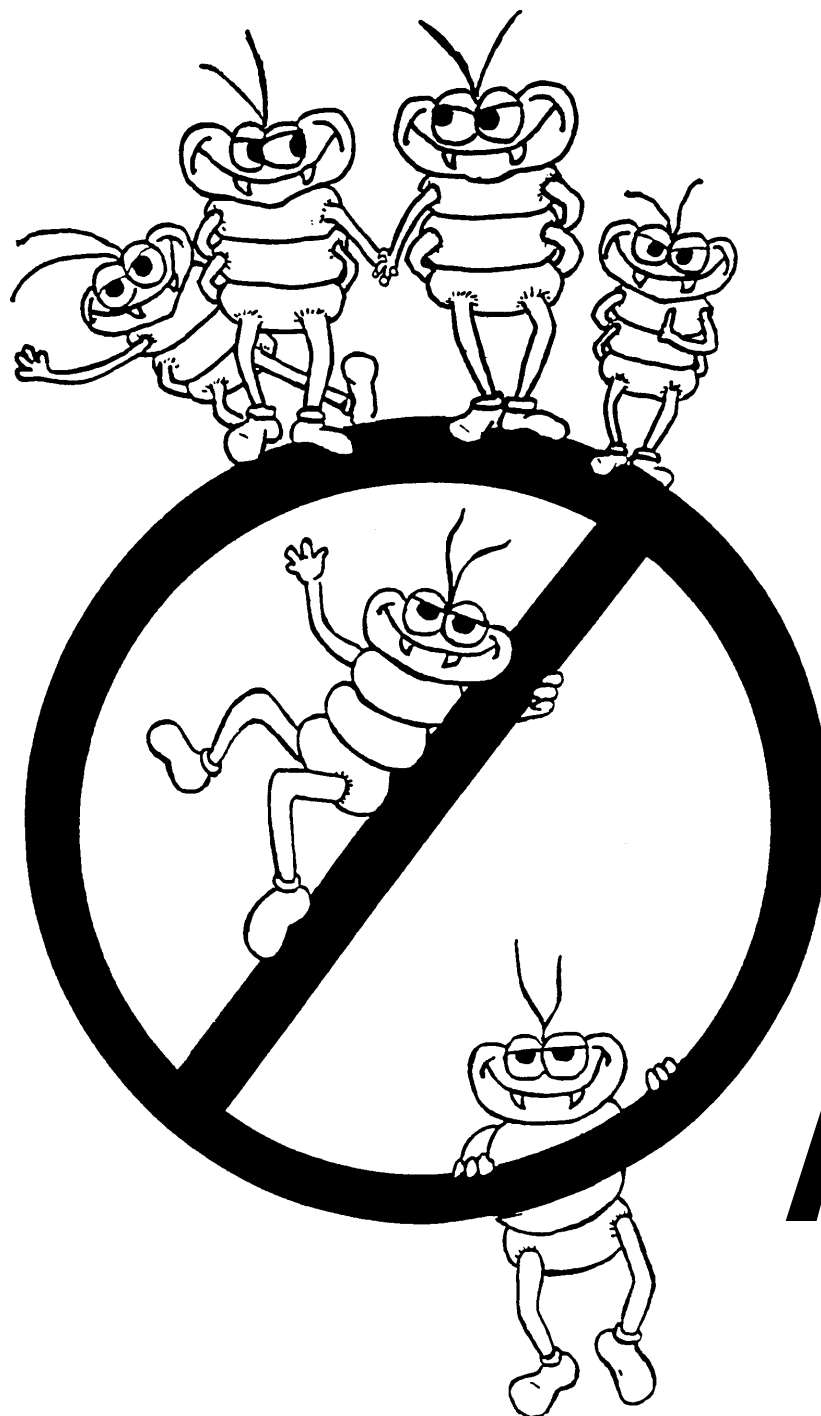


# Lice Advice





**Lice**



**Advice**

Head lice are very small insects, about the size of a sesame seed, that live in your hair. The primary symptom of head lice infestation is the itching that happens when lice bite and suck blood from the scalp. Children seen scratching their heads frequently should be checked for lice immediately. Head lice are difficult to see because they move quickly and don't like light. Diagnosis is sometimes made on the basis of finding eggs (called nits) on the hair shafts.

---

**Copyright © 2003  
Migrant Health Promotion**

**This flipchart is protected by the United States Copyright Act of 1976.**

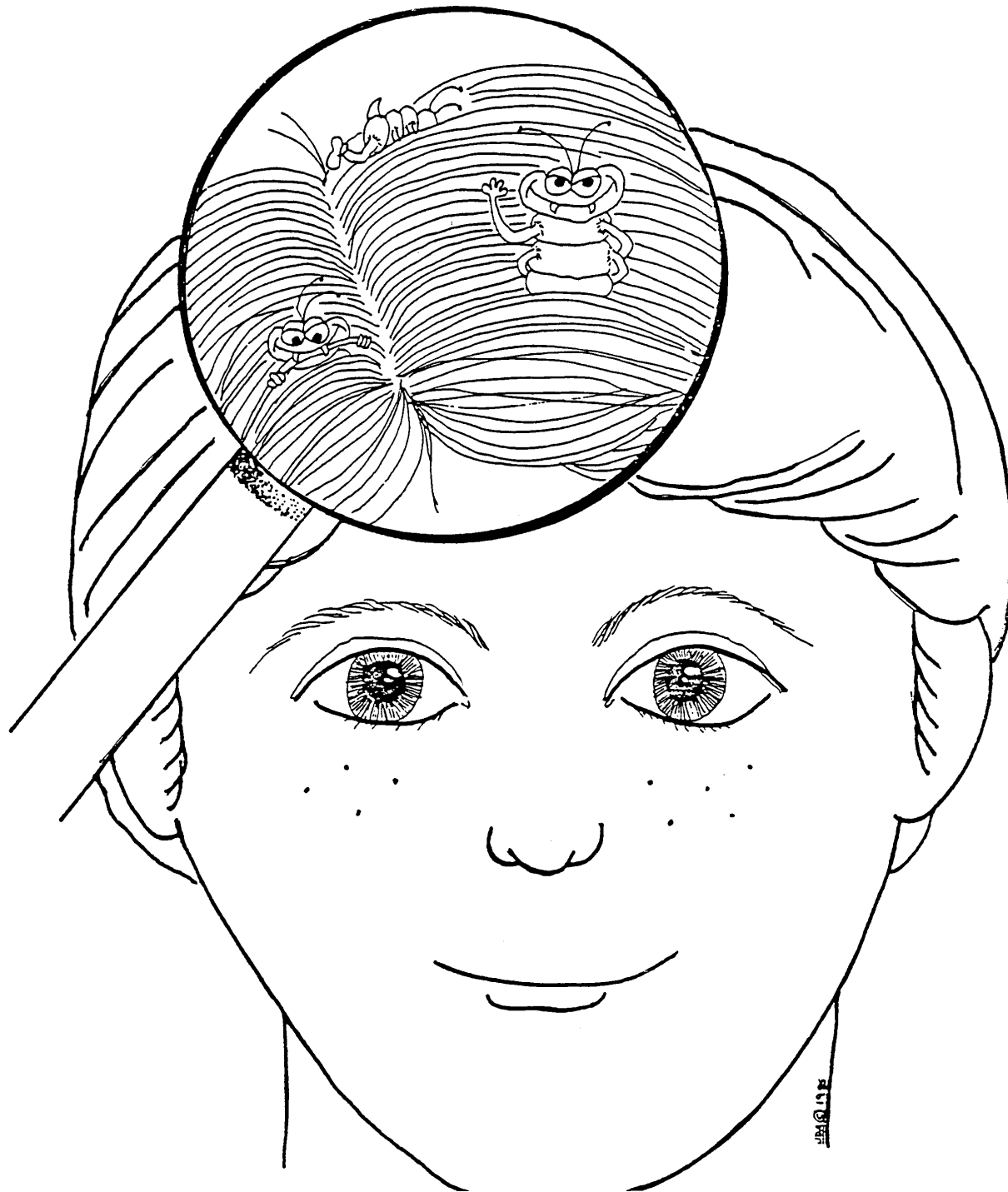
Copying and use of this flipchart, in whole or in part, is permitted for your OWN use OR to benefit the health of migrant farmworkers and/or their communities.

- You must credit Migrant Health Promotion in any use of this flipchart, or part of this flipchart.
- This flipchart may NOT be copied for sale.
- Please contact Migrant Health Promotion with any questions about the use of this flipchart or to receive future updates or revisions.

**phone: (734) 944-0244    email: [info@migranthealth.org](mailto:info@migranthealth.org)    web site: [migranthealth.org](http://migranthealth.org)**

**\*\*Este rotafolio también se puede conseguir en español. \*\***

We live  
in your  
hair.



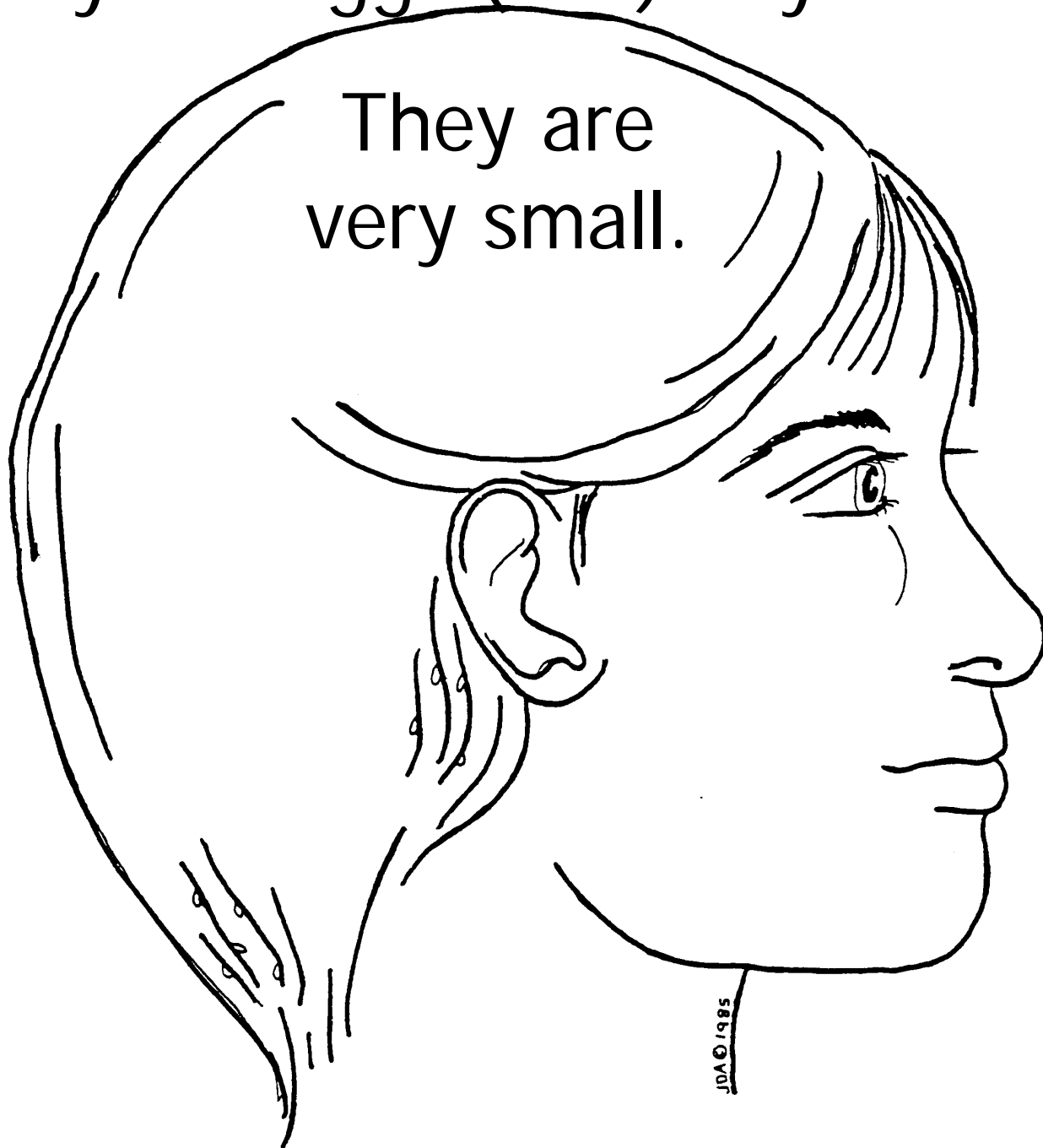
We are  
very  
small.

ARTIST

The lice eggs (nits) are tiny yellowish-white or grayish-white oval specks. They are firmly attached to the hair shafts by a cement-like substance secreted by the female louse. Nits may be found anywhere in the hair, but are most frequently found at the nape of the neck, behind the ears and on the crown. Nits will not wash out or blow away. They must be combed out with a specially-designed comb or picked off by hand. Sometimes a magnifying glass is helpful in identifying nits.

We lay our eggs (nits) in your hair.

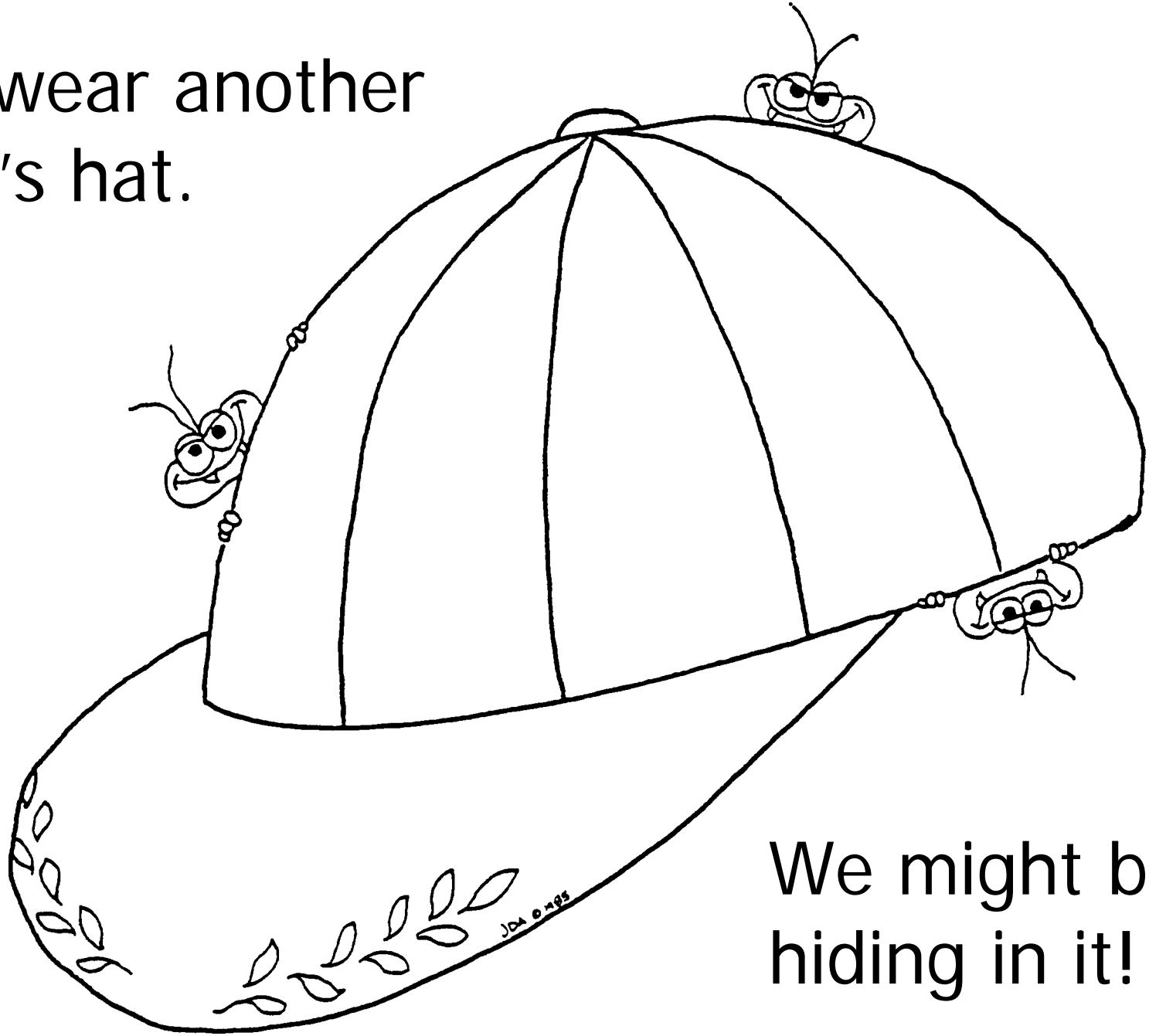
They are  
very small.



Lice are transmitted by direct contact with an infested individual or by sharing items of clothing or grooming aids (like combs, brushes, etc.) with an infested individual. Therefore, children should be warned not to share such items with others. Children participating in team sports should be checked frequently for lice since batting helmets, football helmets and other kinds of headgear are often passed from player to player.



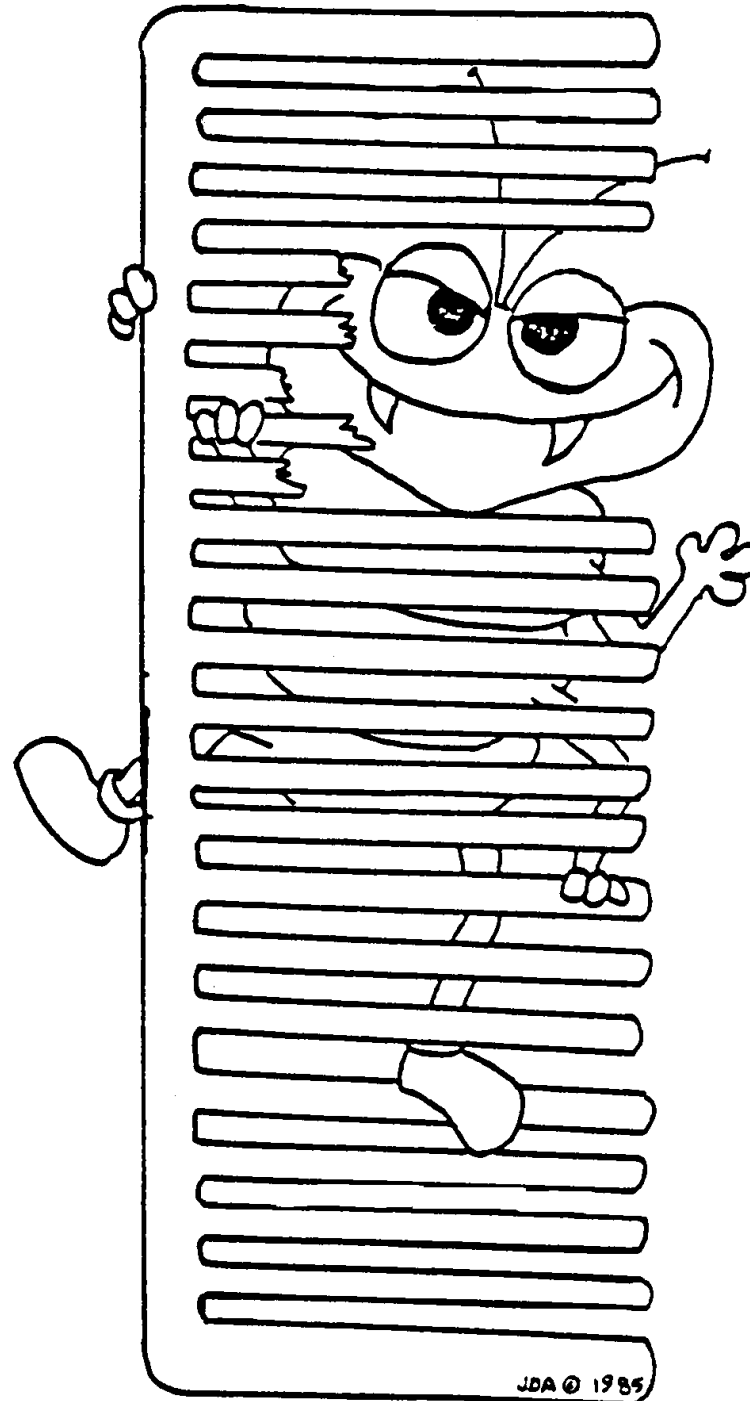
Never wear another  
person's hat.



We might be  
hiding in it!

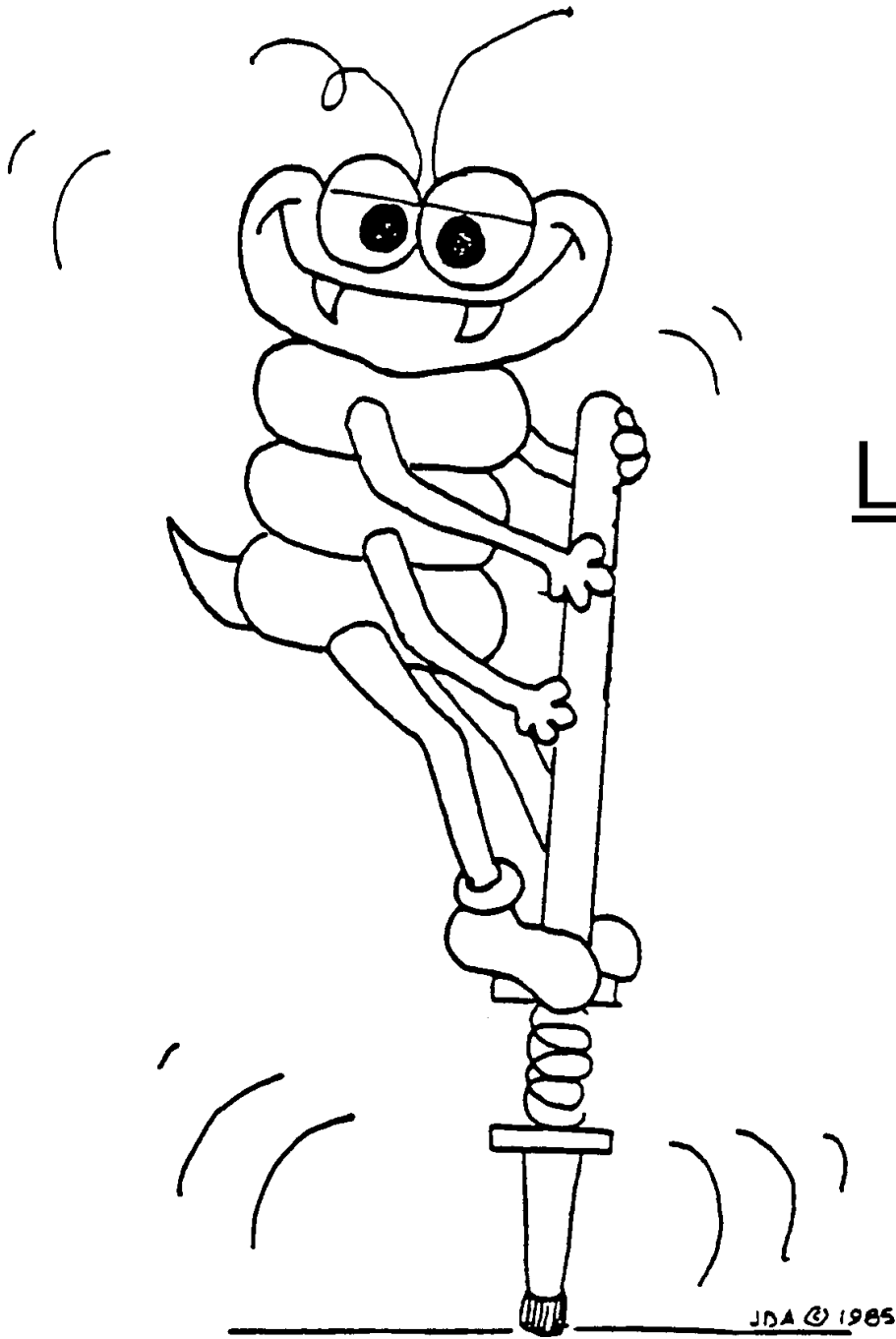
Children should also be warned not to share combs, brushes, and other personal items such as barrettes, hair ribbons and headbands with others.

Never use  
another  
person's  
comb!



We might be  
hiding there,  
too!

Lice cannot jump from one person or item to another. They can survive off the human body for approximately 12-15 hours. When an infestation occurs, the person's clothes and bed linens should be washed in hot water and dried in a hot dryer.



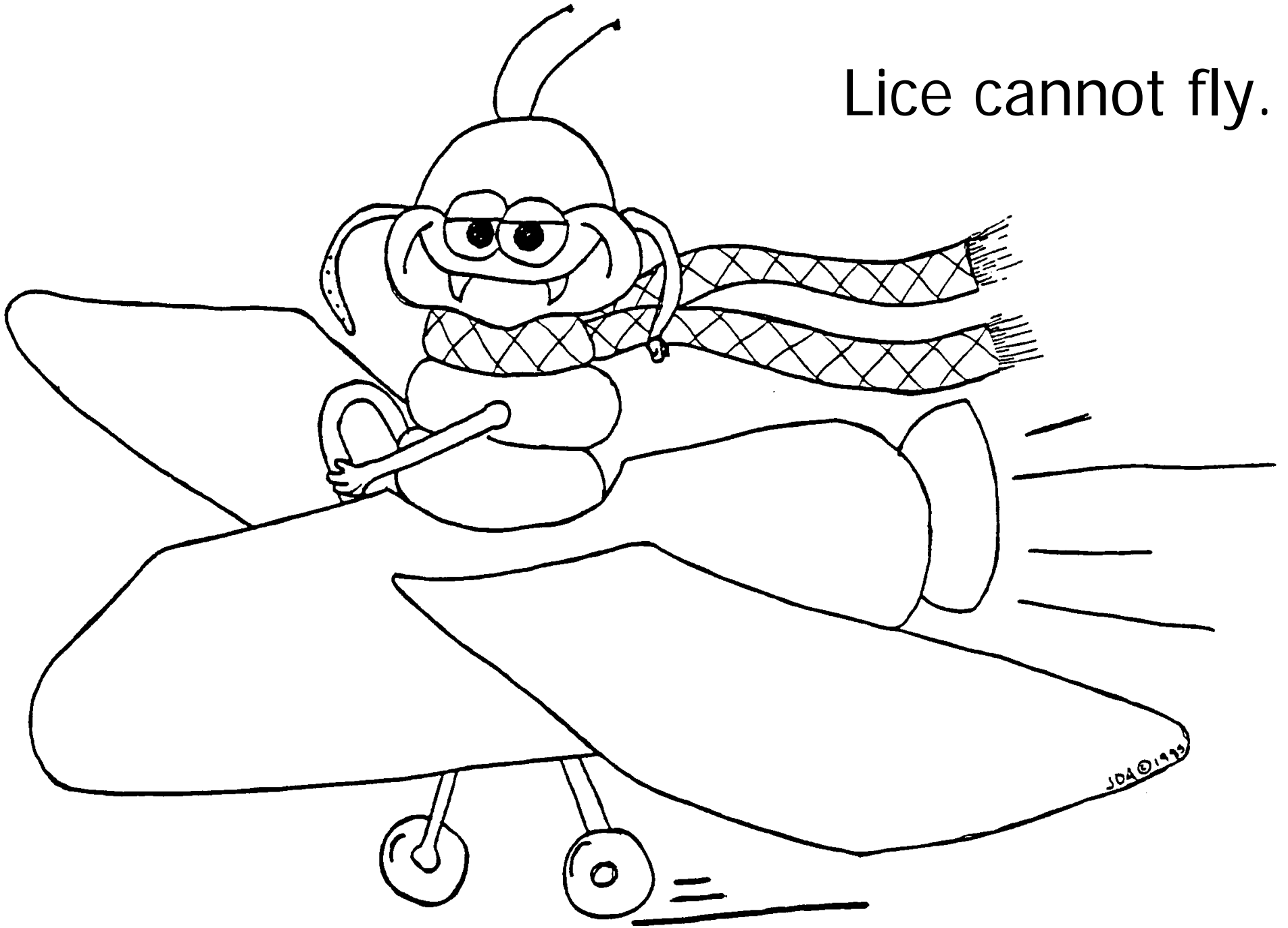
Lice

cannot

jump.

Lice cannot fly or jump from one place to another; however they do tend to spread quickly from one person to another. All family members should be examined when someone has lice, and everyone showing signs of infestation should be treated at the same time.

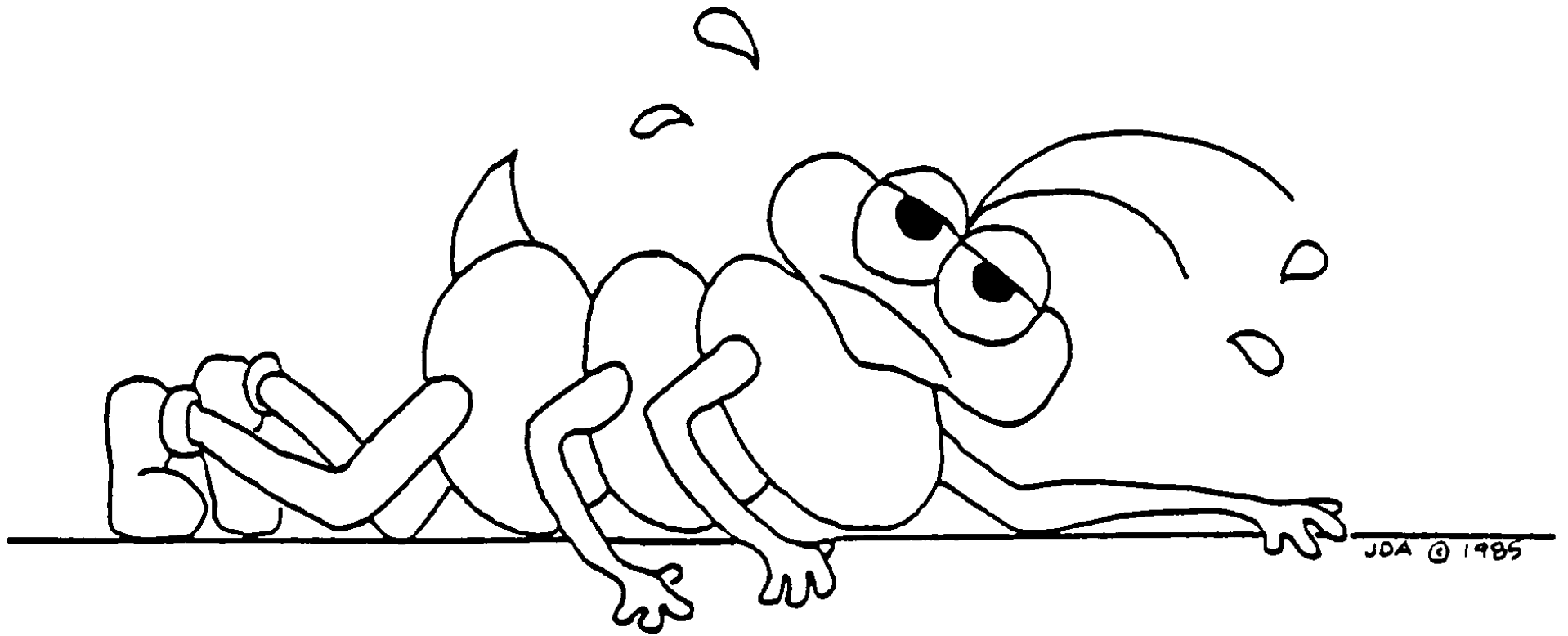
Lice cannot fly.



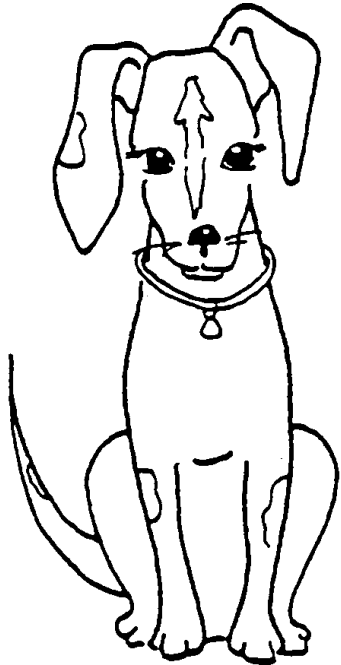
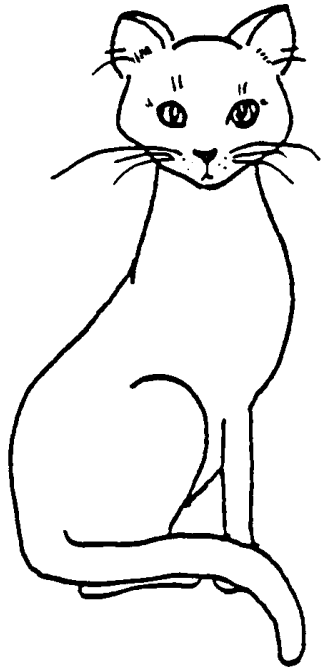
Head lice do crawl from one place to another. Therefore, children should be advised not to stack or pile up sweaters, coats, etc., and to hang coats so they do not touch.



We can only crawl.



Head lice cannot live on cats, dogs and other household pets. They can only live and breed on a human body.



We  
don't  
like  
cats  
or  
dogs.



Only people!

Frequent bathing and shampooing will not prevent head lice nor eliminate them once they are there. Using a blow dryer on the hair will also have little or no effect on lice. It is not true that only unclean people get head lice; anyone can get head lice.

Your  
shampoo



won't  
hurt us!

Treatment for lice is a three-step process:

- First a special head lice product must be used to kill the crawling lice.
- Second, a special combing tool must be used to remove all the eggs (nits). Do not use commercial lice products on infants. Lice and nits on children under the age of two should be removed manually. Read and follow the instructions that come with the product.
- The third step is the treatment of the home environment. Thorough vacuuming of bedding, carpeting and upholstered furniture is sufficient; it is not recommended that you use lice sprays on these surfaces. And never use a lice spray directly on a person or pet!

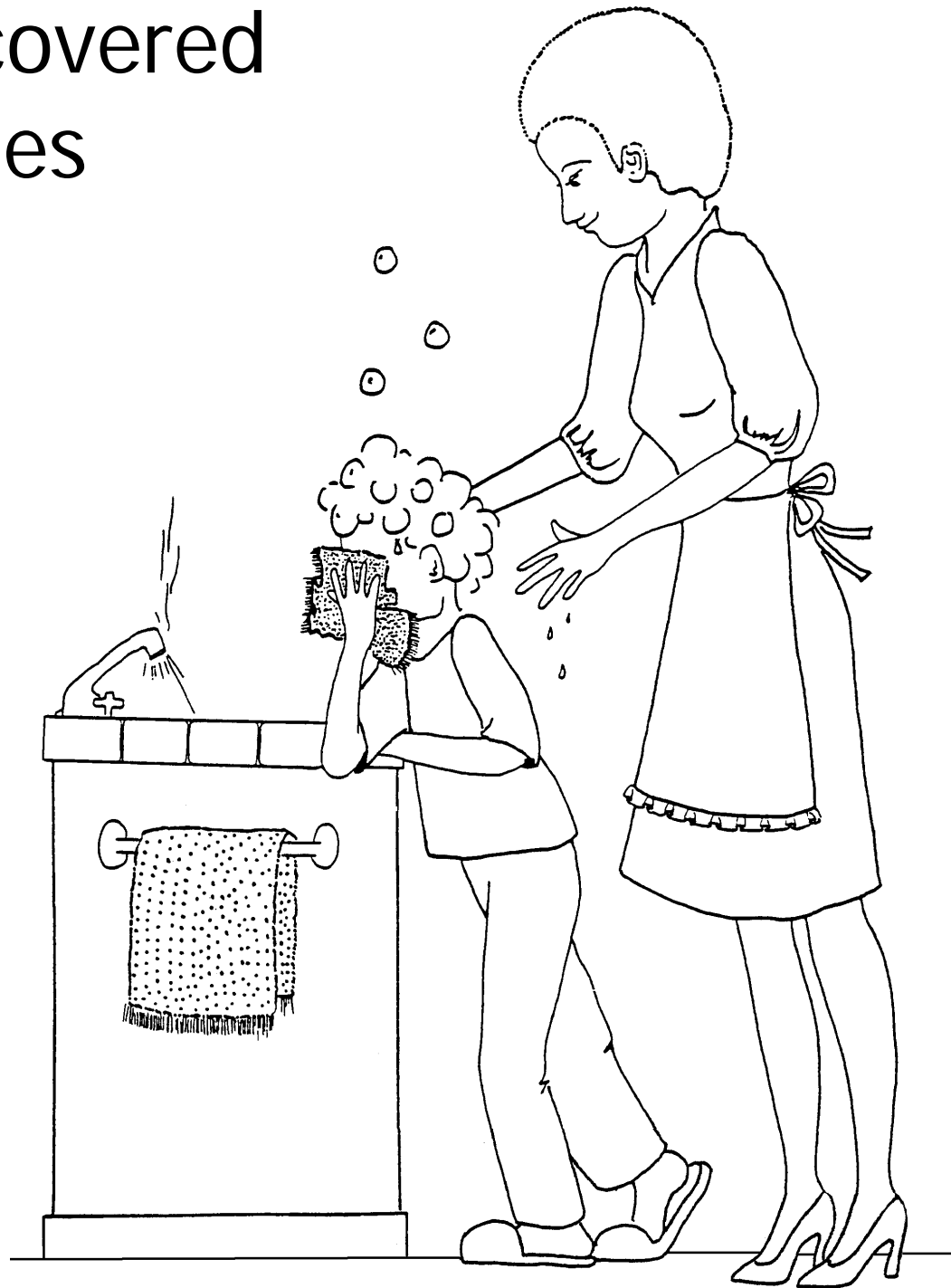
But this special product will!



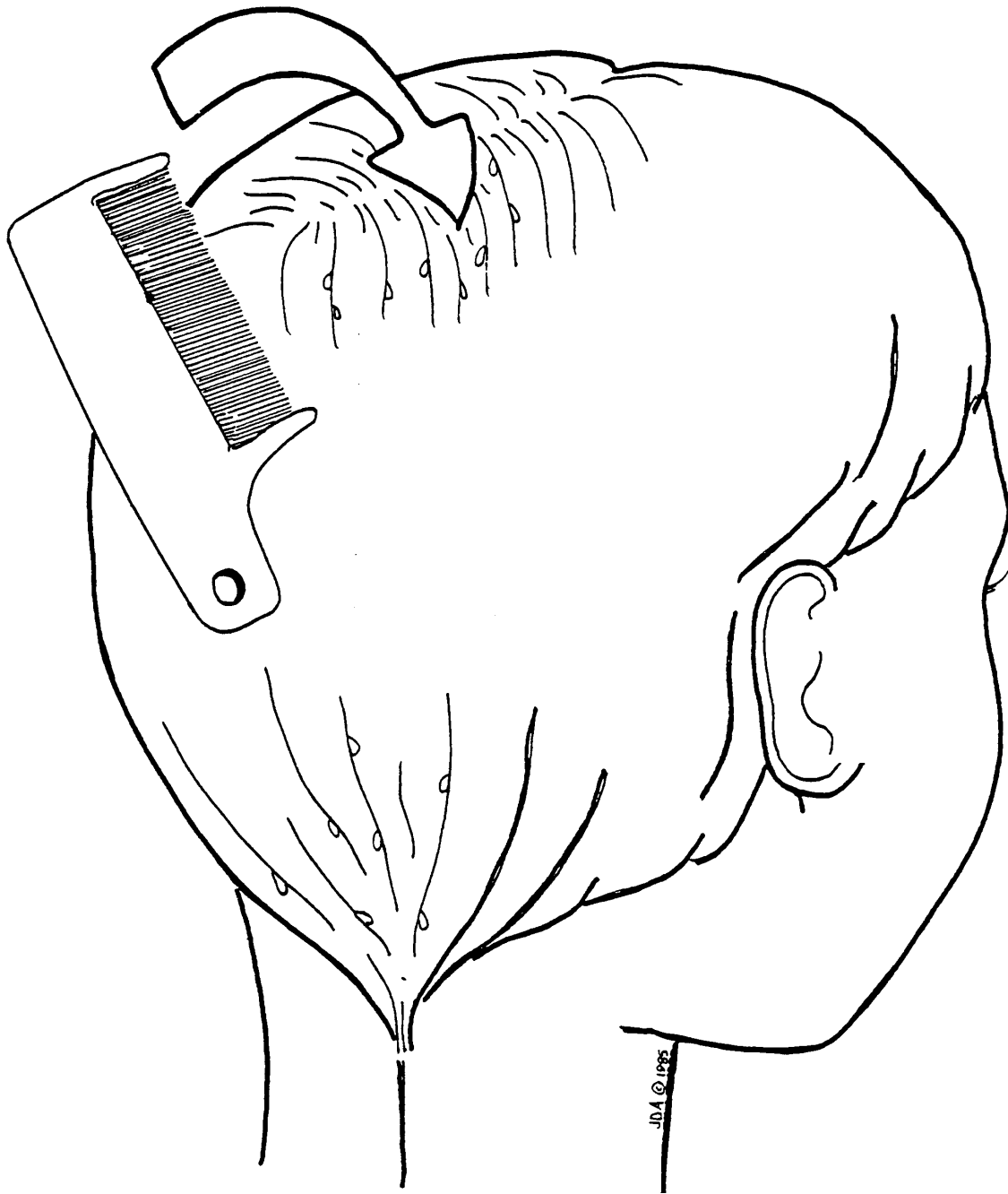
Head lice products should always be applied by an adult. They should not be used in the bathtub or shower or immediately following a hot bath. Parents should treat children by leaning them over the sink to keep the product to the head and neck area. Make sure to protect the child's eyes by holding a washcloth or towel over them.



Keep your eyes covered while an adult uses the product on your hair.



Treatment must include the removal of all nits from the child's hair. Because nits are firmly attached to the hair shaft, a special combing tool is needed to help remove them. Nits that cannot be combed out should be removed by hand with fingernails, tweezers, or scissors.



Nits must be removed by a special comb. You may have to pull some nits out by hand.

Remember these things:

Don't borrow or share combs, brushes, barrettes, ribbons, or other hair items.

Don't borrow or share hats, helmets, scarves, or pillows

Don't stack or hang hats and coats so they come in contact with someone else's.

Check your children for head lice at least once a week.



Do Not borrow combs, brushes, barrettes, ribbons, or other hair items.



Do Not borrow hats, helmets, scarves, or pillows.



Do Not stack or hang your coat or hat touching other clothing.