Ride a Bike

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Practice reading these sentences.

Dad helped Vick ride a bike.
Dad let go, and Vick fell.
Dad said, “Get up. Try to ride.”
Dad gave Vick a bike. Vick jumped up and hugged Dad. “Is it mine, Dad?” he asked. “I like it.” Dad nodded. “You raked leaves all fall. You can have a bike.”

Dad had a surprise for Vick. What was it? [He gave Vick a new bike.]
How did Vick feel? [He was happy. He liked his bike.]
Why did Dad give Vick a bike? [Vick raked leaves all fall.]
Vick slipped on his jacket and bike helmet. He grabbed the bike’s handles. He put his feet on the pedals. Dad held Vick’s bike by its seat. “O.K., Vick,” said Dad, “it is time to ride.”
Vick pushed the pedals.
Dad held on.
“I can ride. I can ride,” said Vick.
Vick was riding the bike fast.

What did Vick say? [“I can ride.”]
Was Vick riding slowly? [No, he was riding fast.]
Vick’s dad got tired of running. He had to let go of Vick’s bike. “I’ve got to let go,” said Dad. “No, Dad! Don’t!” screamed Vick.

Why did Dad let go of the bike? [He got tired of running.]
Why didn’t Vick want Dad to let go? [He was afraid he would fall if Dad wasn’t holding on to the bike.]

Why do you think Vick fell when Dad let go of the bike? [Vick didn’t know how to ride yet.]

What did Dad say after Vick fell? [“Get up. Try to ride.”]
Vick got back on his bike.
Dad ran by Vick’s bike for a long time.
Dad let go. Vick and his bike dived in the grass again.
Dad helped him up. Vick tried to ride again.
Vick said, “I cannot ride on grass.”

What happened when Dad let go? [Vick and his bike dived in the grass again.]

Make a Prediction: Will Vick learn to ride his bike?
(T-P-S) Have the students support their predictions.
Vick said, “The lot at school is flat. I can ride on the lot.”
Dad put Vick’s bike in the van. They went to the school.
Vick got on the bike.
Dad held the seat, but not for long.

There was a “lot” at school.
A “lot” is a place where you park cars. Do you think a lot is a good place to ride a bike? Why? (T-P-S)
Dad let go of the bike. Vick did not see Dad let go. He called, “See me go fast! I can ride! I am fine!”

What did Vick say? [“See me go fast! I can ride! I am fine!”]
Then Vick saw the end of the lot.
Vick yelled, “Dad, help me stop! Dad?
Dad, I must stop!”
Vick looked back.

Vick screamed for Dad.
What did he want Dad to do? [He wanted Dad to help him stop.]
What do you think will happen to Vick? (T-P-S)
Vick closed his eyes. He held onto the handlebars with all his might. What do you think happened?

Vick’s bike hit the end of the lot. It bumped and jumped on the grass. Vick held onto the handles.

What happened when Vick’s bike hit the end of the lot? [The bike bumped and jumped on the grass. Vick held on tight.]
Vick shut his \(\text{eyes}\). He held on.
The bike slipped, stopped, and fell.
Vick was in a heap on the grass.

What did the bike do? [It slipped, stopped, and fell.]
A “heap” is like a pile. Say “heap.”
Do you think Vick was hurt? (T-P-S)
Dad came and sat beside Vick. “Are you O.K.?” he asked. “I did it, Dad,” Vick grinned. “I can ride my bike!”

Is Vick O.K.? (T-P-S)
Why did Vick grin? [He could ride his bike.]
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Use T-P-S to discuss these questions.

1. **How did Dad help Vick learn to ride a bike?**
   
   [He held the bike while Vick pedaled.]

2. **Why did Dad and Vick go to the school?**
   
   [The lot at the school was flat. It was easier to ride on.]

3. **Did Vick learn to ride his bike?**
   
   [He could ride a little, but he could not stop. He will need to practice.]
Reading Roots, Level 3

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