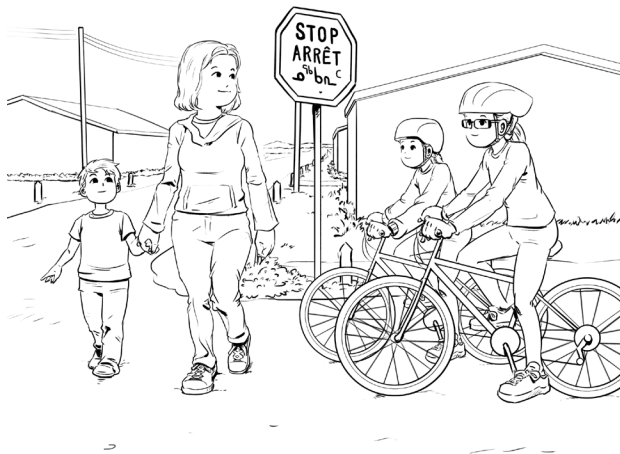


Meeka's Bike Ride



Written by
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Illustrated by
Eric Kim

This book is part of the Inuutsiarniq Reading Series developed by the Department of Health in Nunavut. The Inuutsiarniq Reading Series is a unique, Nunavut-developed literacy initiative that infuses Northern values of healthy living and self-care into a culturally appropriate reading program.

The Inuutsiarniq Reading Series was developed to support the reading level guidelines outlined in the Department of Education's Inuktit reading program, Uqalimaariuqsaniq. Uqalimaariuqsaniq is a sequential and progressive Inuktit reading program that supports students in their development from emergent to independent readers.

Healthy behaviours start at home. Healthy children become healthy adults. For more information, visit www.gov.nu.ca/health and your local Health Centre.

Family Engagement/ It Starts at Home

A child's success as a reader is dependent on supportive home and school environments. Reading, and a love of reading, begins at home. The Department of Health has developed a series of levelled take-home books to support reading at home. The following is a list of things you can do to support children as they become independent readers.

Keep distractions to a minimum. Find a quiet place to read and talk about the book. Even the best readers have a difficult time focusing on reading when there are too many distractions.

Take turns. Read to the child, read with the child, and let the child demonstrate his or her reading skills to you. This will help you provide gentle corrections, and it will provide an opportunity for the child to show you how he or she is improving.

Read it again and again. It is good to read the book a few times. Repetition helps strengthen learning and develops a child's confidence in reading.

Ask questions. As you read through the book, pause and ask questions about what is going on. This will help the child think about what he or she is reading, and will reinforce reading comprehension.

Focus on successes, not mistakes. All early reading experiences should focus on praising success, as this will build confidence in the child.

Talk about the symbols or letters and sounds. Help the child learn the names of the symbols or letters and the sounds they make. Point out other things around the house that start with the same sound.

Read it and experience it. If possible, make connections between what the book is about and what happens in life. For example, if the book is about food, talk about food you eat together at home.

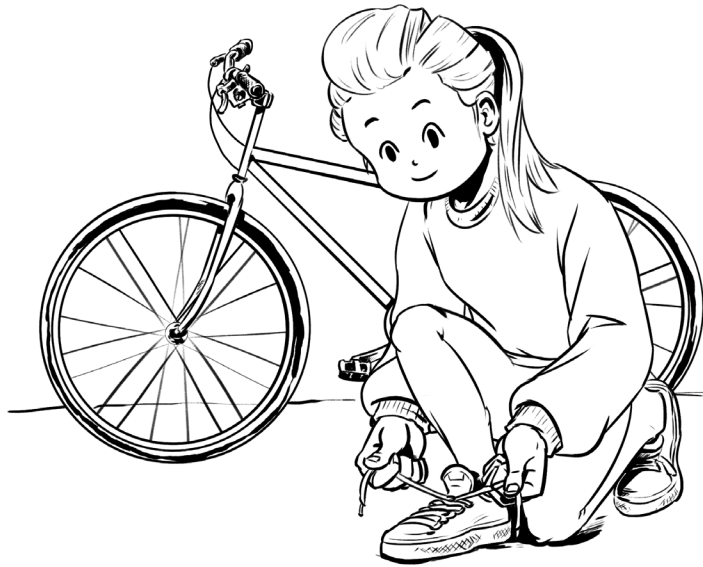
Book details

Level: 9

Text Type: Fiction

Subject/themes: Bike safety, traffic safety, safety equipment for bike-riding

Key features: Bike safety rules, dialogue, present and future tense



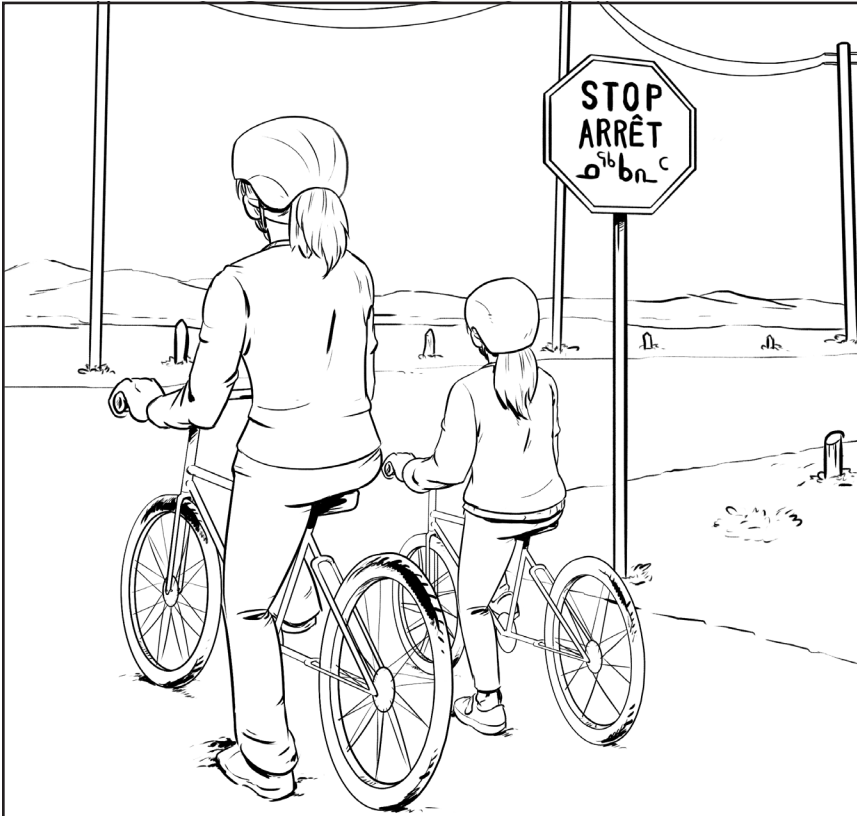
Meeka is excited to ride her bike with her mother after school.

“Remember to tighten your shoelaces so they don’t get caught in your pedals or gears,” her mother says.

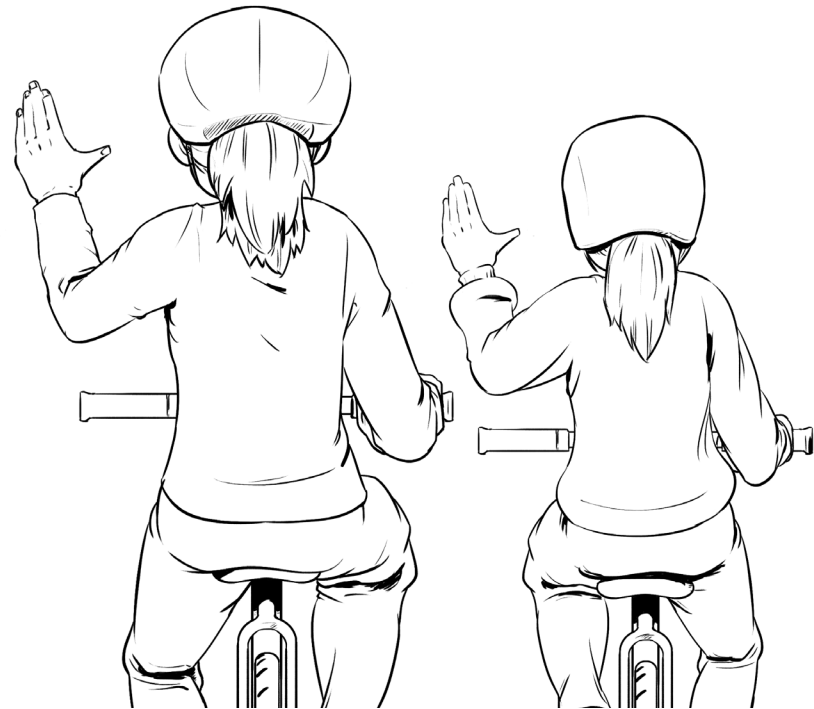


Meeka and her mother both put on their helmets. They fasten the straps securely under their chins.

They check to make sure the reflectors are on the wheels of their bikes.



Meeka and her mother hop on their bikes and ride off! They ride on the right side of the street. When they get to a stop sign, they stop.



“We should go to the playground!”
Meeka says.

“That is to our right,” her mother says.
“Remember to tell others you’re turning right by showing the arm signal.”

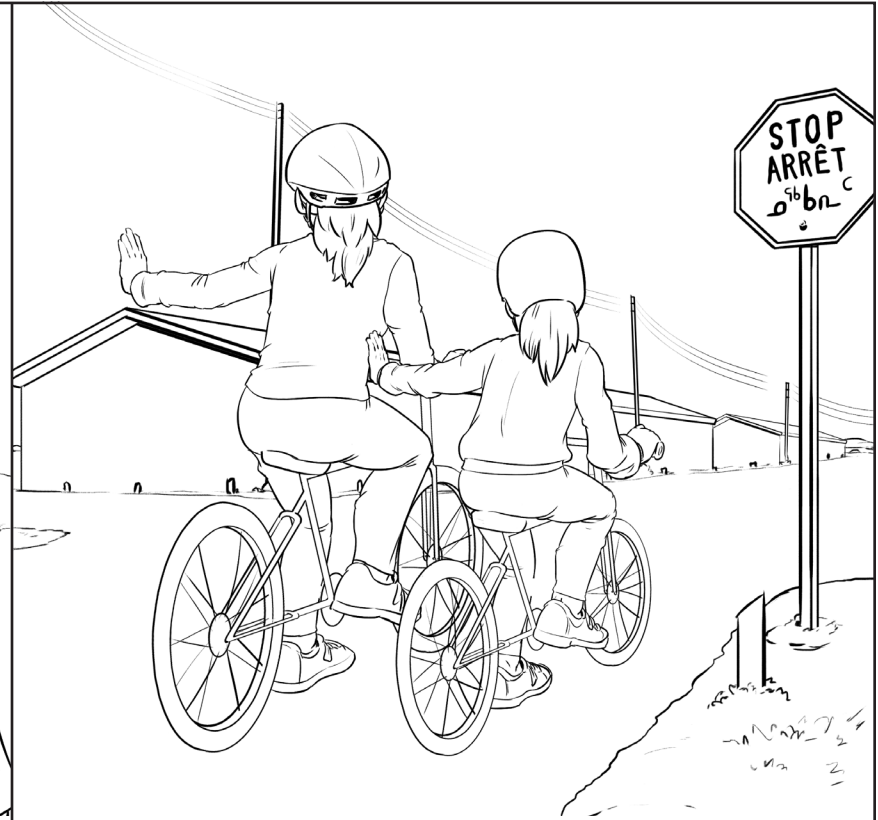
Meeka holds her left arm out and bent up at the elbow to show she will turn right.



Meeka is having so much fun with her mother! They see a snow bunting at the playground, and Meeka is so excited to watch it.

Meeka is very happy.

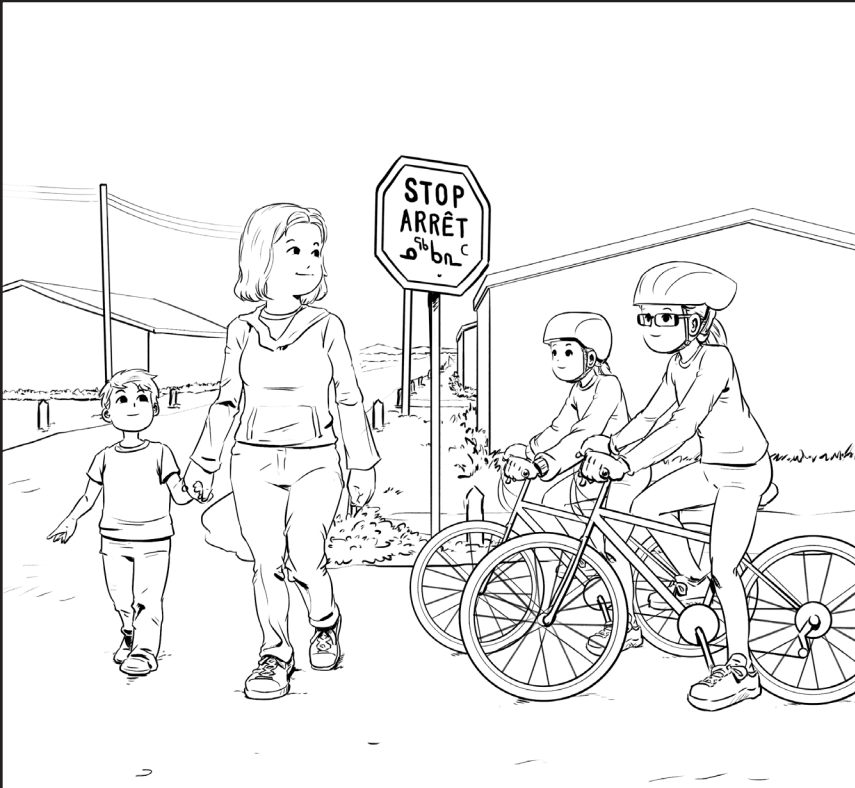
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When they are ready to leave, Meeka puts her helmet back on.

They need to turn left at the stop sign. At the stop sign, they stop. Meeka puts her left arm straight out to show others she is going to turn left.

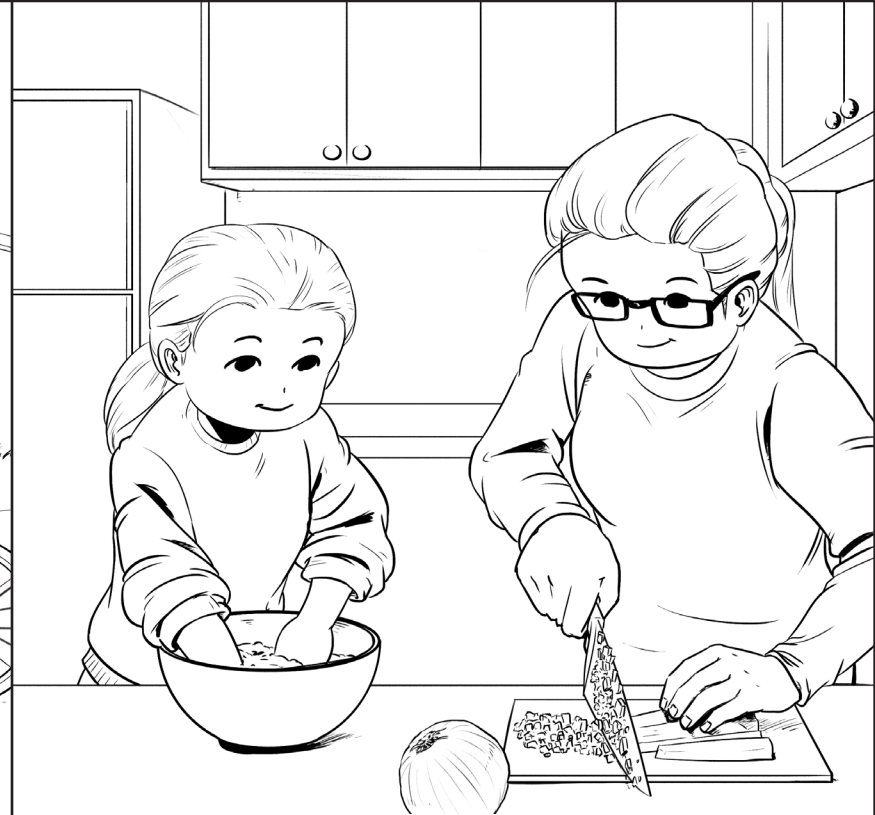
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Meeka and her mother are now tired and it is getting late. They head home before it gets too dark to ride safely.

They stop at another stop sign and let a mother and her son across.

Meeka and her mother continue home.



Soon, they are back home and Meeka helps her mother make dinner. They eat tuktu with mixed vegetables and rice.

After dinner, Meeka is ready to read a book with her mother and go to sleep.



Meeka had a great day! She can't wait to ride her bike with her mother again tomorrow.

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