

Personal Narrative Prompt: Describe a time when you have helped someone.

Beating the Biking Blues!
by Mrs. Petrie

Have you ever helped someone who needed a hand? As a teacher and a mom, I help a lot of people, especially children. There is one time that I helped someone extremely special to me, my son Mikey.

My son Mikey loves to play outside. He likes to jump on the trampoline, have Nerf gun wars, and shoot hoops. The one activity Mikey was unable to do for a long time was ride a bike. Mikey could jump on a pogo stick and even ski! However, he could not ride a bike without training wheels! One summer day, one of Mikey's friends asked him to go bike riding with him. Mikey immediately said, "No!" because he was embarrassed that he still needed training wheels. When I saw Mikey's disappointed face, it made me as sad as seeing a puppy without a home! Mikey and I had the biking blues! I knew I had to make it my mission to help him.

The first thing Mikey and I had to do was come up with a plan. We needed to decide where and how we would practice. We decided to go to his elementary school to the black top area where it was nice and flat. Every afternoon, Mikey and I would pack-up the truck and head over to Conley Elementary. When Mikey first saw his bike without training wheels, his face

turned white, like he had just seen a ghost! I told him I would not let go of the bike until he was ready. He rode up and down the black top what seemed like a million times with my hand on the back of his seat. After a couple of days of practice, I knew he was ready to ride alone. When the big moment arrived, I made the decision not to tell Mikey that I was no longer going to hold onto his seat. As he was pedaling from one end of the black top to the other, I slowly let go of his seat. When he reached the other side, he was startled to see that I was not right behind him. I was about ten feet behind.

When Mikey realized that he rode his bike without my help, he beamed with pride. His smile was about five miles wide. "Let's do it again!" he shouted. Mikey hopped on his bike and decided to try to make it to the other side (without my assistance.) He was a little shaky at first, but he did it! We both felt like we had won a million dollars! Mikey could not stop riding his bike. Once the sun disappeared, we knew it was time to go home. On the ride back to our house, Mikey could not stop shouting, "I did it! I really did it!" He could not wait to ask his friend to go on a bike ride with him!

I will never forget the feeling I had after I saw Mikey achieve his goal of riding a bike without training wheels. I felt better than a child on Christmas morning! It made me realize that the best feelings often come from helping others. I will forever treasure this special memory of helping Mikey ride his bike!