



Many kinds of bicycles

Preview

Look at the picture. Then complete these sentences with words from the box.

pedals wheels rubber metal

1. I had to push hard on the

_____ to make

my bike go
up the hill.

2. The frame of
a bicycle is made

of _____.

3. The _____

on a bicycle are round.

4. The tyres on a bicycle

are made of

_____.

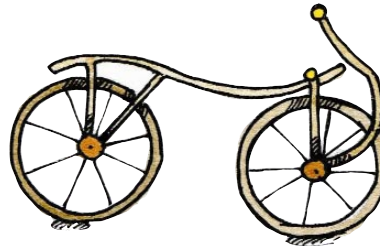




Reading

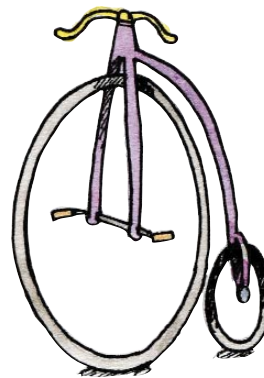
The history of the bicycle

The first bicycle was made of wood and had no pedals. You had to walk along and then lift your legs.



In 1865 a bicycle with pedals on the front wheels was invented. It had metal wheels.

In 1870 the 'penny-farthing' was invented. At the front it had a large wheel with pedals on it. At the back there was a small wheel. The bicycle was made of metal and had hard rubber tyres. It was very easy to fall off a penny-farthing.



Next came a bike that looked a lot like today's bicycles. But the tyres were still made of hard rubber. It was very uncomfortable to ride.

In the 1890s John Dunlop invented rubber tyres that were filled with air. After that, bicycle riding was much more comfortable.



Reading check

A. Circle T for true or F for false.

1. The first bicycle was made of metal. T / F
2. The first bicycle did not have any pedals. T / F
3. In 1865, someone invented a bicycle with pedals. T / F
4. The penny-farthing bicycle had soft rubber tyres. T / F
5. Bicycles with hard rubber tyres are comfortable to ride. T / F

B. Write 1 to 5 beside these sentences to show the correct order.

- ___ a. Next, someone added pedals to bicycles.
- ___ b. Finally, Dunlop invented tyres filled with air.
- ___ c. First, someone invented a bicycle with no pedals.
- ___ d. After that, someone invented a bicycle with pedals, two wheels of the same size and hard rubber tyres.
- ___ e. The next invention was a bicycle with a small wheel at the back and a large wheel at the front.

Word check

Complete these sentences with words from the box.

filled with invented uncomfortable fall off
comfortable

1. The telephone was _____ in 1876.
2. This bed is very _____. It makes my back hurt.
3. I like sitting in this chair. It's very _____.
4. The room was _____ smoke from the fire.
5. Don't stand on that chair. You might _____.

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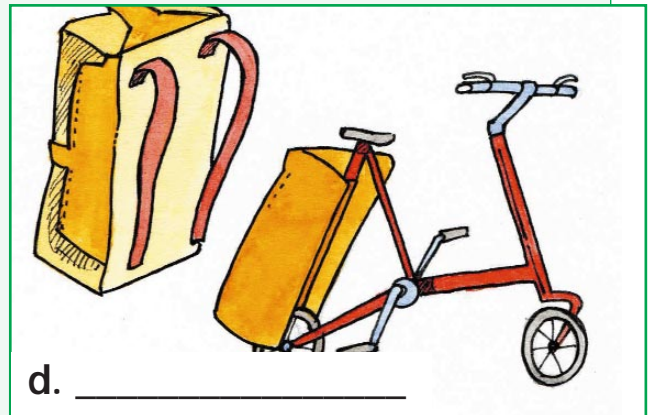
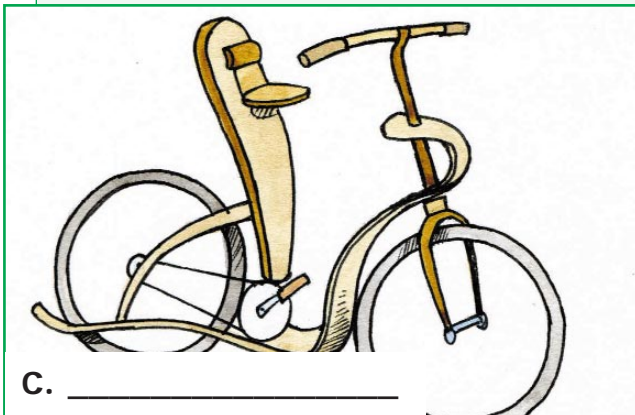
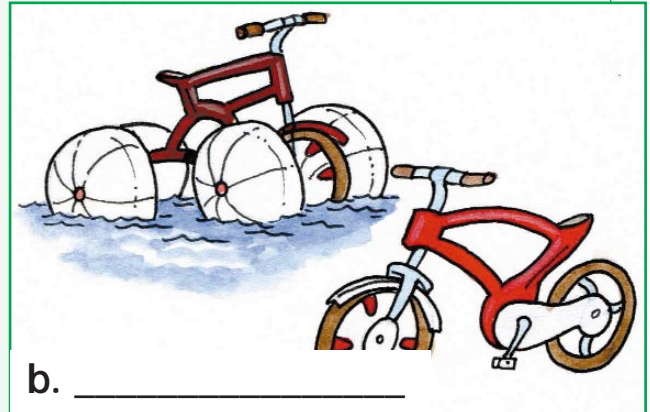


Track 23

Listening

Listen and write the names of the bicycles under the correct pictures.

Svepa Everglide Sunny Day Amphibian



Speaking

Choose one of the bicycles in the pictures and discuss these questions with a partner.

1. How is this bike different from a normal bike?
2. What kind of person might ride this bike?
3. What do you like about this bike? What don't you like?
4. Would you like a bike like this? Why or why not?

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Having fun

Preview



BMX racing



flatland riding



vert ramp riding



trail bike riding

These pictures show different kinds of sports you can do with BMX bikes. Discuss these questions with your partner.

1. Which BMX sport can you do in a car park when the cars have gone?
2. Which sport do you need to do with other people?
3. Which sport do you think is the most dangerous?
4. Have you ever tried any of these BMX sports?
5. Would you like to try any of these sports? Why or why not?



Reading

My Circus Life

by Marco Zeffirelli


[The circus](#)
[Our horses](#)
[Our dogs](#)
[Next year](#)
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27th July My BMX bike

One of my favourite hobbies is BMX bike riding. I'm a flatland rider. That means I ride only on flat land, not on hills or dirt trails. I can always find somewhere to practise. Car parks at shopping centres are good places to ride after the shops close.

I can do lots of different tricks. The circus clowns showed me some unusual ones. They ride bikes in the circus and they are really good at it.

It is hard to make friends outside the circus because we only stay in towns for a short time. Riding my BMX helps. I can start practising on my



own, and soon other kids come along. I teach them tricks and we become friends.

Reading check

Circle the best answer.

1. What kind of BMX sport does Marco do?
a. racing b. trail riding c. flatland riding d. vert ramp riding
2. Why does Marco like flatland riding?
a. Because he can make friends.
b. Because it's easy to find a place to ride.
c. Because he is good at the sport.
d. Because he can ride by himself.
3. How did Marco learn his tricks?
a. The clowns taught him. b. He looked on the Internet.
c. His friends showed him. d. He taught himself.
4. How does Marco's bike help him make friends?
a. He teaches children to do tricks.
b. He tells children about the circus.
c. He takes children to see the clowns.
d. He goes to shopping centres.

Word check

Complete the sentences with words from the box.

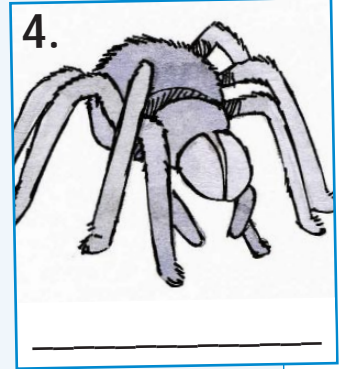
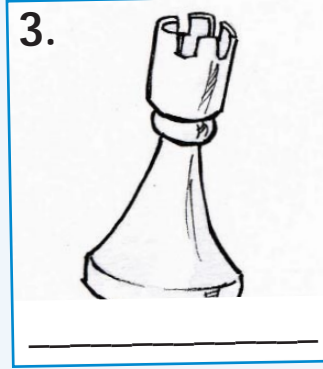
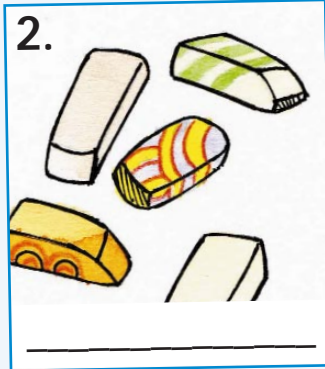
hobby flat dirt trail car park kids

1. Take your shoes off. I don't want _____ on my clean floor.
2. My friend's _____ is collecting stamps.
3. The _____ was so big we couldn't find our car.
4. We walked along a _____ through the forest.
5. There are no hills near my home. The land is completely _____.
6. There were lots of _____ at the playground.



Listening

A. Listen. Write **Dan, Jane, Tom or Anne** under their hobbies.



B. Listen again. Write the names of the children in these sentences.

1. _____ keeps animals in glass tanks.
2. _____ has an orange and white scarf.
3. _____ belongs to a club.
4. _____ looks at her collection when she is alone.

C. Now listen and complete these sentences. Then read them to a partner.

- 1: I have lots of hobbies, but my favourite one is chess. It's a very interesting game. I _____ to a chess club at school. I also _____ with my dad in the evenings.
- 2: I _____ collecting things. I have nearly 200 rubbers. I _____ them in a box in my bedroom.
- 3: I have an unusual hobby. I _____ spiders as pets. I have five spiders altogether. They live in glass tanks.

Speaking

Work with a partner. Tell your partner about your favourite hobby.