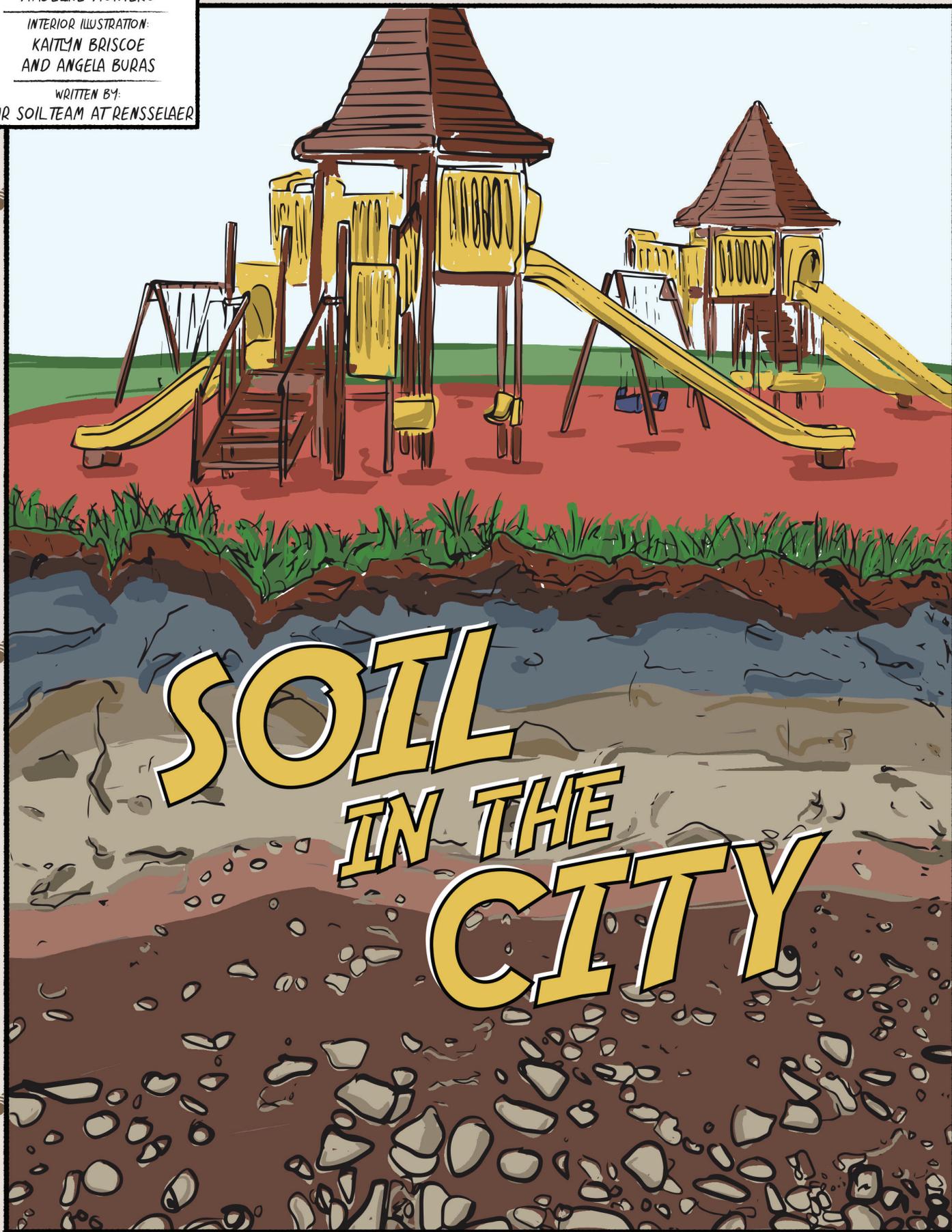


COVER ILLUSTRATION:
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INTERIOR ILLUSTRATION:
KAITLYN BRISCOE
AND ANGELA BURAS

WRITTEN BY:
OUR SOIL TEAM AT RENSSELAER

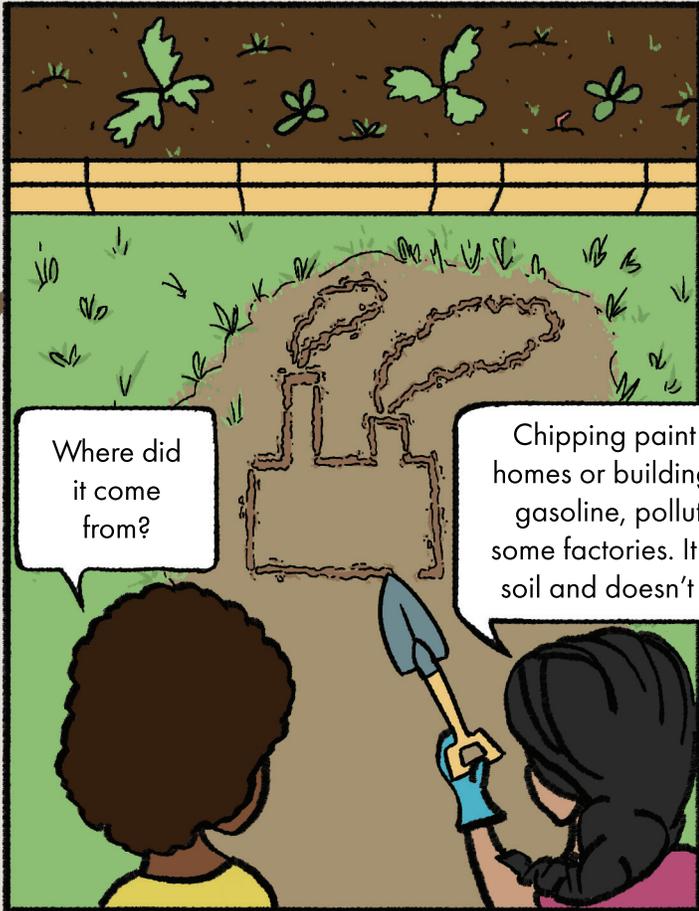






But lead is poisonous!

Yes, especially for children.



Where did it come from?

Chipping paint from old homes or buildings, leaded gasoline, pollution from some factories. It gets in the soil and doesn't go away.

It's not fair that our neighborhood has lead contamination. Those companies knew it was toxic!

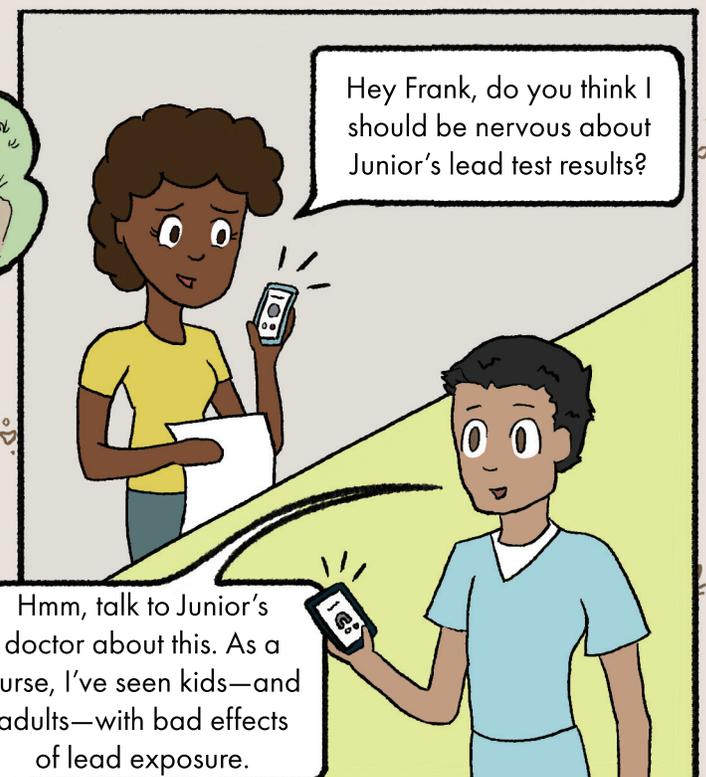
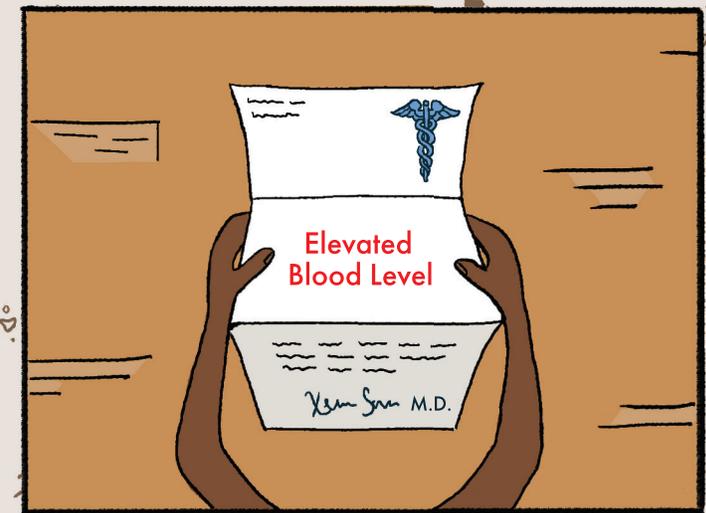
But we can cover contaminated soil and build up good healthy soils like this.



Is this really safer?



To be sure, I'll scrub and peel all the veggies so they don't have any dirt on them. And I always keep my dirty shoes and gloves outside.

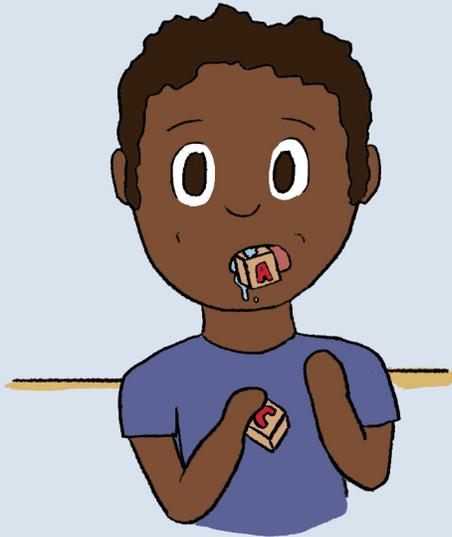


No amount of lead in the body is safe. Children can be exposed to lead by:

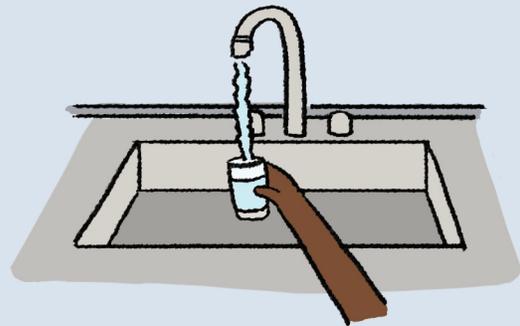
Breathing in or swallowing lead-contaminated dust or soil



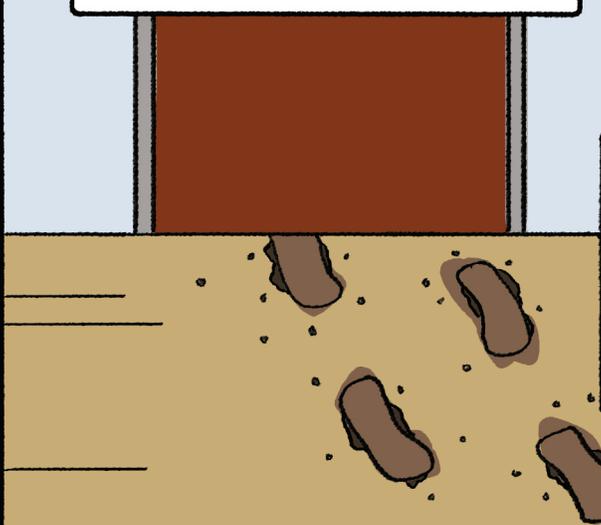
Putting dusty hands and objects in their mouths or chewing old painted surfaces



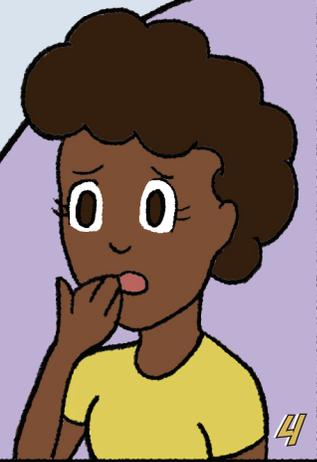
Drinking water from pipes that contain lead

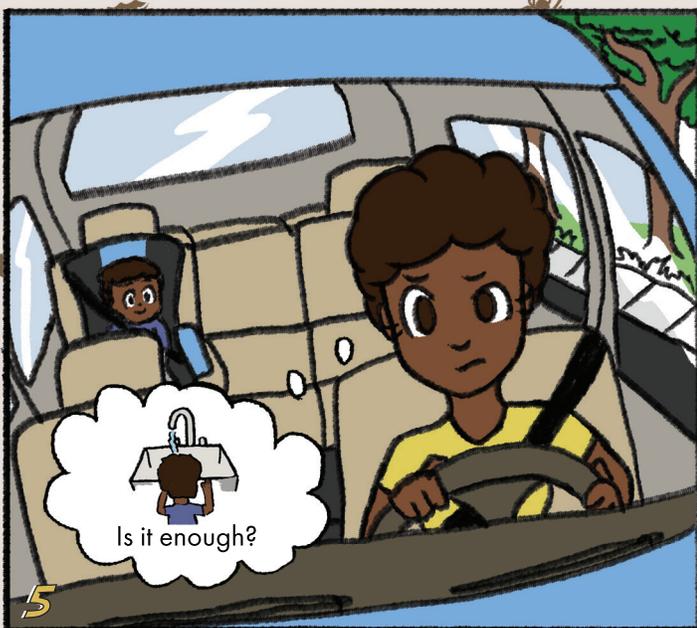
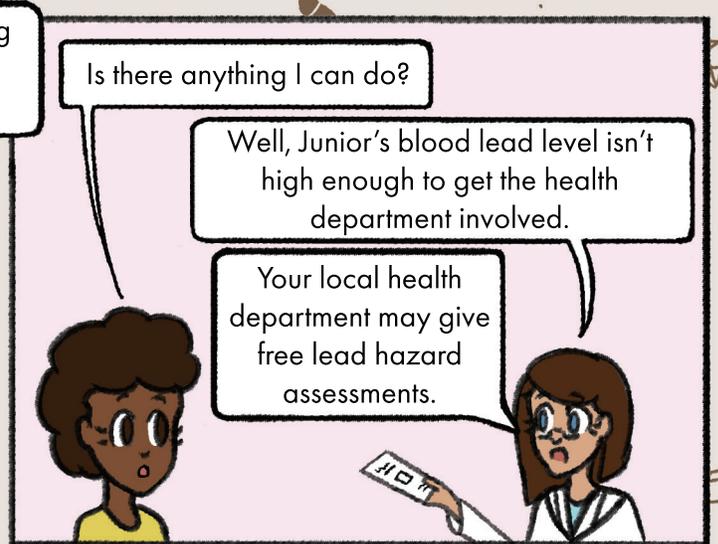
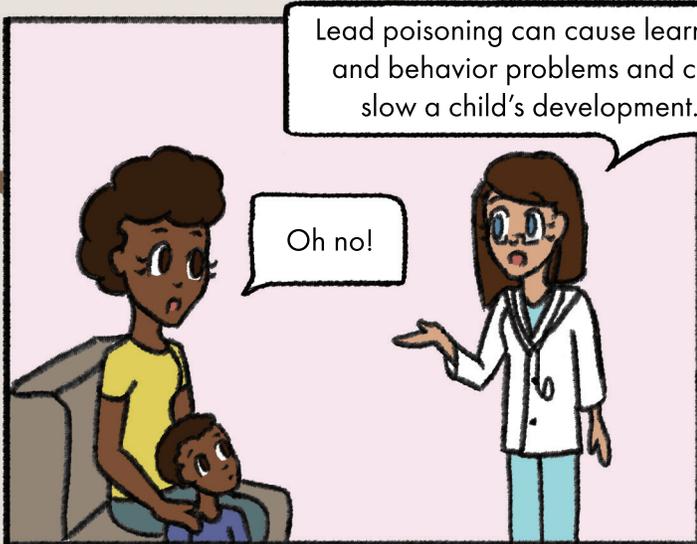
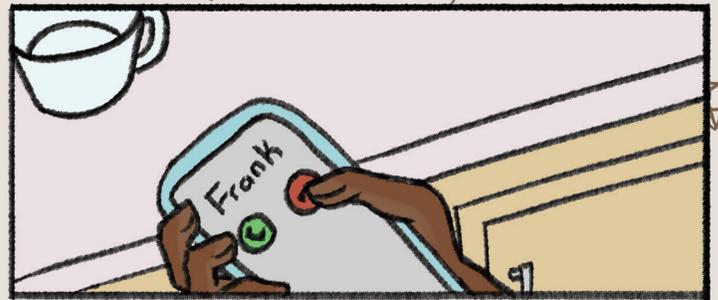


Playing on floors where contaminated soil has been tracked in



Even low levels of lead in blood have been shown to affect IQ, the ability to pay attention, and academic achievement. But this is preventable! We can stop children from coming into contact with lead in the environment.





Two weeks later...

Our Soil
Nuestros Suelos

What help can public health departments provide?

Can I test the soil in my garden?

Can the city help make our soil safer?

If lead is known to be toxic, why is it still here?

I know of a community program that can help!

OUR SOIL

Want to learn about testing soil and working with your neighbors to make your community safer from lead poisoning? The NATURE Lab project at the Sanctuary for Independent Media in Troy, New York is offering paid training for Soil Justice Fellows.

Questions? Contact Dan Walls

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CREDITS

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Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation

Learn about the Our Soil project and get involved! <https://oursoil.wp.rpi.edu/>



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