An illustrated book describing sickle cell anemia, its symptoms, effects, and causes is presented. (CK)
WHERE'S HERBIE?
A SICKLE CELL ANEMIA STORY
AND
COLORING BOOK
ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Morrie Turner's cartooned message on sickle cell anemia grew out of his elected mission to use his talents to help build a more humane world for children. At 47, "Morrie" (his trademark, affectionately used by all ages) works 12-18 hours a day, with his TV keeping him constantly "aware of what's going on in the world and people's attitudes about it." With his researcher-wife, Letha, he produces "Wee Pals", the first Black comic strip to make the newspapers, and now multi-racial and distributed to 75 publications. During the rest of his waking hours, he gives 3 to 6 chalk talks per week to school children, teaches cartooning at two institutions, publishes books, develops film strips and commercials, and prepares a full-hour TV program for the ABC network. His wide-ranging activities are directed primarily to entertaining, informing, and morale building of Black children. His audiences, however, include all races and span all ages.

Morrie's goal for "better schools and better Oakland" (Calif.) has led him to probe innumerable subjects involving racial problems and needs of poor children, such as nutrition, reading, and now sickle cell anemia, a race-linked disease. For his humanistic achievements he received the National Conference of Christians and Jews Brotherhood Award in 1966, and was honored by both the DeMolay Association and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. In 1970, he was tapped for the distinction of serving as vice-chairman of the Forum on Child Development and the Mass Media that prepared for the 1970 White House Conference on Children.

Where's Herbie?, generously contributed to the Office of Child Development by Morrie Turner, is an outgrowth of the Conference and the latest evidence of his imagination.

FREDERICK C. GREEN, M.D.
Associate Chief
Children's Bureau
A SICKLE WHAT?

SICKLE CELL ANEMIA! IT'S A DISEASE THAT USUALLY STRIKES BLACK PEOPLE!

HI FELLAS! WHERE'S HERBIE?

HE'S HOME RESTING... DOCTOR'S ORDERS!

HE HAS SICKLE CELL ANEMIA, YA KNOW!

HEY! MAYBE WE CAUGHT IT FROM HIM!

MORRIE...
NAW, MAN, IT DOESN'T WORK THAT WAY, YOU HAVE TO INHERIT IT FROM YOUR PARENTS; THEY HAVE TO HAVE IT IN THEIR BLOOD BEFORE YOU CAN GET IT!

WELL, I'M SAFE! MY PARENTS DON'T HAVE ANYTHING LIKE THAT!

DON'T BE SO SURE, BABY, ONE OUT OF TEN BLACK PEOPLE CARRY THE SICKLE CELL TRAIT, AND ONE IN FOUR HUNDRED HAVE SICKLE CELL ANEMIA!

WELL, IF SO MANY PEOPLE HAVE THE DISEASE HOW DO WE KNOW IF WE GOT IT?

YOU MEAN WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS—WELL IT MAKES YOU TIRED, CAUSES FEVER AND PAIN IN YOUR ARMS, LEGS, AND STOMACH ARE THE SYMPTOMS!

WHY DO THEY CALL IT SICKLE CELL?

BECAUSE WHEN YOU HAVE IT THE RED BLOOD CELLS CHANGE TO A SICKLE SHAPE DUE TO LACK OF OXYGEN!
I HOPE THEY CURE HERBIE, QUICK!

MAN! I HOPE THEY CURE HERBIE, QUICK!

THERE IS NO CURE FOR SICKLE CELL ANEMIA!

GOSH! WHAT'S HE GONNA DO?...STAY IN BED THE REST OF HIS LIFE?

NO! PEOPLE WITH SICKLE CELL ANEMIA ARE A LOT LIKE PEOPLE WITH OTHER KINDS OF ANEMIA - THEY ARE USUALLY SHORT OF BREATH AND TIRE OUT EASILY!

Yeah, a person with the disease may be able to lead a pretty normal life...
"Blacks living in the Malaria belts of Africa have for centuries been exposed to Malaria. Malaria is an infection caused by a parasite that destroys the red blood cells. There is evidence to indicate that African individuals carrying sickled cells are more resistant to malaria. When blacks were imported by the American slave system to America where malaria is virtually non-existent the advantage of having sickle cell trait was eliminated and an asset became a liability."

Areas of Sickle-cell gene in the Old World
WELL, I'M GLAD I DON'T HAVE SICKLE CELL ANEMIA!

HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT YOU DON'T HAVE IT IN YOUR BLOOD STREAMS?

I DON'T KNOW!

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

TO THE DOCTOR TO GET A CHECK UP!
WHAT A GOOFY GUY HE IS!

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT MAN. SEEING A DOCTOR SOUNDS LIKE A PRETTY GOOD IDEA TO ME!
WELL, HERE WE ARE! LET'S GO IN...
IT'S TOO LATE TO CHICKEN OUT!

HELLO MISS! IS THE DOCTOR IN?

COME IN BOYS... CAN I HELP YOU?

YES MAM!
WE WANNA BE EXAMINED FOR THAT SICKLY CELL STUFF
HE MEANS SICKLE CELL
THE DOCTOR IS ALWAYS HAPPY TO TEST FOR SICKLE CELL TRAITS

WILL IT HURT?

CHICKEN!

HI DOC! WE'D LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT SICKLE CELL ANEMIA

YEAH, AND I NEED AN EXAMINATION

HELLO FELLAS! I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU'RE SO INTERESTED IN SICKLE CELL ANEMIA.
IF BOTH YOUR PARENTS HAVE NORMAL HEMOGLOBIN IN THEIR BLOOD YOU WILL HAVE NORMAL HEMOGLOBIN AND THEREFORE WILL NOT SUFFER FROM SICKLE CELL ANEMIA.

IF ONE PARENT HAS SICKLE CELL TRAIT, HIS CHILDREN COULD INHERIT IT.
"If both parents have some of the sickle cell hemoglobin in their blood, their children have more of a chance of inheriting sickle cell hemoglobin and some may even inherit enough of it to cause sickle cell anemia.

Parents:
- Sickle cell trait
- Sickle cell trait

Children:
- Sickle cell trait
- Sickle cell trait
- Sickle cell trait
- Normal

You can't catch sickle cell anemia - you're either born with it or you're not."
I GUESS OUR BUDDY HERBIE WAS BORN WITH SICKLE CELL ANEMIA.

WILL HE BE IN BED THE REST OF HIS LIFE, DOC?

HE'S HAVING WHAT WE CALL A SICKLE CELL CRISIS, WHICH CAN LAST FROM A FEW HOURS TO A WEEK AND IT CAN BE VERY PAINFUL.

IT MAKES THEM SHORT OF BREATH AND TIRE OUT EASILY—THEY MAY HAVE SEVERE PAIN IN ANY PART OF THE BODY, RUN A FEVER WITH CHILLS, SHOW BLOOD IN THEIR URINE AND A YELLOW COLOR IN THEIR EYES.
DO YOU GO THROUGH THE CRISIS WHEN YOU HAVE SICKLE CELL TRAIT?

"NO, PEOPLE WITH SICKLE CELL TRAIT CAN USUALLY LEAD NORMAL LIVES, BUT THEY HAVE TROUBLE DURING FLIGHTS AT HIGH ALTITUDES IN AN UNPRESSURIZED AIRPLANE."
OR DURING ANESTHESIA FOR SURGERY....

OR ON AUTOMOBILE TRIPS ACROSS HIGH MOUNTAINS, OR IN ANY SITUATION WHERE THERE IS A LOWER AMOUNT OF OXYGEN...

PEOPLE WITH THE TRAIT WILL HAVE TROUBLE WITH THESE THINGS TOO.. THEY SHOULD NOT GO SWIMMING UNDERWATER.... AND A WOMAN WITH SICKLE CELL ANEMIA NEEDS EXTRA CARE WHEN SHE'S PREGNANT
WELL, I WANT TO BE EXAMINED, DOC... IF YOU PROMISE IT WON'T HURT!

WILL WE HAVE TO TAKE OUR CLOTHES OFF?

NO!

TESTING FOR SICKLE CELL TRAIT IS REALLY VERY SIMPLE AND INEXPENSIVE - WE ONLY NEED A DROP OF BLOOD FROM THE FINGER!
WHEN I GET BIG
I'M GOING TO BE A
DOCTOR AND HELP
PEOPLE WITH
SICKLE CELL
ANEMIA!

NOT ME!.. I'M
GOING TO BE A
SCIENTIST AND
FIND A CURE FOR
SICKLE CELL
ANEMIA!

RIGHT ON!
NOW! Write your questions for the Doctor.
For additional information on Sickle Cell Disease write to:
National Sickle Cell Disease Program, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland 20014.