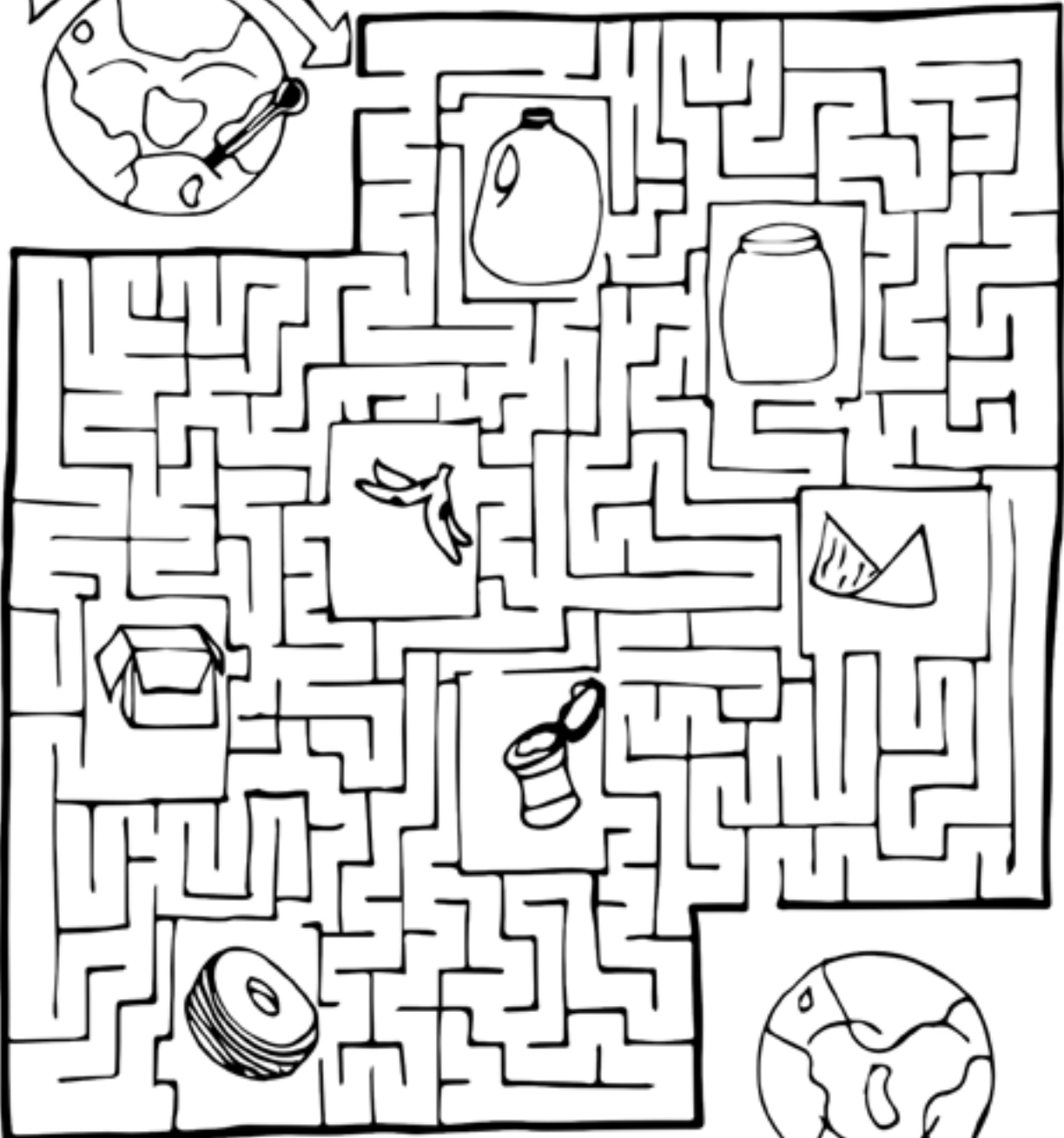
aluminum  
garbage  
landfill  
resources  
everyone  
save  
money  
energy  
animals  
materials  
pollution  
glass





# TRASH MAZE

Find your way through the maze and collect all of the the trash. Are all of these items made out of recycled materials? Which one of these items can you take to the recycling center and redeem for money? What other ways can you reuse your glass and plastic containers?



GO



GREEN!

# TAKING CARE OF MOTHER EARTH



Only together can we begin to create a cleaner neighborhood, city and world. This is the belief of the student artists in The City of Philadelphia Mural Arts Program's Trash Academy. Each page of this activity book was drawn by hand with the hope of educating communities about reducing, reusing, and recycling, and how these practices have a positive impact on the environment.

Taking Care of Mother Earth  
LEAD TEACHING ARTIST: Patricia Barrera  
ASSISTANT TEACHING ARTIST: Christina Rhodes

TRASH ACADEMY. Trash is a pernicious problem across the city (nicknamed "Filthadelphia") and is pervasive in Southeast Philadelphia. Trash Academy is a "collaboratory" with community residents of South Philadelphia, Margaret Kearney, The City of Philadelphia Mural Arts Program's Restored Spaces Initiative, and LandHealth Institute.

RESTORED SPACES. Mural Arts' Restored Spaces Initiative uses socially-engaged public art as a platform for neighborhood change. The initiative works hand-in-hand with diverse groups including grassroots community organizations, activists, nonprofits, and engaged neighbors to develop and plan projects at the intersection of public art, social justice, and the environment.

SPONSORS: Major support for Trash Academy is provided by the Surdna Foundation, Philadelphia Youth Network, and the City of Philadelphia Department of Human Services. Restored Spaces is funded by PTS Foundation, Surdna Foundation, and the FAO Schwarz Family Foundation.

