

A Note to Teachers and Parents

The Horizons Kindergarten Phonics Readers are to be used as a companion to the Horizons Kindergarten Phonics Student Workbooks. For each lesson in the Student Workbooks there is a corresponding story in the Readers. The story will illustrate and demonstrate the primary concept of the lesson. Most kindergarten students should not be expected to read these stories independently. The stories include a mixture of simple short-vowel words and more complex multi-syllable or long-vowel words. The teacher or parent should read the stories to the student, pausing where appropriate, to allow the student to sound out and read the words they have covered in the lessons. As the student's vocabulary increases, the teacher or parent is encouraged to repeat the Reader stories in a cyclic fashion. For example; on the day "x" is covered (Lesson 26) both the "x" story and the "short a" story (Lesson 1) can be read.

It is important to ask questions both before and after reading the story. Talk about things to look for or to expect in the story based upon the title or the illustrations. Comprehension questions are included at the end of each story beginning with Lesson 27.

The ability to sound out and read words varies with each individual student. They are in the early stages of learning a skill that they will continue to develop for the rest of their lives. So, have fun, enjoy the stories and keep in mind that it is not necessary that every student sound out and read every word.

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DICK'S BIKE RIDE

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DICK'S BIKE RIDE

Mike was ten years old. He got a new red bike. It was for his birthday. He had a big smile on his face.

Dick was six years old. He did not smile. He just sat and sat. He said, "Mike gets all the fun. I wish I could ride his bike."

Mike said, "Come here, Dick. Put a smile on your face. Look happy. Then you can ride my bike. I will share my bike with you."

"Thanks, Mike. This is a nice bike. I like to ride your bike," said Dick. "I am happy that you would share your bike."