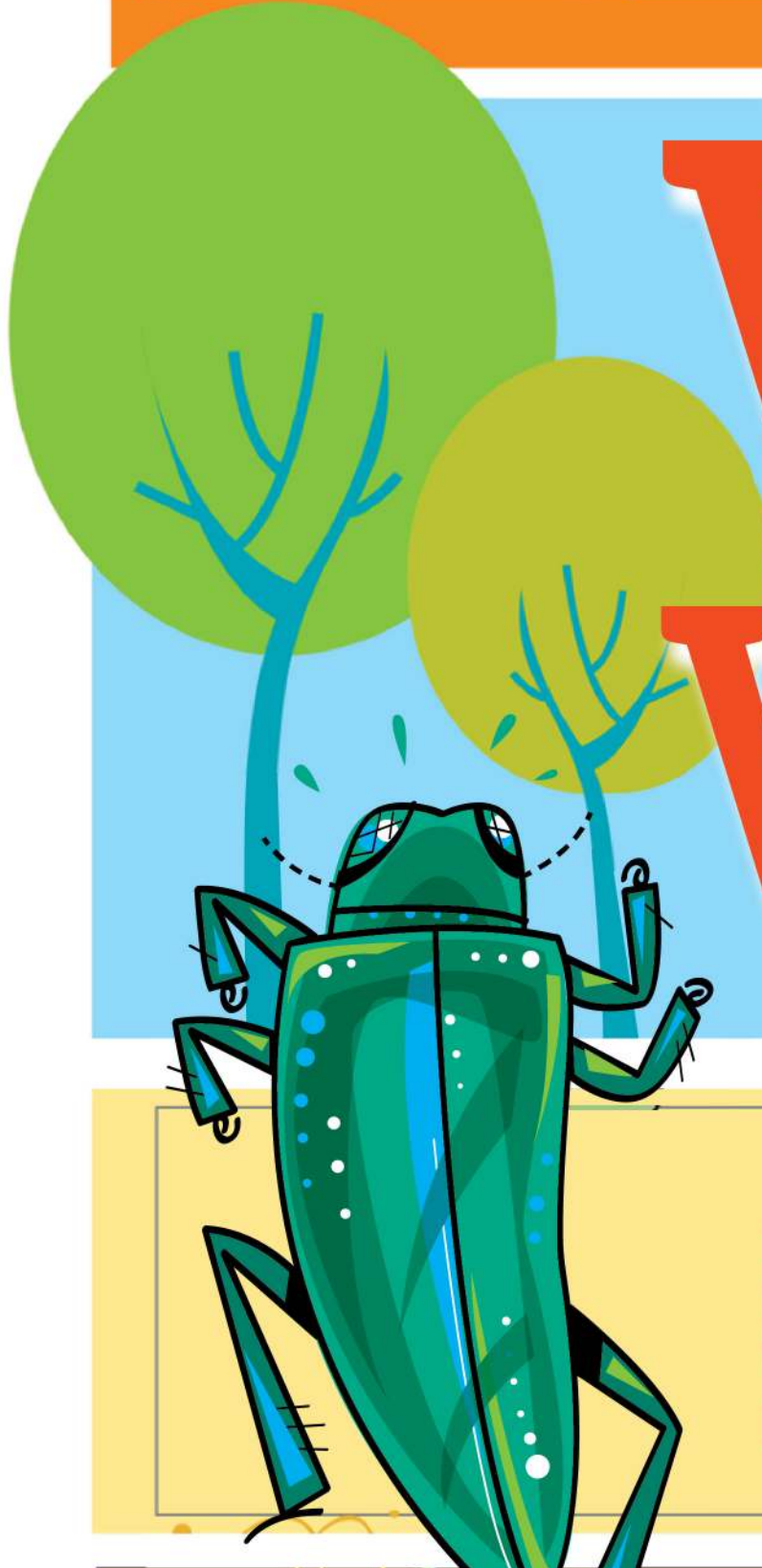
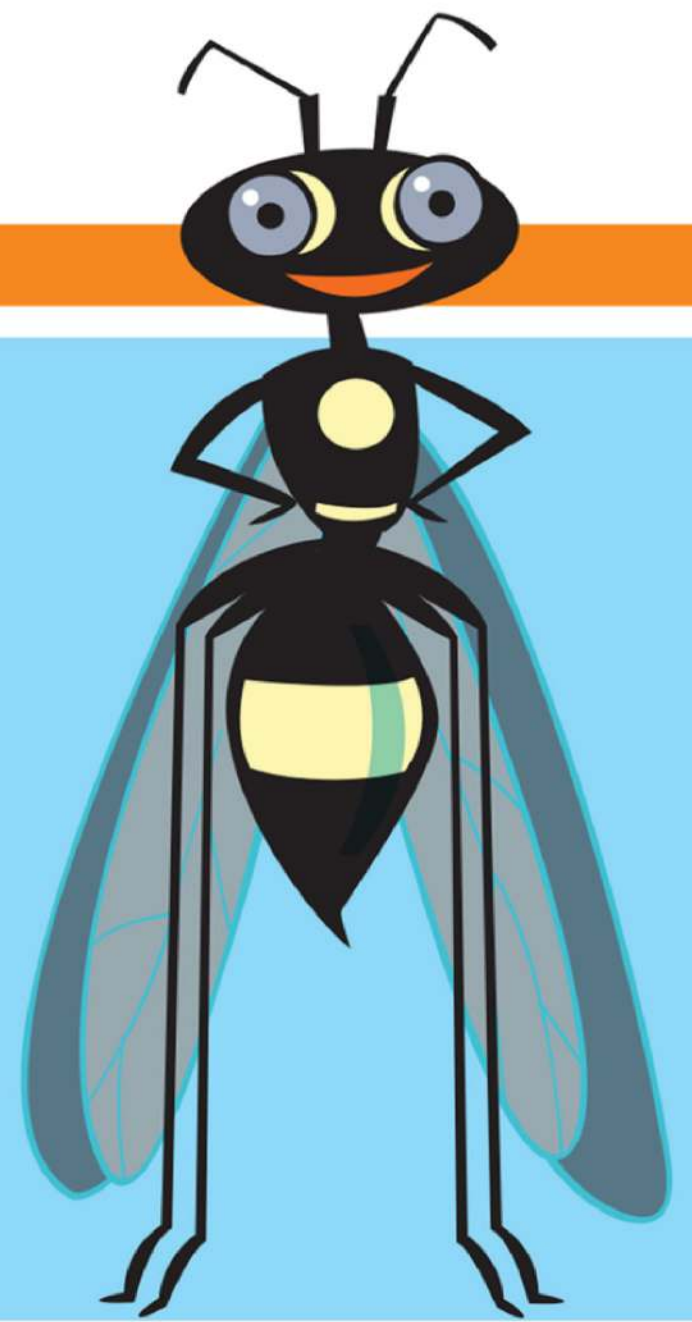
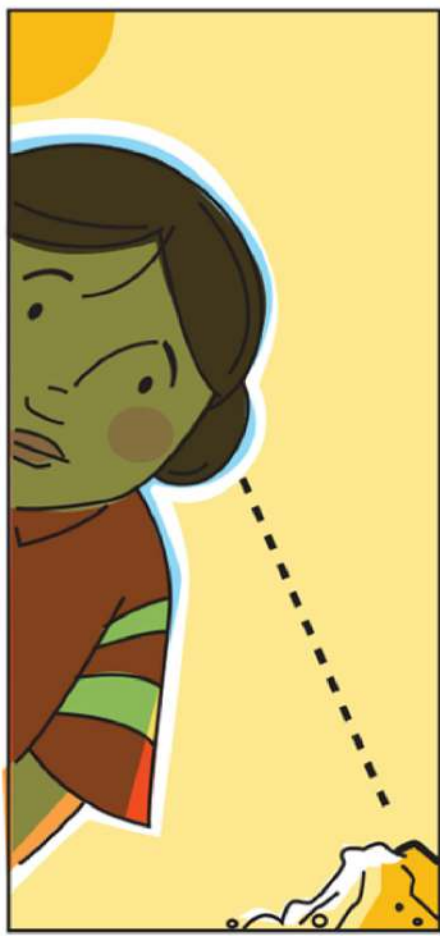


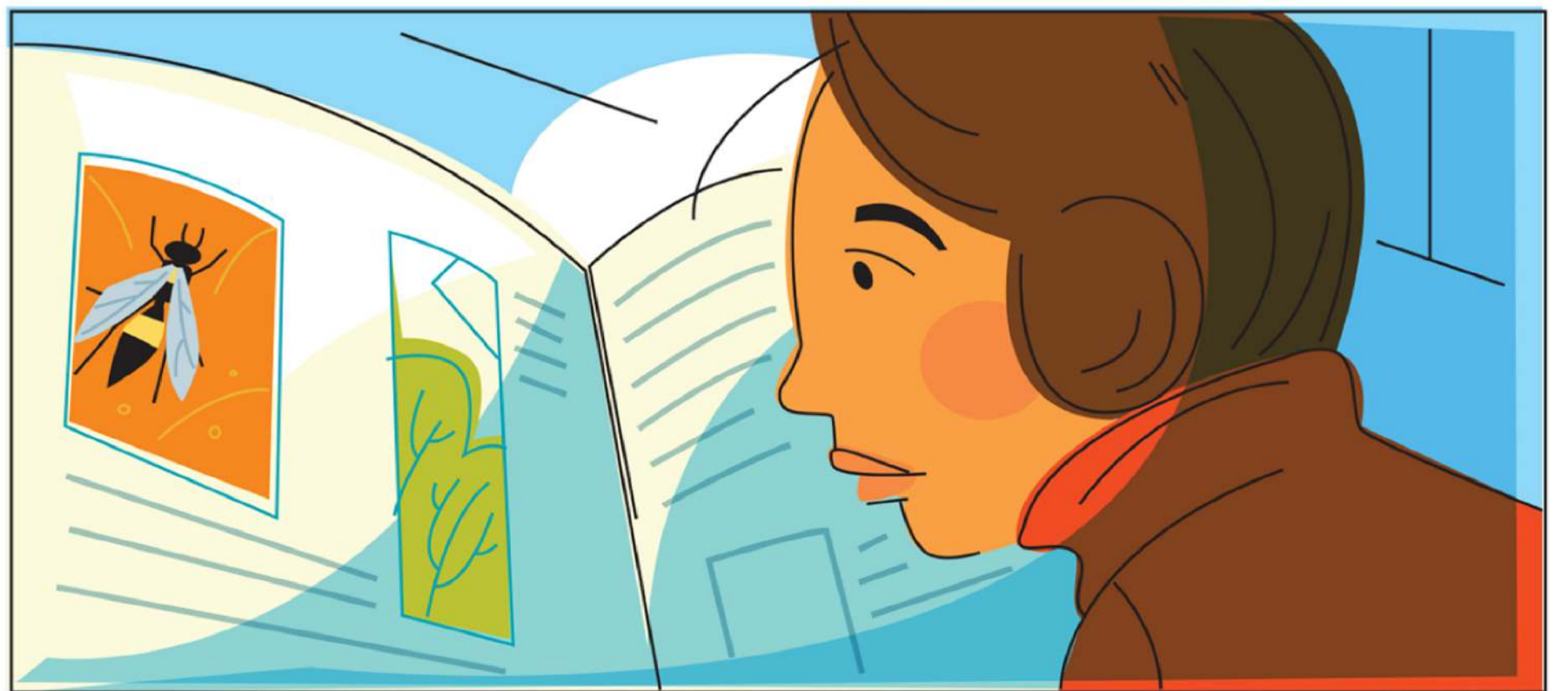
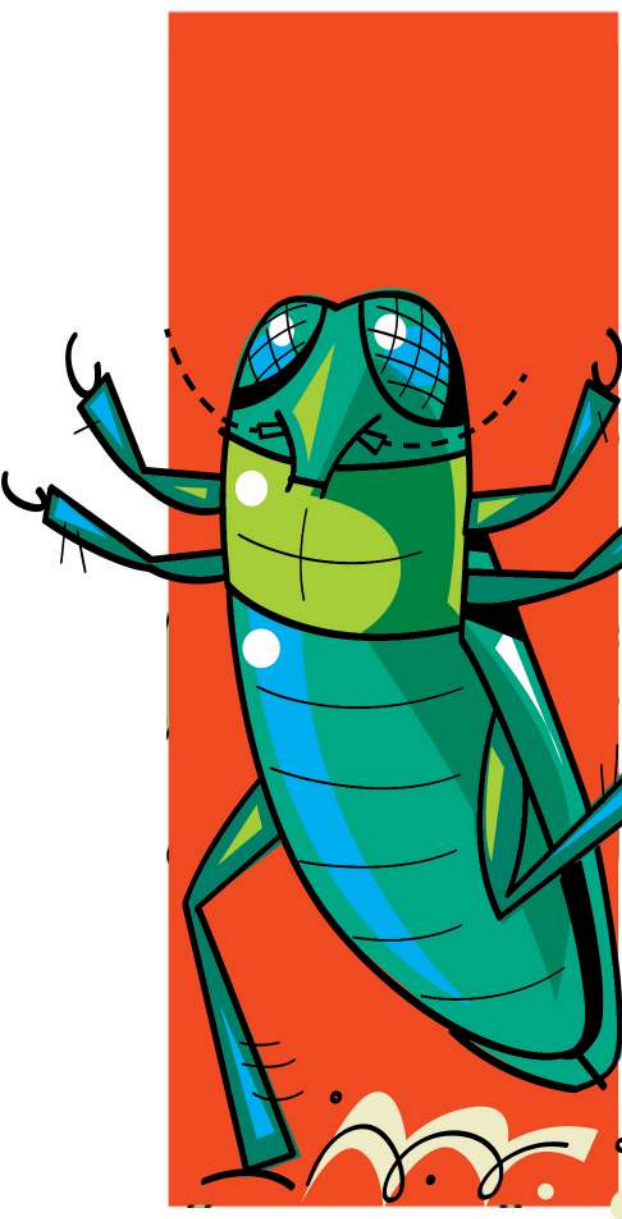
WASP WATCH



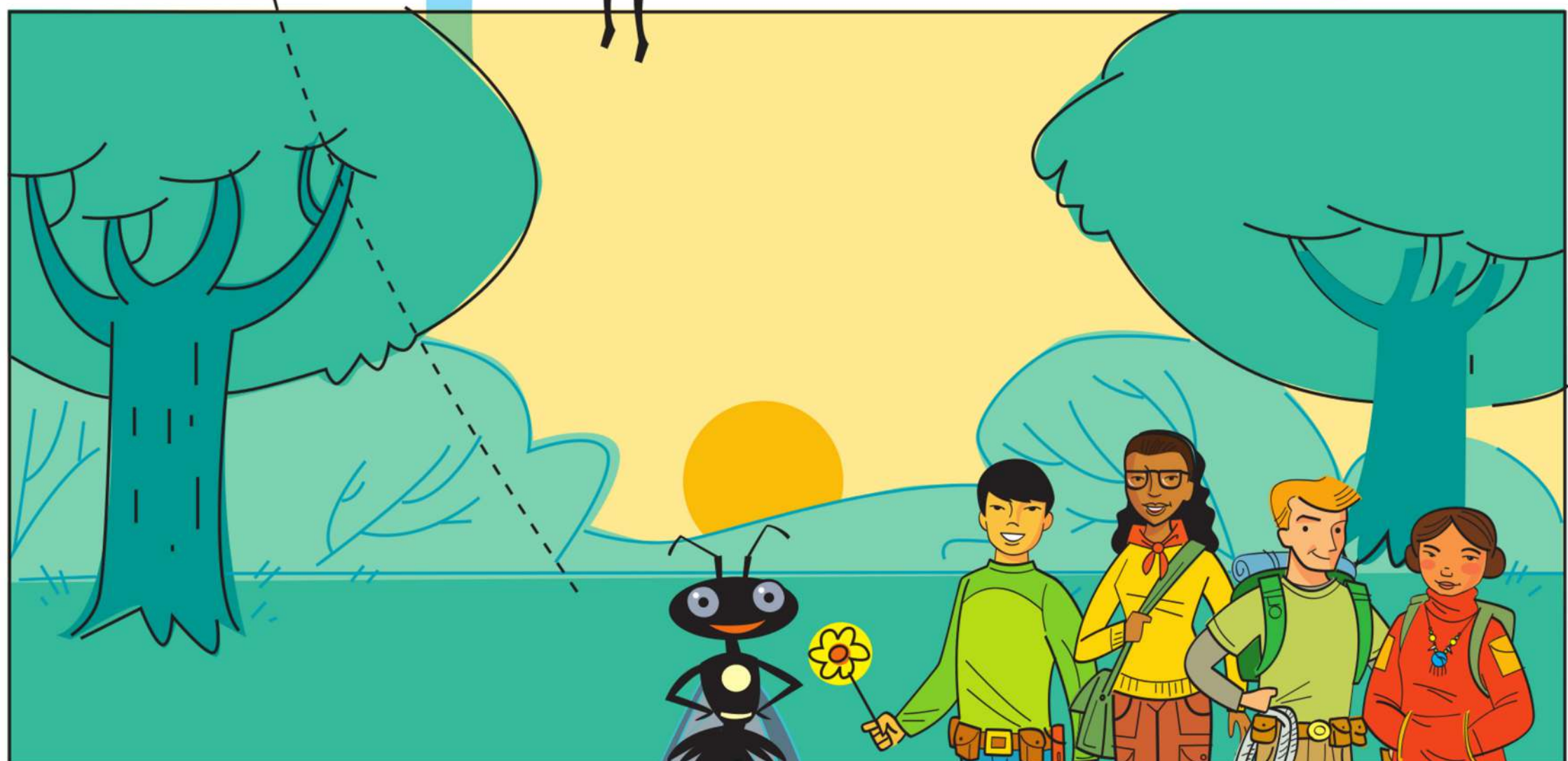
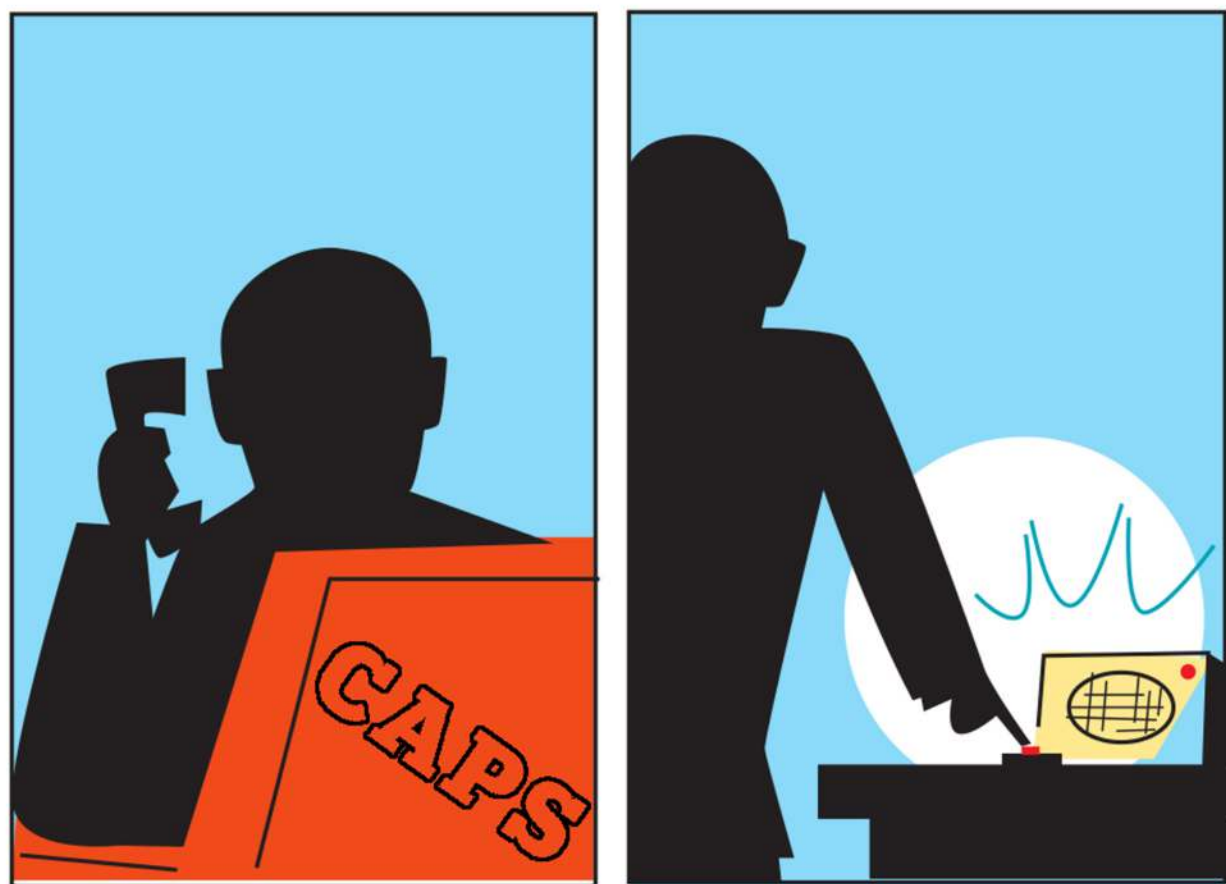
Aponi and her cousins were playing softball during a summertime family reunion picnic at a neighborhood park in Harrisburg, Illinois. While bored to death (nobody was hitting well that day!) she noticed a patch of small dirt mounds in center field.



After the game, she went back to inspect more closely, and realized that these were ground nests and eventually saw a small wasp entering the burrow. She took a picture of the bug and looked it up in her *Field Guide to Flying Insects of the Midwest* when she got home and learned that this was the famed species of wasp, *Cerceris fumipennis*, known for hunting emerald ash borer.



Aponi shared this finding with her county extension agent, who explained that using the wasp to track EAB was known as biosurveillance and put her in touch with her state's pest survey coordinator.



This biosurveillance technique helped local officials find and remove a stand of infested ash trees (the first in this part of the state) and prevent EAB from spreading into the nearby Shawnee National Forest!