



## **18-A Bumpy Ride**

**sc, scr, st, str, sk, sl, sp**

Rat did his job and Dan got his home and land back. Dan and Rat were chums again.

One day Dan said to Rat, "Rat, I think we can go camp at Pine Lake. Our tent may not stink now."

"Yes," said Rat. "And when we go, this

time I will take my bike! We can camp on the side of a steep hill and ride down it!"

"No, Rat," said Dan. "If you ride down a hill it will scare you."

"No way!" said Rat. "A steep hill will not scare Rat The Cat. I have too much skill. I am the best bike dude in this home!"

"Okay," said Dan. "We will see then, Bike Dude Rat." So Dan and Rat set up their tent on the side of a steep hill.

The next day as the sun came up, Dan woke Rat The Cat.

"Time to get up Rat!" said Dan.

"No," said Rat. "I am not the sun. I

have no job to do. Let me sleep."

"Okay Mister Big Bike Dude," said Dan. "But then you will miss your ride down the hill. I think you are just a big chicken."

"That's it," said Rat. "Now I am up. You will see who is a chicken! The hill will not scare me."

Dan and Rat ate, then got on their bikes.

From the side of a steep hill Dan did a scan of the slope with his scope. Dan saw a stream, a big rock, and a steep rock step.

Dan said to Rat, "I will let you have a lot of space to ride, Rat. I like my skin

and do not want to scrape it off. Would you like to use the scope to scan the slope, Rat?"

"No," said Rat. "I will deal with things as they pop up." Rat was not safe.

Rat went down the hill. *ZOOOM!* Rat left so fast there was dust in the air. Then Dan went too, but Dan did not go as fast as Rat.

Dan rode for just a bit then heard a scream. It was Rat! Dan rode fast to catch up to Rat. Rat was in a stream.

"Rat," said Dan, "you did not scan the slope with the scope, and now you are one big scrape!"

"It was just bad luck," said Rat.

"No," said Dan, "you did not use the scope. Here, use the scope to scan the rest of the way."

"No," said Rat. "I do not need to scan the slope. I'll deal with things as they pop up."

Rat got back on his bike and left so fast there was dust in the air.

Soon Dan heard a skid, a scream, and a big bump. Dan rode fast to catch up to Rat. Rat was by a big rock.

"Rat, are you okay?" asked Dan.

"I think so," said Rat. "But this big rock hid and then came up at me!"

"No Rat!" said Dan. "Rocks do not

just pop up. But if they did, you said you would deal with things as they pop up. You did not deal with this rock well."

"Oh, Dan," said Rat. "Now I see. The hill may scare you, but it will not scare me."

"No Rat," Dan replied. "I am safe. Now here, use the scope."

"No," said Rat. "I will deal with things as they pop up!" Rat rode off so fast there was dust in the air.

Now Dan heard a scream, a screech, a skid, and a scrunch. He rode fast to catch Rat. Rat was at the big rock

step, and his bike was on top of him.

"Help Dan!" said Rat. "The hill sank in on me! It fell as I rode on it!"

"No, Rat," said Dan as he took the bike off Rat. "The hill did not sink in on you. There was a big rock step. I saw it in my scope as I took time to scan the steep slope, but you did not use the scope. Now you are one big scab, and your bike is all bent up. You will have to hike all the way back up the hill.

"Dan, can I use the scope?" asked Rat.

Now Rat did use the scope to scan

the rest of the steep slope, and he saw a thing that put BIG FEAR deep in his thin bones.

"DAN!" yelled Rat. "A STRAY DOG! SCAT YOU BAD DOG! SCRAM! STAY BACK OR I WILL BITE YOU!"

Rat did not scare the stray dog.

The stray dog made Rat run all the way up the steep slope. Rat hid in the tent. Dan came and made the stray dog go away.

"Rat, you can come out now!" said Dan. "I made the dog go away!" Rat came out of the tent.



"Thank you, Dan," Rat said as he sat on Dan's lap. "You are the Big Bike Dude, and I am the Big Chicken."

"Well Rat," said Dan, "you are still my chum. I love you Rat The Cat."

# Vocabulary

## sc

scat	scan	scope	Scott
scab	score	scare	scum

## scr

scrap	scram	scroll	screech
scrape	scrub	scream	scrum

## str

stream	strike	stripe	stray
streak	strip	strap	stride

## sk

skill	skip	sky	skunk
skin	skid	skull	

## sl

slip	slime	slack	slope
slim	slap	slop	sleep

## sp

spill	spite	spell	spend
spit	spot	space	spare

## Dictation

Scat you stray dog!

Use the scope to scan the slope.

Rat got a scrape and a scab on his shin.

Rat fell off the steep slope.

I like to sleep in a spot by a stream.

Is that slime from deep space?

A cat with a stripe may be a skunk.

Do not scream or the skunk will get you.

Do you have space to put a spare bed  
so I can sleep?

Did Rat get the scrap from the stray dog?

Did Rat score in the game?

Rat ran so fast he was a streak!

If you step on the rake it will scrape you.

## Weird Words

leave	took	food	your
down	from	after	replied
again	again	even	their
things	love	please	there