

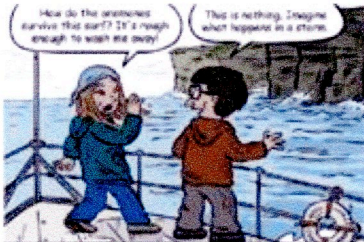
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Newsmakers

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PIONEERS



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WOMEN ASCENDANT. As a child, Marta Tienda spent two summers as a migrant laborer picking tomatoes with her family. Now a sociologist at Princeton University, Tienda draws upon that experience to explore why some ethnic and racial groups have a harder time than others in moving up the economic ladder.

Tienda's rise from poverty is one of 10 stories in a new book series from the National Academies about female scientists. The series, *Women's Adventures in Science*, is intended to whet the appetites of middle and high school students for scientific careers. The stories convey the glamour and excitement of science and engineering, making it clear how scientists can make a difference.

Along with the series, the academies have unveiled a Web site (www.iwaswondering.org) with a number of interactive features, including a comic strip dedicated to each scientist. The cartoon above describes the work of Mimi Koehl, a biomechanist at the University of California, Berkeley, who studies how animals move.