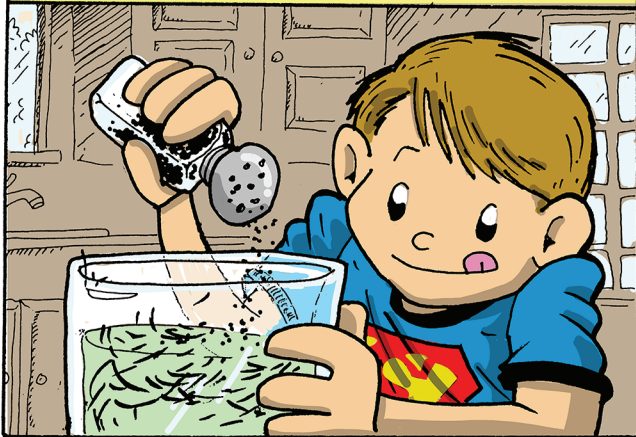


# THE Diabolical Dr. NoNoNo

OH, I'M NOT THAT BAD 

HAVE YOU EVER FELT COMPELLED TO MIX HANDFULS OF GRASS WITH COLORED WATER AND PEPPER?

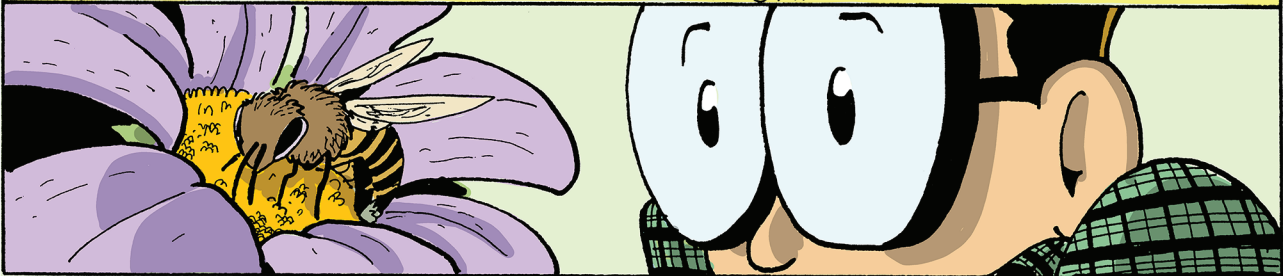


WHEN WAS IT (EXACTLY) THAT MOST OF US STOPPED VIEWING RABBITS AS MYSTERIOUS VISITORS AND STARTED SEEING THEM AS GARDEN PESTS?



ME? I'M A SCIENTIST, EXPERIMENTATION AND WONDER ARE MY BUSINESS.

THAT'S WHY I BECAME A BIOLOGIST. I LOVE THE CREEPY, CRAWLING THINGS THAT MOST PEOPLE OVERLOOK.



SURELY, GIVEN MY INTELLECTUAL PREDILECTIONS, I WOULD MAKE A PERFECT MENTOR FOR THE BUDDING YOUNG SCIENTISTS IN MY FAMILY....



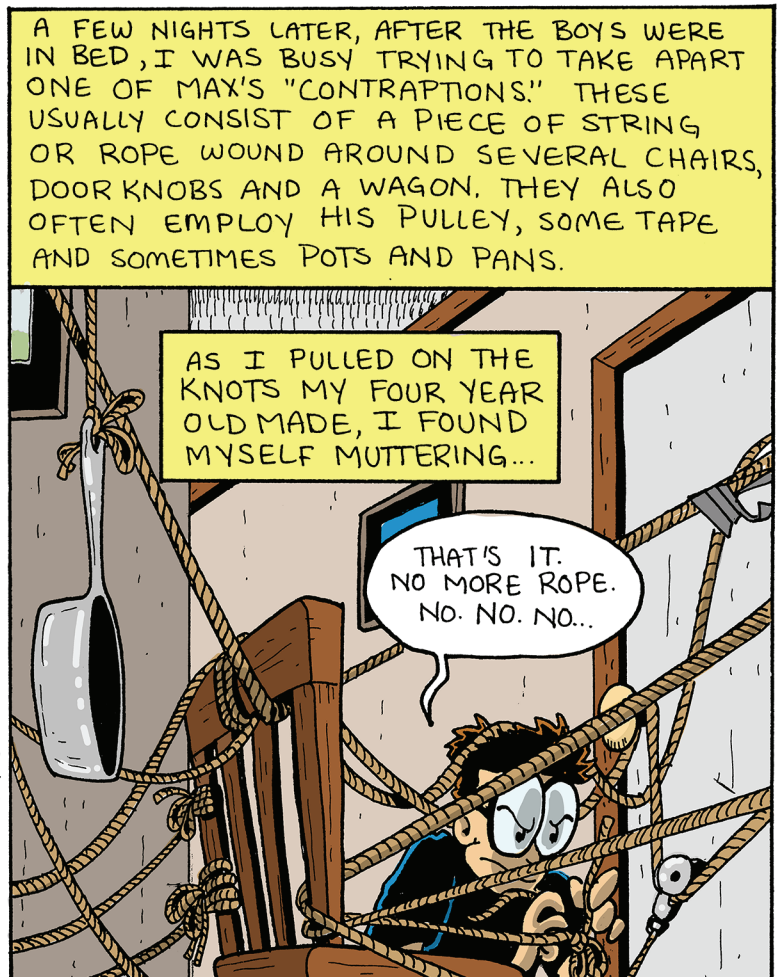
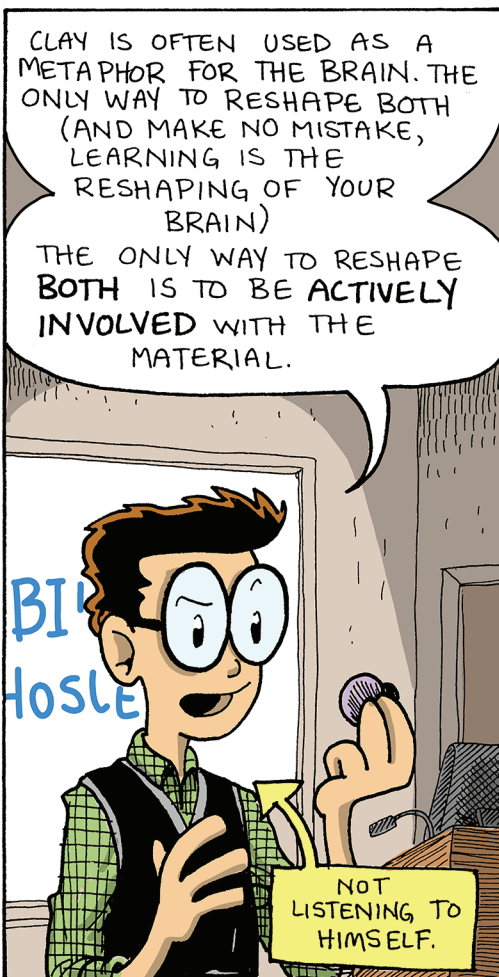
\*NAKENS = SNAKES  
(JACK THINKS WORMS ARE SNAKES.)

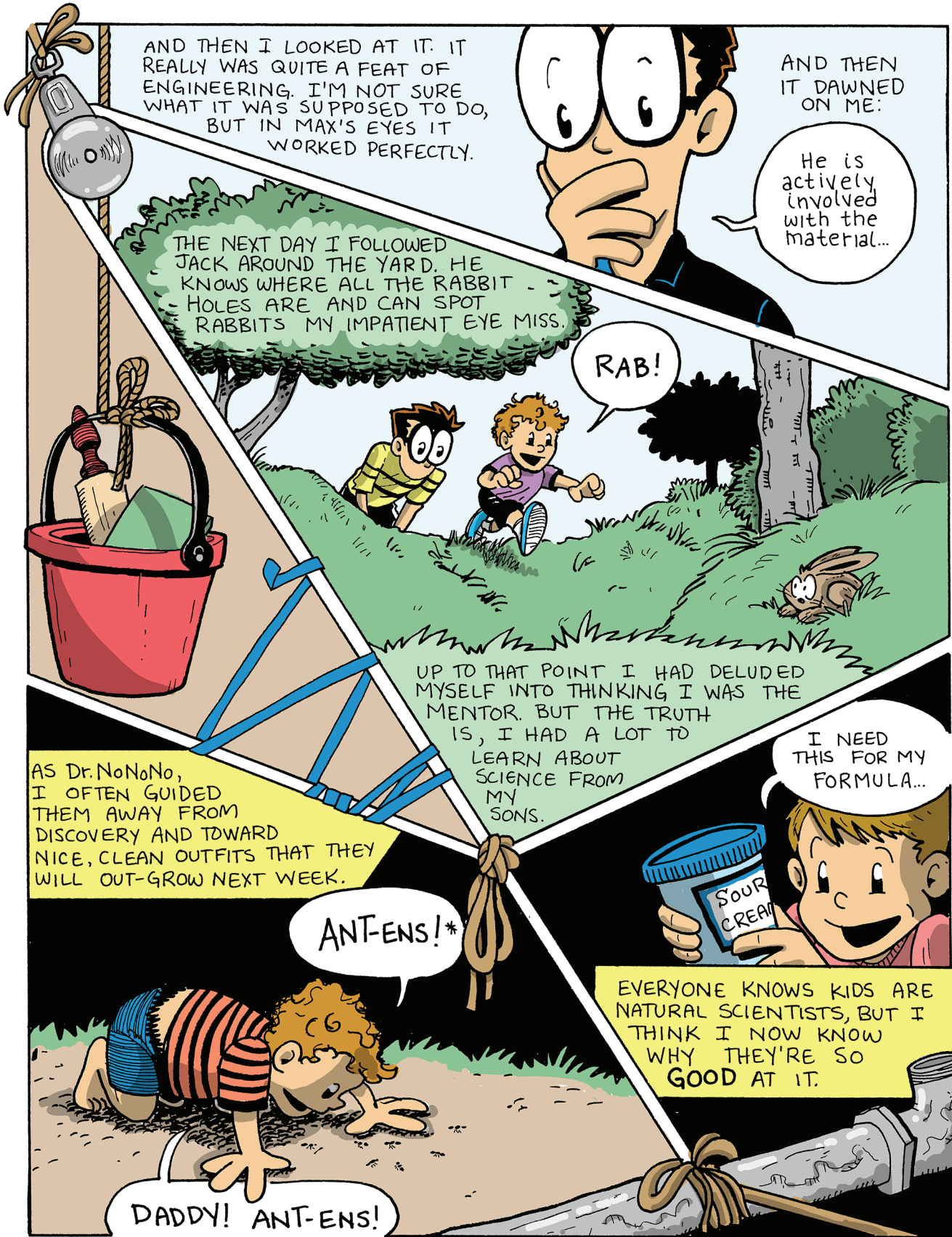


OF COURSE, GETTING "DIRTY" IS THE POINT WHEN YOU'RE DOING SCIENCE. AT THE START OF EACH SEMESTER, I PASS OUT SMALL BALLS OF KOOL-AID PLAY-DOUGH (MADE BY MAX AND JACK) AND ASK THE STUDENTS TO RESHAPE THE BALLS INTO CUBES. THERE ARE ONLY TWO SIMPLE RULES:



IT'S IMPOSSIBLE, OF COURSE.





AND THEN I LOOKED AT IT. IT REALLY WAS QUITE A FEAT OF ENGINEERING. I'M NOT SURE WHAT IT WAS SUPPOSED TO DO, BUT IN MAX'S EYES IT WORKED PERFECTLY.

AND THEN IT DAWNED ON ME:

He is actively involved with the material...

THE NEXT DAY I FOLLOWED JACK AROUND THE YARD. HE KNOWS WHERE ALL THE RABBIT HOLES ARE AND CAN SPOT RABBITS MY IMPATIENT EYE MISS.

RAB!

UP TO THAT POINT I HAD DELUDED MYSELF INTO THINKING I WAS THE MENTOR. BUT THE TRUTH IS, I HAD A LOT TO LEARN ABOUT SCIENCE FROM MY SONS.

AS Dr.NoNoNo, I OFTEN GUIDED THEM AWAY FROM DISCOVERY AND TOWARD NICE, CLEAN OUTFITS THAT THEY WILL OUT-GROW NEXT WEEK.

I NEED THIS FOR MY FORMULA...

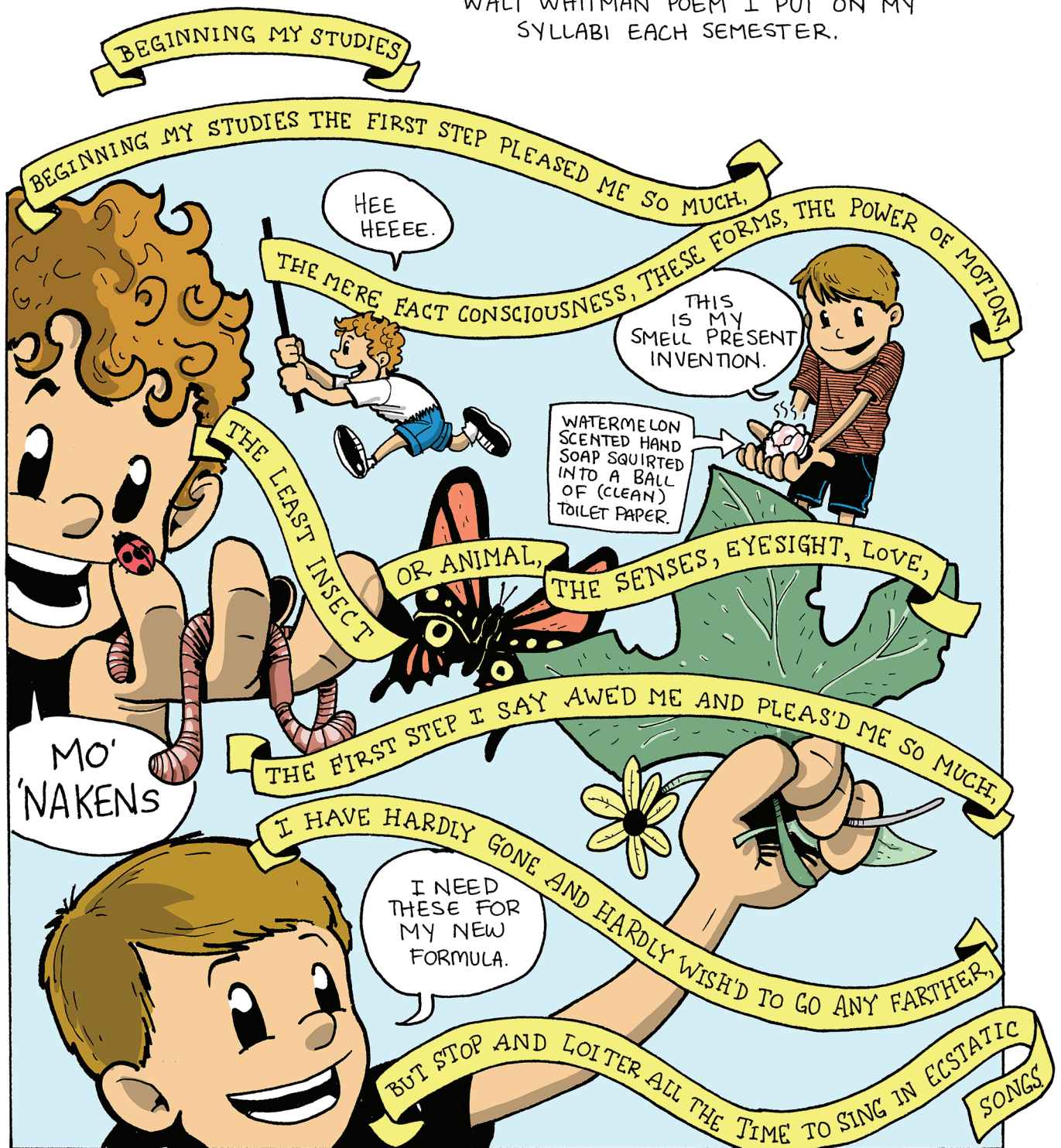
ANT-ENS!\*

EVERYONE KNOWS KIDS ARE NATURAL SCIENTISTS, BUT I THINK I NOW KNOW WHY THEY'RE SO GOOD AT IT.

DADDY! ANT-ENS!

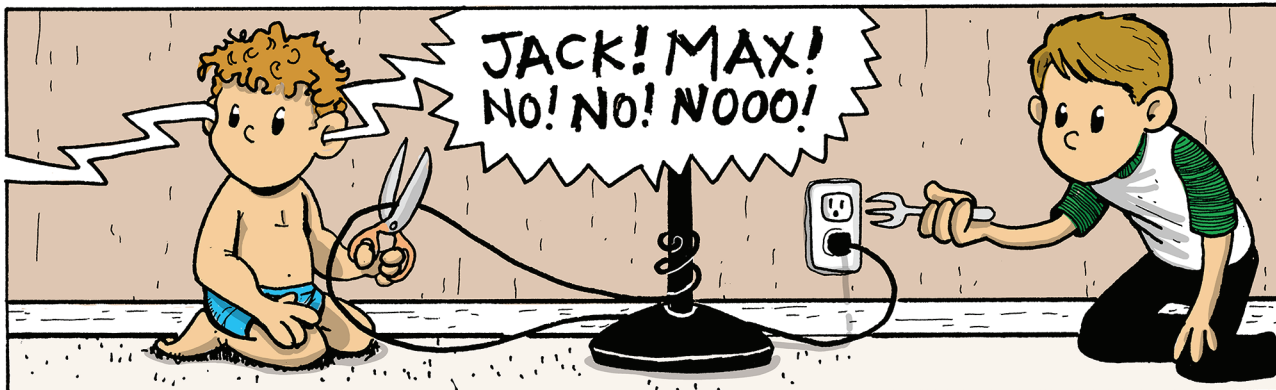
\* ANT-ENS = ANTS

LIKE THE BEST SCIENTISTS, KIDS SEE SCIENCE AND PLAY AS THE SAME THING. FORGET THE CONTROLLED EXPERIMENT. KIDS FIND JOY AND DISCOVERY IN THE OUT-OF-CONTROL EXPERIMENT. IN FACT, MY BOYS ARE LIVING THE WALT WHITMAN POEM I PUT ON MY SYLLABI EACH SEMESTER.



MY SONS HAVE REMINDED ME OF THE WONDERS THAT DREW ME TO SCIENCE.

OF COURSE, I STILL HAVE TO SAY NO EVERY ONCE IN AWHILE.



THEY MAY BE SCIENTISTS, BUT THEY AREN'T ROCKET SCIENTISTS. (NOT YET ANYWAY)

WHICH REMINDS ME.

DID YOU KNOW THERE'S A GIGANTIC, GLOWING ROCK CIRCLING OUR PLANET?



Mooo!



MAX AND JACK SHOWED IT TO US LAST NIGHT.