

# THE ADVENTURES OF CAPTAIN MERCAPTAN<sup>SM</sup>

BGE • NATURAL GAS SAFETY HERO CHALLENGE

**ACTION  
BOOK!**



**BGE**<sup>®</sup>

An Exelon Company

[BGE.COM/CAPTAINMERCAPTAN](http://BGE.COM/CAPTAINMERCAPTAN)



## ARE YOU READY TO SAVE THE DAY?

Captain Mercaptan wants you to become a natural gas safety hero!

Captain Mercaptan is BGE's natural gas safety hero and he wants you to become a natural gas safety hero too, by teaching simple tips to your friends and family to help them stay safe.

Captain Mercaptan and his safety sidekicks — Piper and Sunny — were designed by kids for kids, through the Adventures of Captain Mercaptan — BGE's Natural Gas Safety Hero Challenge. In fact, the Captain Mercaptan character was created in 2013 by students from the School of Incarnation in Gambrills, Maryland. Piper and Sunny were created by a student from Emmorton Elementary School in Bel Air, Maryland. Now, their stories are being narrated and illustrated each year through comic book pages created by the Adventures of Captain Mercaptan contest.

This book includes a variety of fun and safety-focused activities that will teach you how to detect a natural gas leak and take action to remain safe. You could be the next natural gas safety hero, just like Captain Mercaptan, Piper and Sunny! For more information on Natural Gas Safety and the Adventures of Captain Mercaptan contest, visit [BGE.COM/CaptainMercaptan](http://BGE.COM/CaptainMercaptan).



## KIDS WANT TO KNOW.

### WHAT IS NATURAL GAS?

Natural gas is a fuel that is used to make electricity and also to do things like warm homes, cook food, heat water and dry clothes. It is called a fossil fuel because it comes from the remains of tiny plants and animals that were buried more than 200 million years ago. Large wells and pipes bring natural gas to the surface.

### WHAT IS MERCAPTAN?



**mer.cap.tan** (mər'Kap,tan) *noun*

In its natural state, Natural gas is odorless, colorless and tasteless. To make it easier to detect, utilities like BGE add a safety scent called mercaptan to natural gas to make it smell. Many people describe the odor of mercaptan as similar to sulfur or rotten eggs.

## FUN FACTS.

### AMERICAN MADE

Most of the natural gas we use in the United States is produced in the United States. Here are the five states that yield the most: Texas (28%), Pennsylvania (13%), Louisiana (10%), Oklahoma (8%) and Wyoming (7%).

### 200 MILLION YEARS IN THE MAKING

Natural gas is a fossil fuel, which means it comes from the remains of tiny sea plants and animals that were buried on the ocean floor more than 200 million years ago.

### LIGHTING THE WAY

In 1816, Rembrandt Peale used natural gas lamps to illuminate his museum in Baltimore and began plans to light city streets. This created The Gas Light Company of Baltimore, which became the first gas company in the new world and would later become BGE.

YOUR FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ THE CITY YOU LIVE IN: \_\_\_\_\_

# BE A NATURAL GAS SAFETY HERO!



Scan and return your completed artwork to [GasHero@BGE.com](mailto:GasHero@BGE.com).  
You might see it on BGE's Facebook page on Tiny Tips Tuesday.



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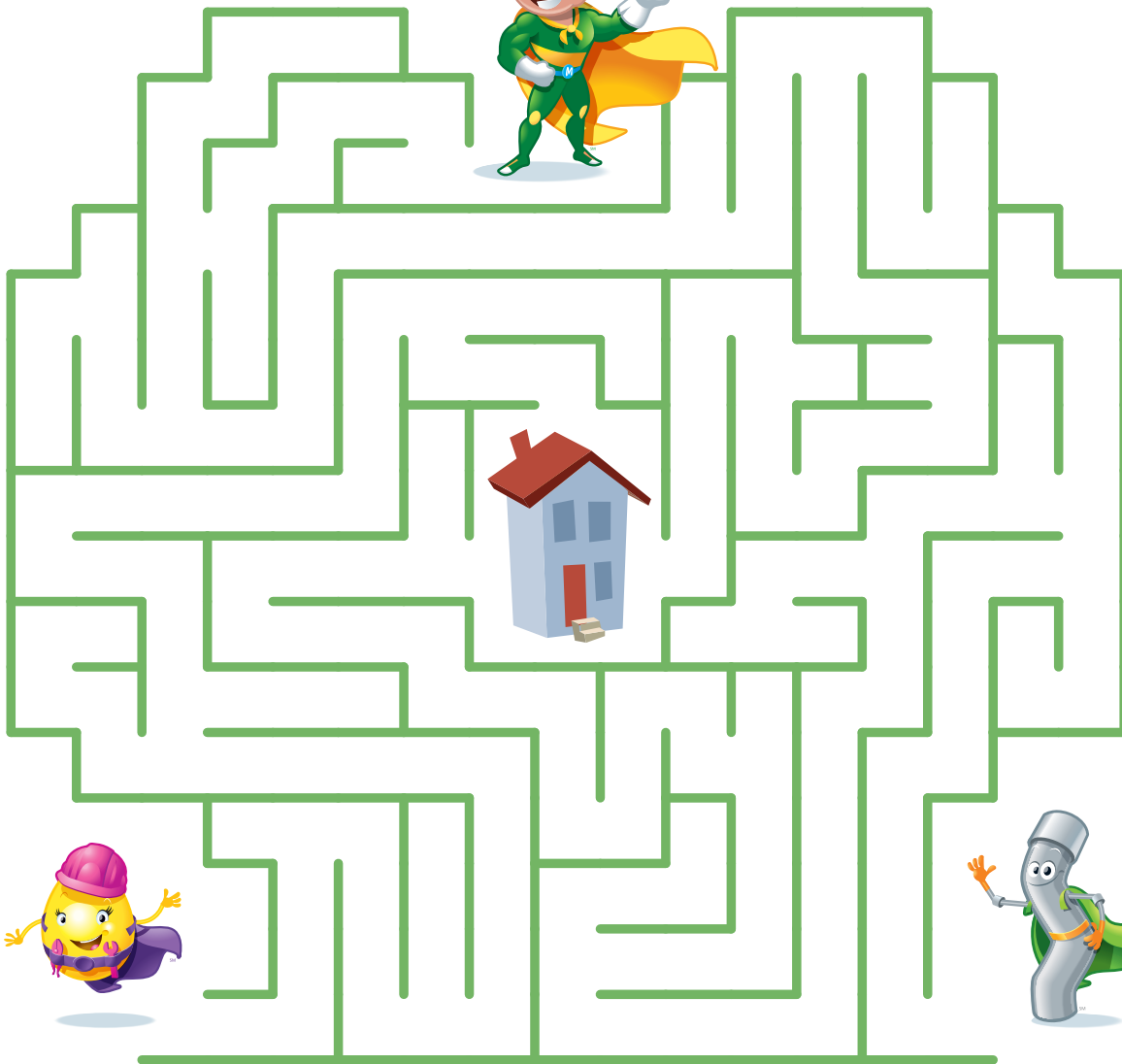
## FIND A WAY TO SAVE THE DAY!

Help Captain Mercaptan, Sunny and Piper reach the house and show everyone inside how to detect natural gas.



### USE YOUR EARS

Listen for hissing, blowing or roaring sounds of gas escaping.



### USE YOUR NOSE

Mercaptan is an additive BGE puts in natural gas to give it a rotten egg smell.



### USE YOUR EYES

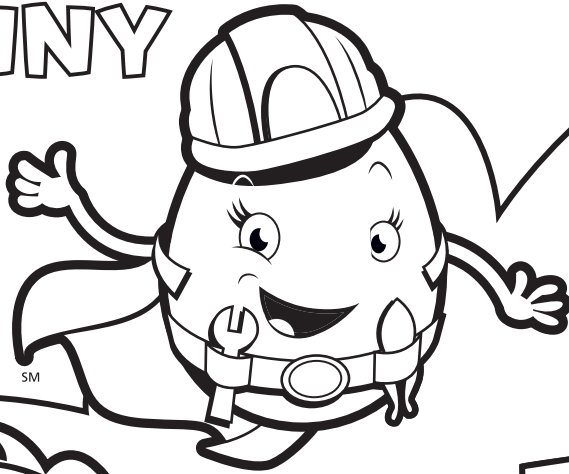
Look for dirt being blown into the air, dead plants or grass in an otherwise green area, fire coming from the ground or water bubbling or being blown into the air.

## IF YOU DETECT NATURAL GAS, LEAVE IMMEDIATELY:

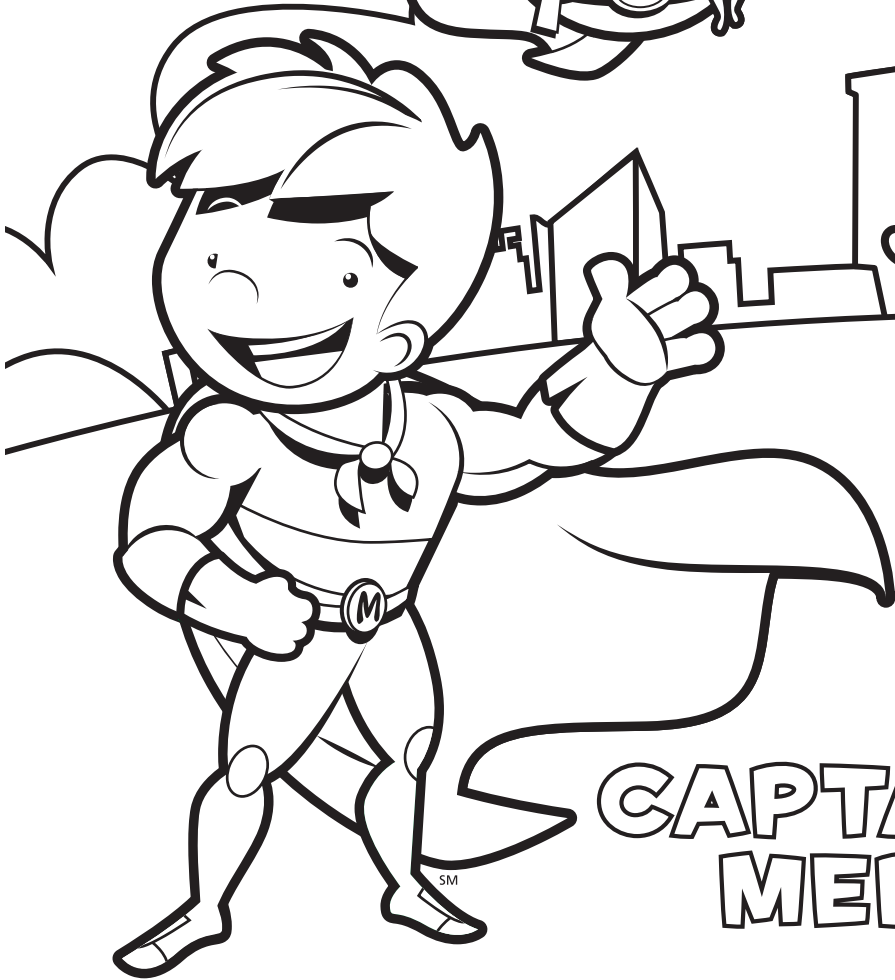
- ✗ DON'T try to find the source of the leak
  - ✗ DON'T use matches, or turn anything on, even a cell phone
  - ✓ Find a safe place outside and call BGE, or tell an adult to call, **800.685.0123** or **911**
- BGE will respond quickly. There is no charge to investigate a gas leak.

YOUR FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ THE CITY YOU LIVE IN: \_\_\_\_\_

SUNNY



PIPER



CAPTAIN  
MERCAPTAN

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# THE SEARCH IS ON FOR BGE SAFETY HEROES!



Find and circle the words that relate to natural gas safety.  
The word list is below.

E C Q L L K X L D M R R R Q B O Q D M C T L T Q A  
 K A E A D D I T I V E E Y O U E P Z I Z K F T L G  
 O L X B V O G H H E Y E S R P E P J E S W T U D A  
 V L G L X U R R E Q Y G S M W C T X C J Y U O B Z  
 L B U O T L F E R P J C P E J L M Z A L I Y D N T  
 V G R W B D V O O I L N A T U R A L G A S X Y O Z  
 F E E I K Y T B G P S A R E T T R Q X J H F R S P  
 W V B N G W N I A E F Q K R P M F R O B J P P E Q  
 J F H G Y E C P E L B L Y N O D O R L E S S S E A  
 L U F T M Q T W E I A E A C N O B Y E N I I U U J  
 R O A R I N G O Z N M O E M H M U T L X A C N I R  
 Q F O S S I L F U E L K B R E U W F V B M O N M E  
 D K K E S J B C I T A U N D E R G R O U N D Y M A  
 X Q B G U J P L D U M F B X M M Q B E A R S T E P  
 X C A P T A I N M E R C A P T A N R S C V C L D U  
 Y F C G I Q X Z T C R W K P M W B F M K E M P I N  
 W H Q S L Q D X Z F P K N Z M U X A F T A X D A V  
 L L U P I L K D S A F E T Y W U U K E S L G K T S  
 W A O A T N O K T D H C Y F L D W D C O O K K E R  
 J A U K Y P N L A Z K Q Z A G I X L Q U M L C L M  
 A P X V Y N Z U Z V H M R W S K U Y D R U G V Y Q  
 R H M T Z H O U S E L E M H E A T V K C C O N J W  
 B F C V U S Z S B X P J K R D Q D Y Y E Y A R Q Q  
 Z C J Z D Z Q B H I S S I N G T O U T E N E R G Y  
 J L A C S S B E P K S V Q L S A F E T Y S C E N T

CAPTAIN MERCAPTAN  
 SUNNY  
 PIPER  
 GET OUT  
 IMMEDIATELY  
 SAFETY SCENT

EYES  
 EARS  
 NOSE  
 NATURAL GAS  
 ADDITIVE  
 ODORLESS

HISSING  
 BLOWING  
 ROARING  
 HERO  
 CALL BGE  
 HOUSE

FLAME  
 SAFETY  
 DETECT  
 ENERGY  
 PIPELINE  
 UNDERGROUND

METER  
 MISS UTILITY  
 FOSSIL FUEL  
 COOK  
 HEAT  
 SPARK

YOUR FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ THE CITY YOU LIVE IN: \_\_\_\_\_

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SAFETY HERO, TOO!**



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