

Understanding

Clinical Trials

Ages 7-12

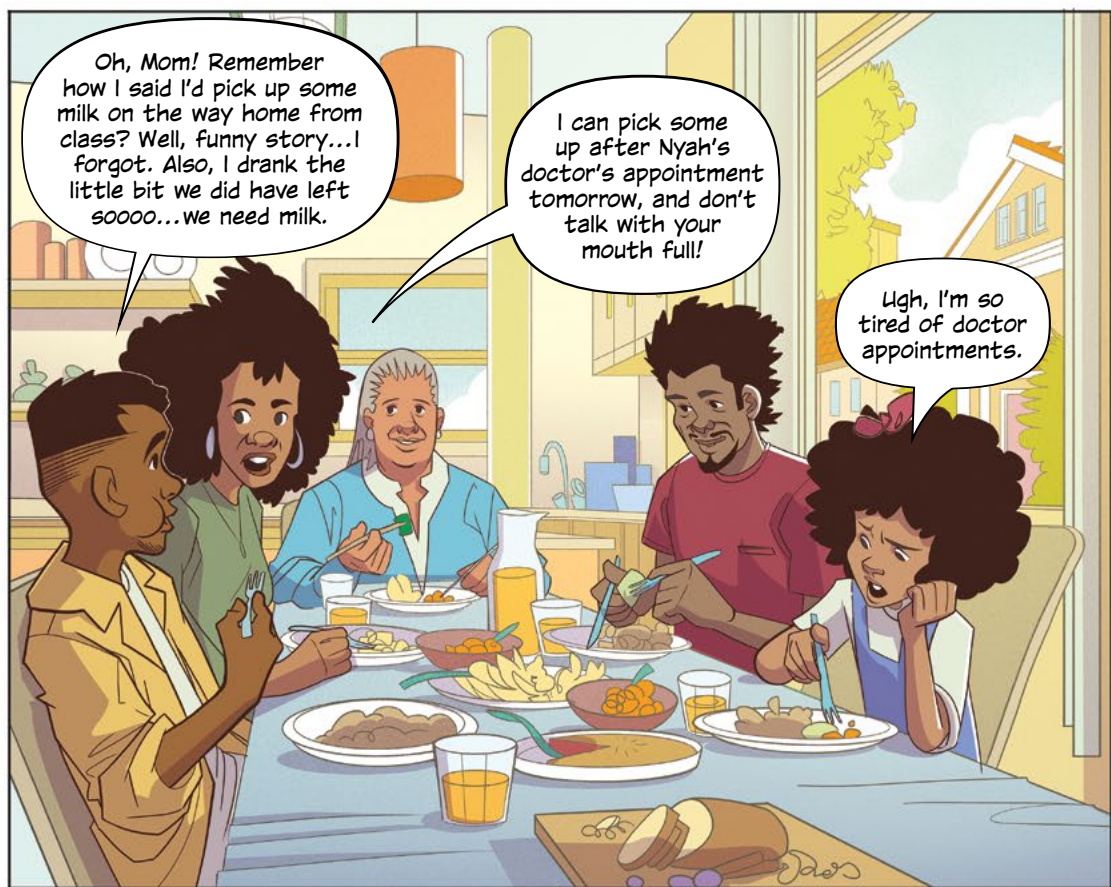


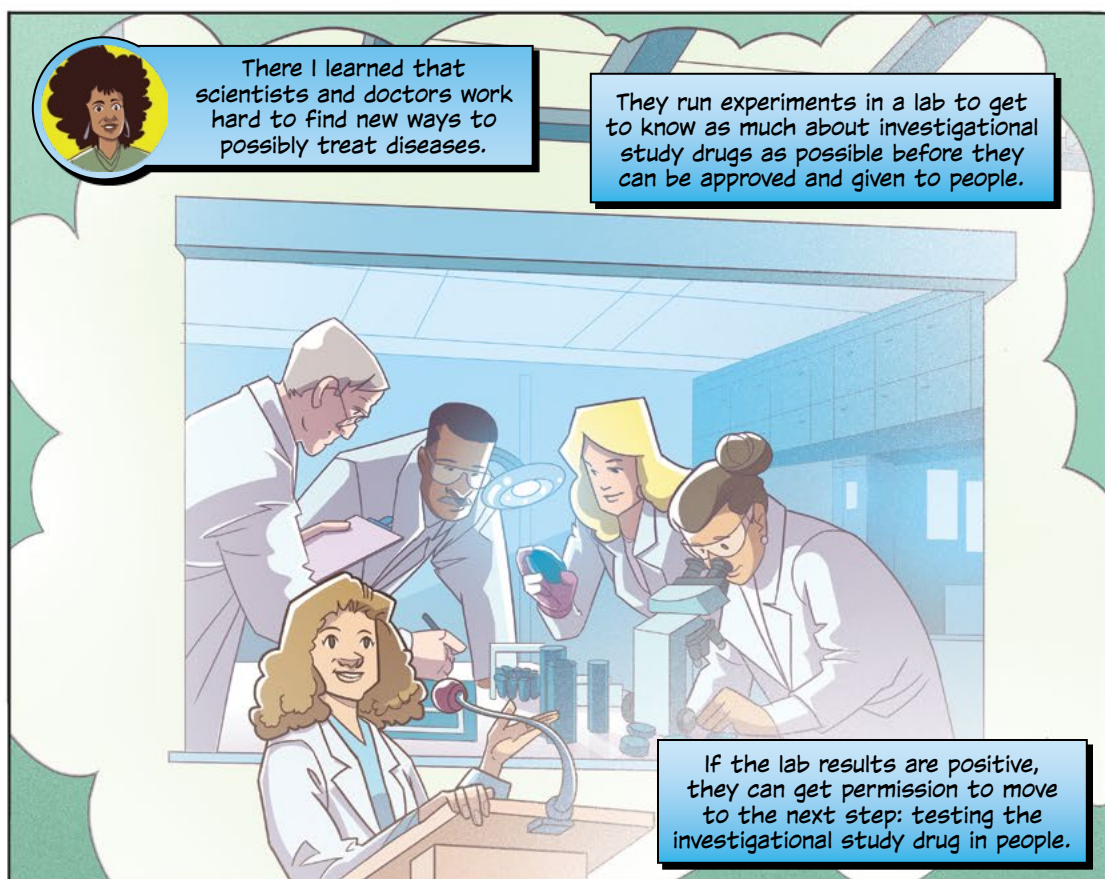
Featuring:

Nyah and her family

The stars of this book









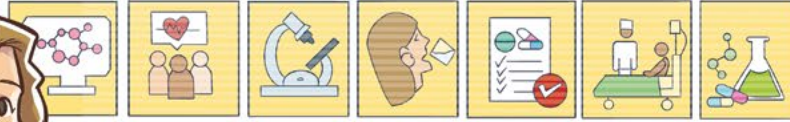
The tests with people are called clinical trials or clinical studies.



CLINICAL TRIALS



A lot of people are involved in deciding if an investigational study drug can be tested in people and how to do it safely.



But why do they need to do these tests on little girls like my Nyah?

Abuela, it's important to have all different kinds of people involved so that scientists and doctors discover what is safe and what might work for different individuals.

It's actually really important for our community to know about stuff like this and to have a voice in developing these investigational study drugs. People of color have been underrepresented in clinical trials in the past, and now it's time to change that.



And putting my body where my mouth is, I think I'll tag along to your doctor's appointment tomorrow, Nyah. I'd love to learn more firsthand.

THE NEXT DAY AT NYAH'S
DOCTOR'S APPOINTMENT

Thank you so much for coming in today. I'm Nurse Dominique and I'm going to get us started. Doctor Perry will be in momentarily.

To begin, do you have any questions?

I do! Ignoring the fact that I'm cute, fun, and a joy to be around, why exactly do you need me for this clinical trial?

What a great question! Actually, we have a little video presentation that I think will help answer that question and so many more!

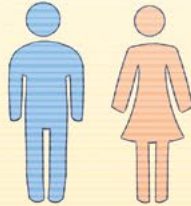
CLINICAL
TRIALS

So, some studies are just for kids because the investigational study drug is just for kids.

Then there are investigational study drugs that are for adults and kids. The problem is that a kid's body and an adult's body work differently. This means an investigational study drug might be safe for an adult but not safe for kids, which is why we study both kids and adults in some instances.

Adults

Kids





But also not all kids are the same!



Think about all the ways kids can be different from each other.

Well, me and my best friend both have black hair, but mine is curly and hers is straight.

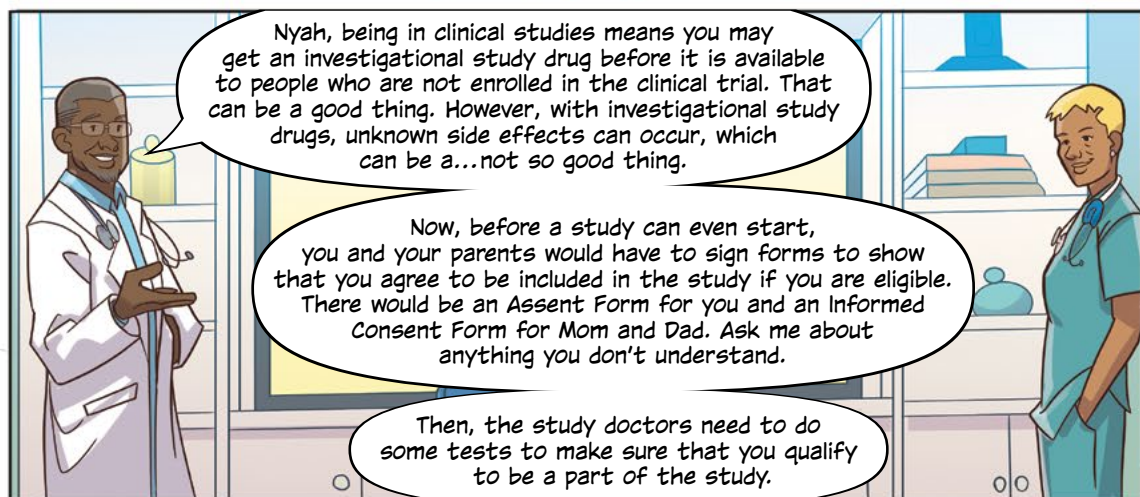
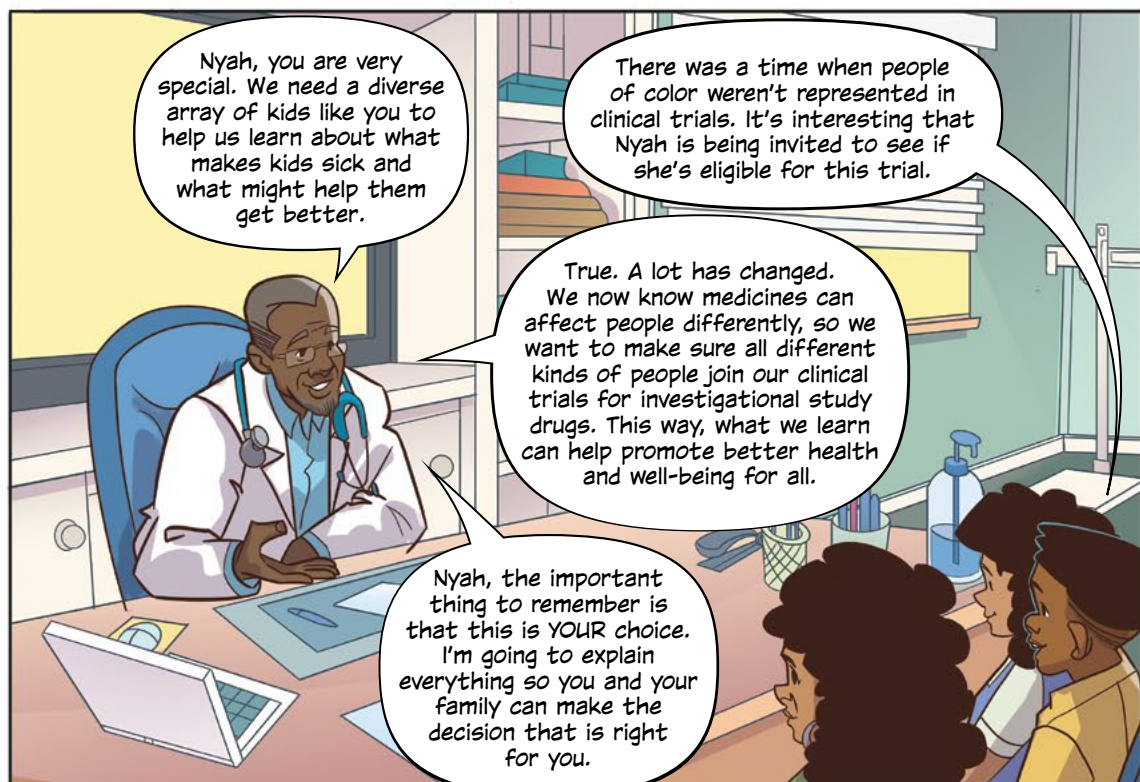
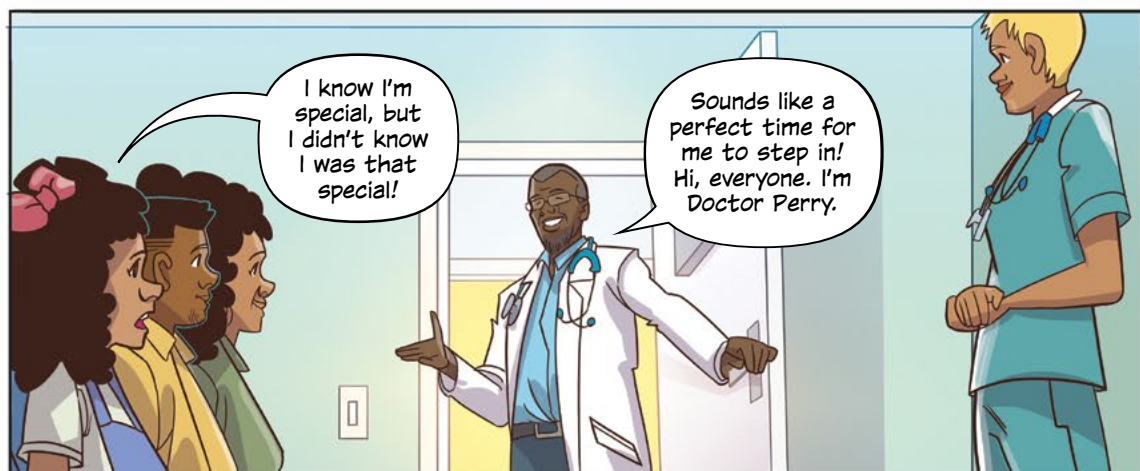
Yes! How we look is just one way we are different.

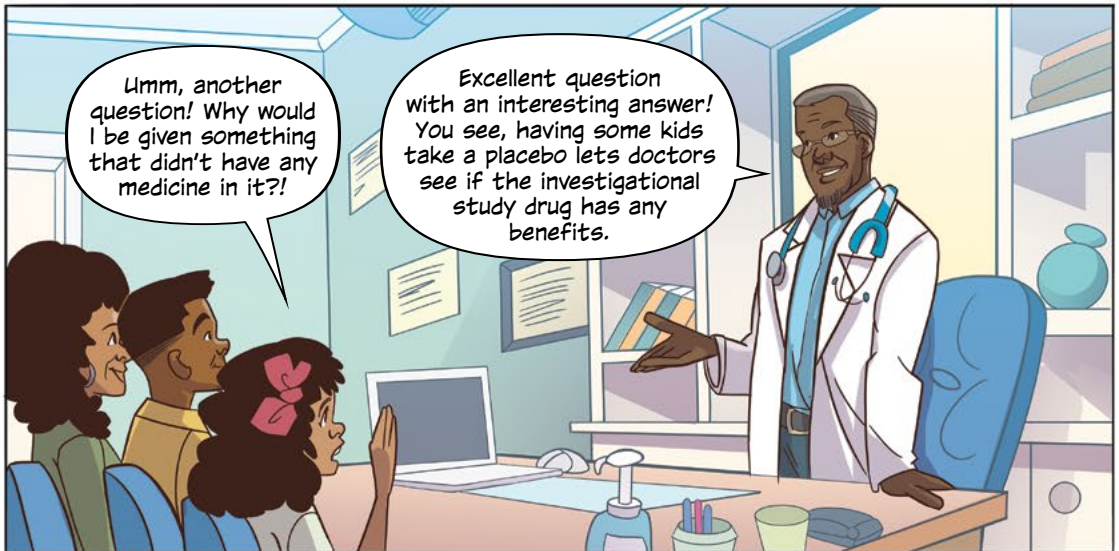
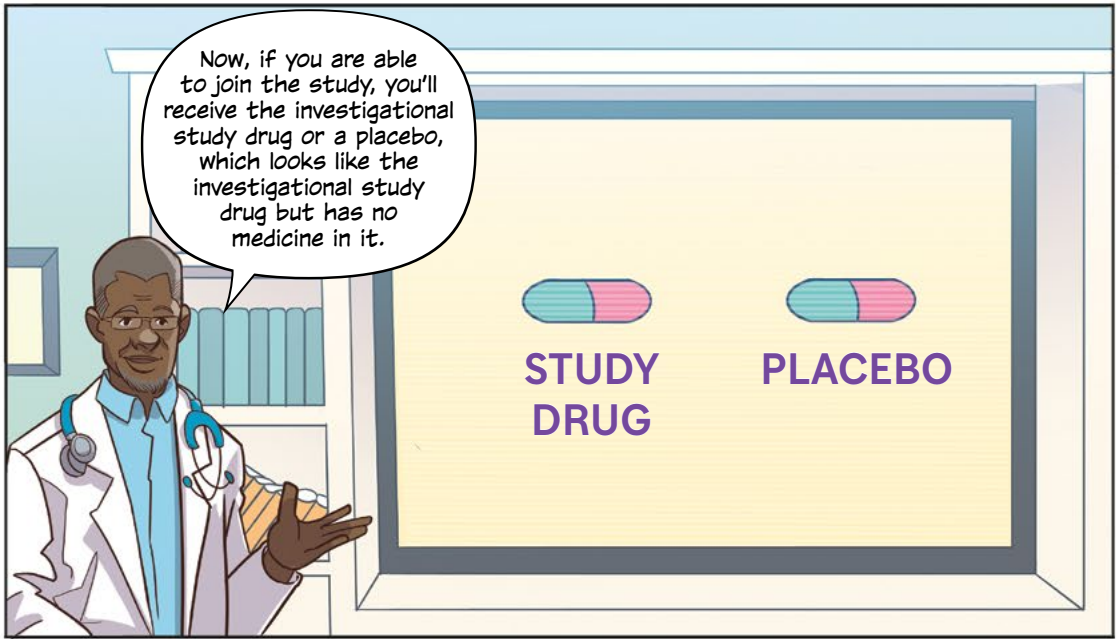
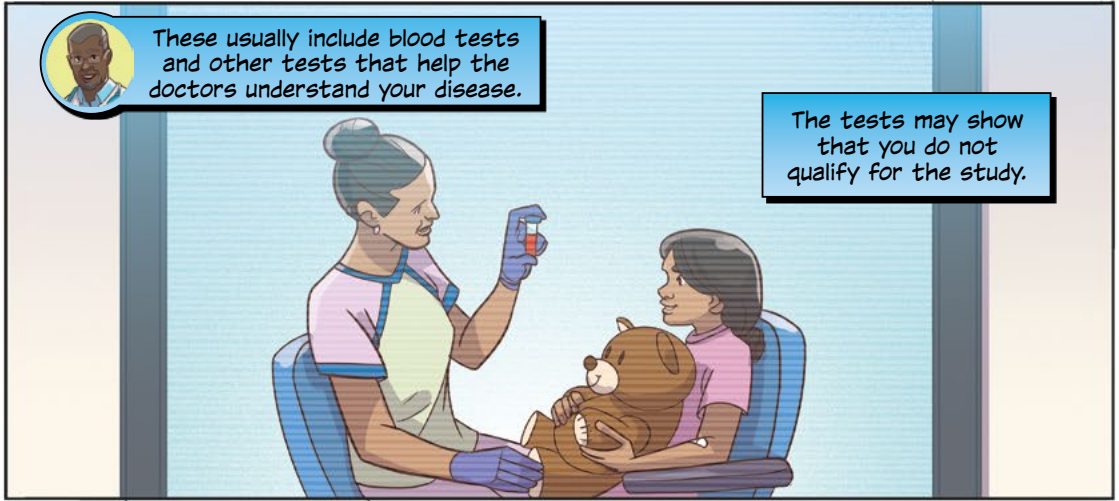


Age, sex/gender, ethnic background, and physical abilities make us different. So do our lifestyles—like the food we eat, how we exercise, and the environment we live in.



All of these things can make diseases, medicines, investigational study drugs, and vaccines affect kids differently. This is why studies need kids from all different backgrounds!





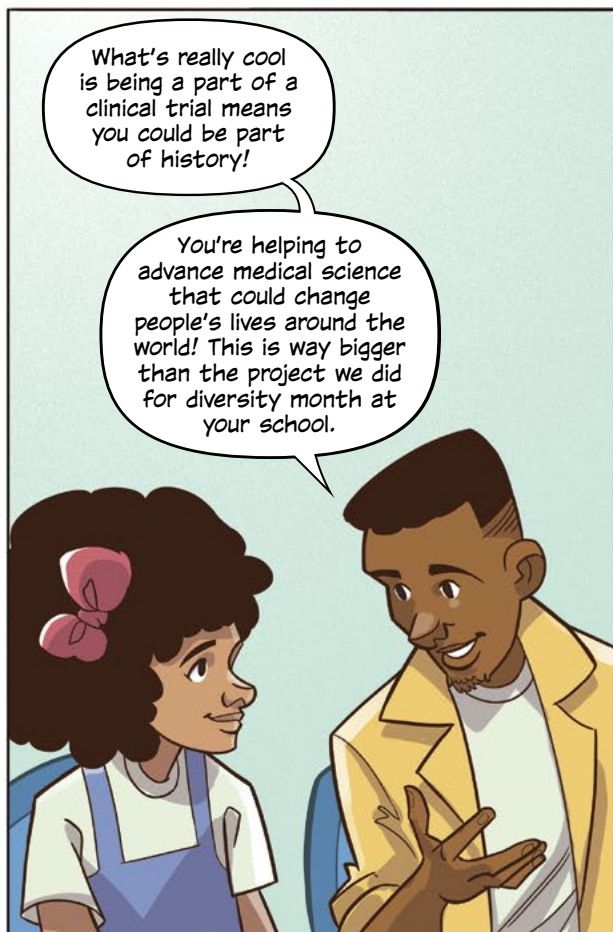
You'll have a schedule that lets you know when you need to visit the study clinic for health checks and tests. Some tests are repeated every time and some may happen only a few times.

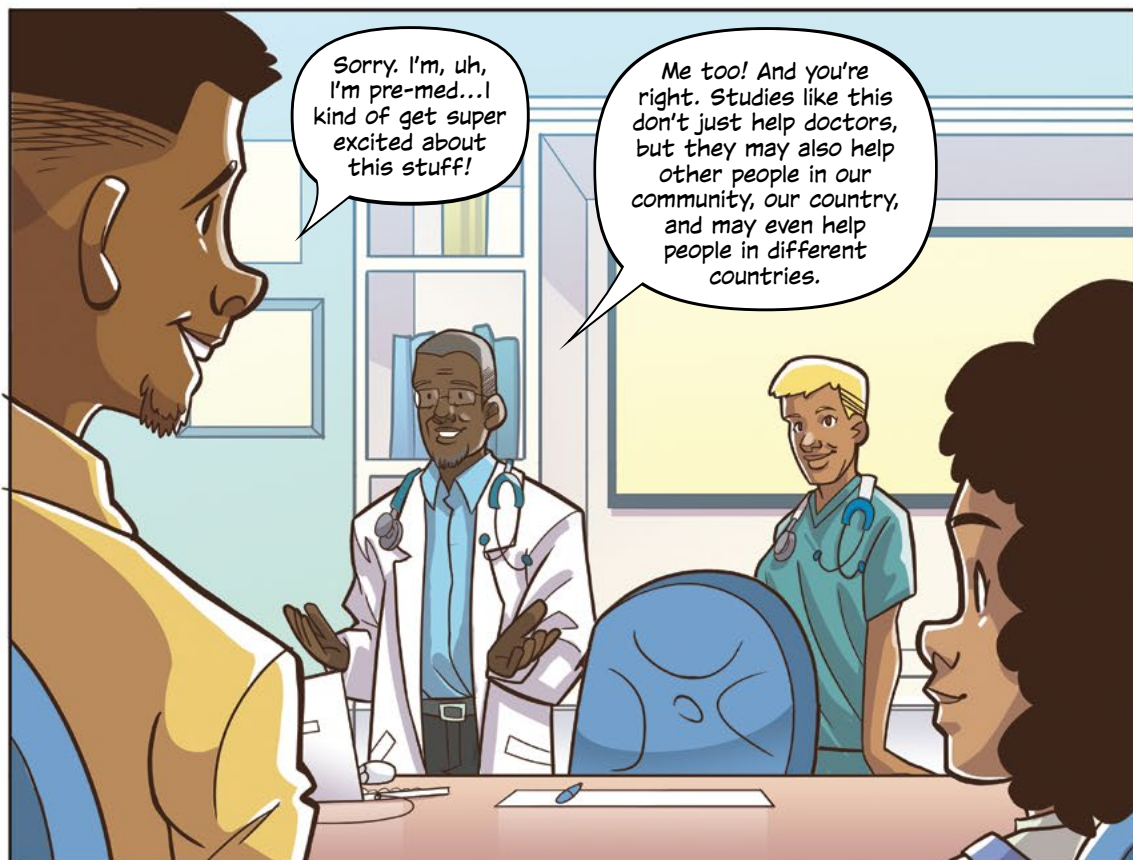
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Now, it's important to remember that the investigational study drug may or may not help you.

Also, since we don't know about all of the effects of an investigational study drug, it's important to tell your parents right away if you don't feel well!





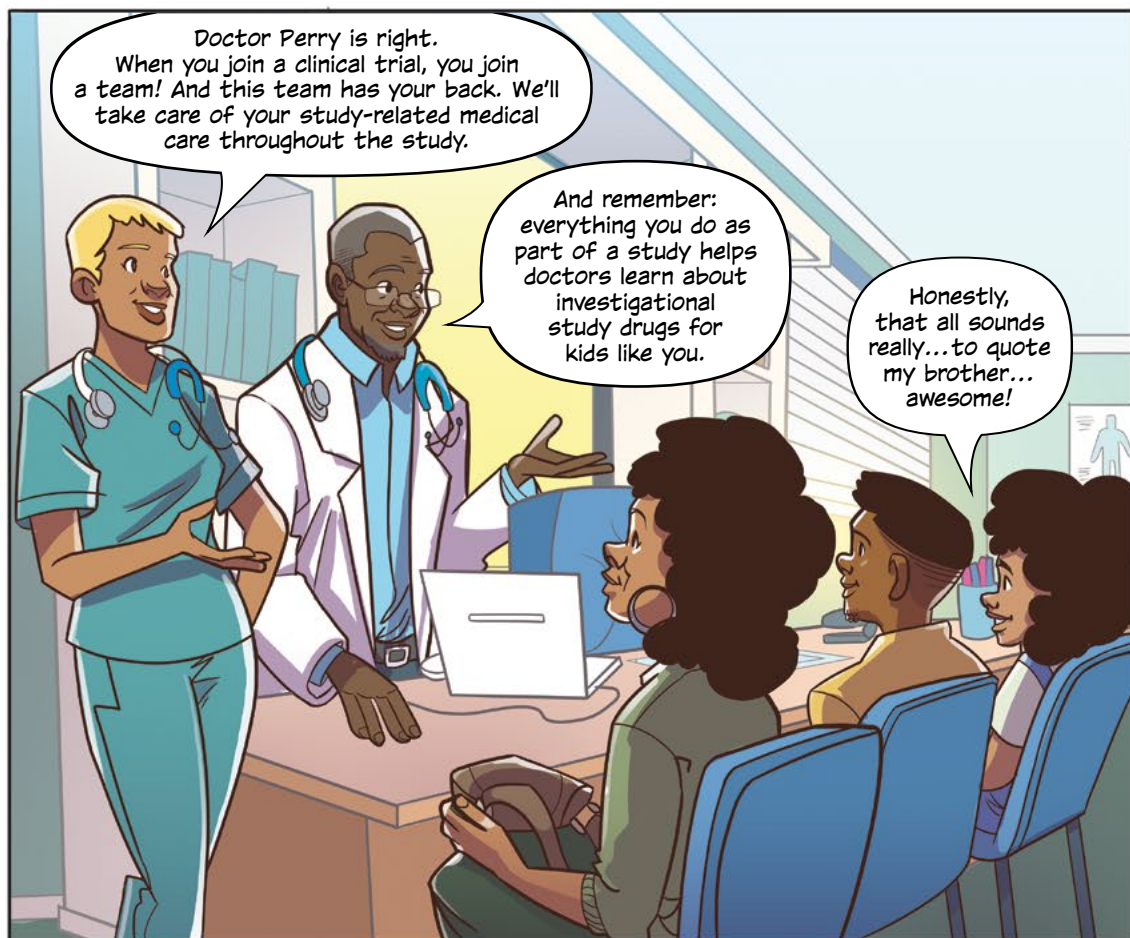
Sorry. I'm, uh, I'm pre-med...! kind of get super excited about this stuff!

Me too! And you're right. Studies like this don't just help doctors, but they may also help other people in our community, our country, and may even help people in different countries.



My teacher asked us to think about how we can help our community outside of school. Maybe this is it! By being part of a study, I might be able to help doctors find out how an investigational study drug works in different kids.





Glossary

Assent:

A kid gives their permission for doctors to include them in a clinical trial if eligible.



Clinical trial:

A type of research study performed to learn about an investigational study drug to see if it works and is safe for people to take.



Informed consent:

A parent/guardian gives their permission for doctors to include their child in a clinical trial if eligible.



Placebo:

A treatment that contains no active medicine. Having some kids take a placebo lets doctors see if the investigational study drug is effective.



Side effects:

Unwanted and often unpleasant effects of an investigational study drug or study test. Side effects may go away on their own or they may need to be treated. When you are in a clinical study, it's important to tell the study doctor about anything that bothers you.

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to learn about clinical trials.**

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