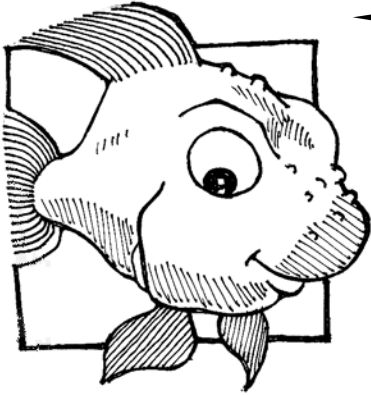
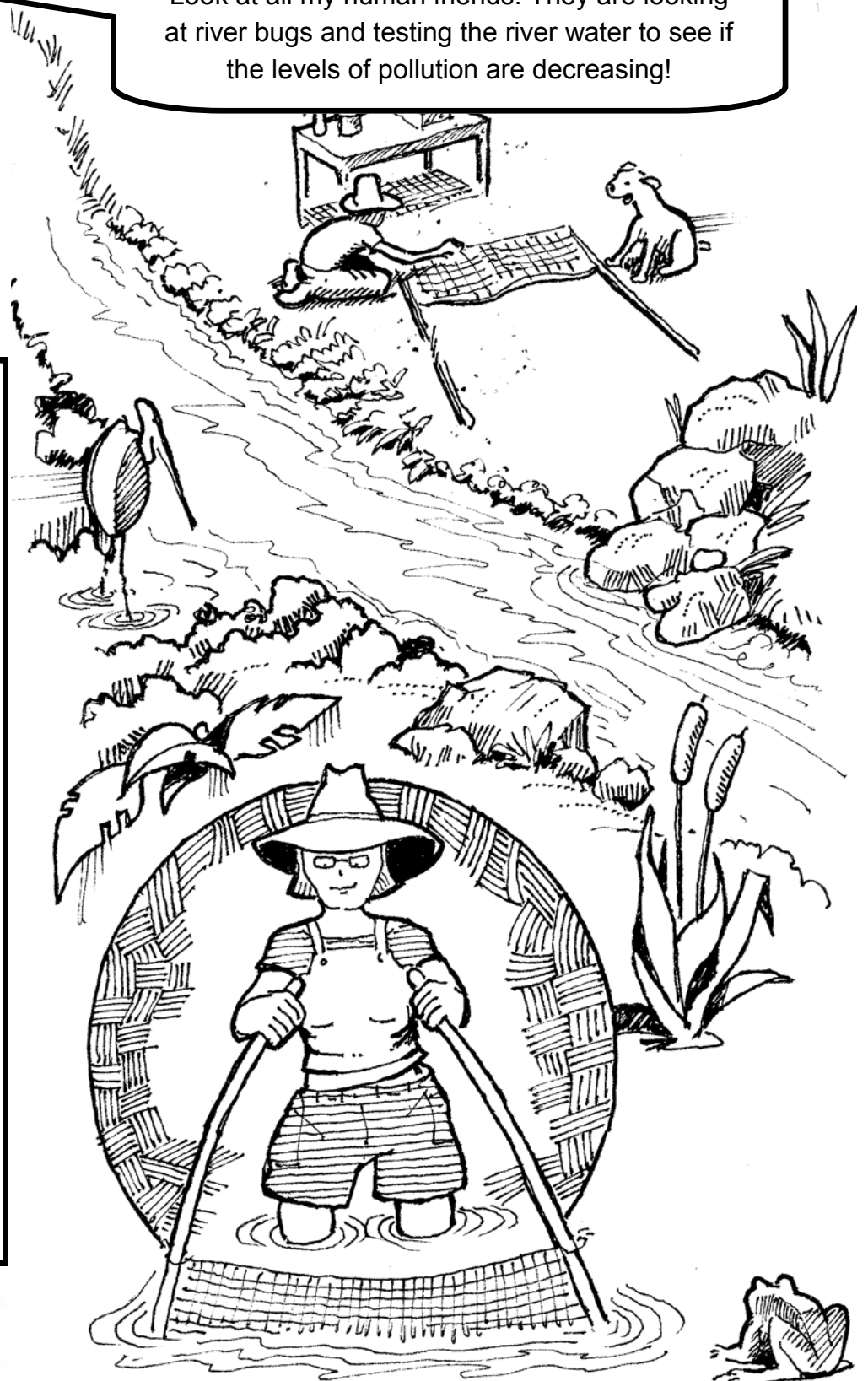


How do Stanley's FRIENDS protect the river?



Look at all my human friends! They are looking at river bugs and testing the river water to see if the levels of pollution are decreasing!



You can measure how healthy a river is by looking at what lives there. Volunteers use nets to catch “**benthic macroinvertebrates**”, otherwise known as river bugs.

Benthic means they live on the bottom of the river.

Macro means they are big enough to see without a microscope.

And **invertebrates** means they are organisms that don't have a backbone.

By seeing what types of bugs or organisms are the most common, they can tell how healthy a river environment is, or if the water is polluted or dirty.

