

The illustration depicts a scene in a forest. In the foreground, two young boys are standing on a grassy area. The boy on the left is wearing a red baseball cap and a bright yellow long-sleeved shirt. The boy on the right is wearing a white tank top and grey shorts. They are both holding onto a long, flowing red cloth that is being pulled taut between them. In the background, a person wearing a blue and purple motocross suit and a helmet is riding a motorcycle on a dirt path. The forest is filled with tall, brown tree trunks and green foliage.

PM⁺

Adventure in the Hills

Story by Annette Smith Illustrations by Loma Tilders

“We haven’t got far to go before we reach the road,” said Tim’s dad. “The climb will be much easier then. It won’t be so steep.”

Tim and his best friend Jeff, and Tim’s parents, had set off earlier that morning. They were making their way along forest tracks leading up to the lookout. It was near the top of the hill behind their holiday cabin at Blue Lake.



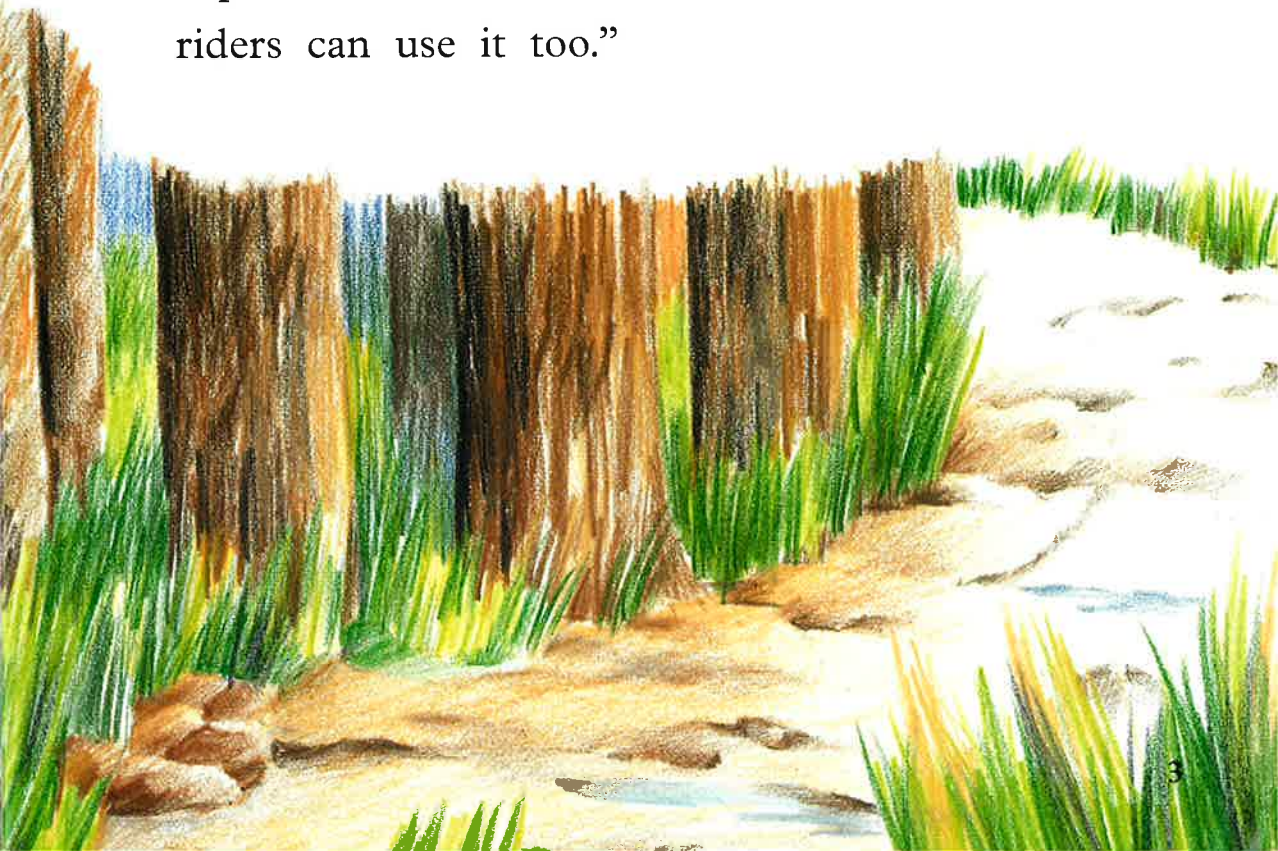
For teachers' inspection ONLY

They walked on, and soon the track led out of the forest and onto the road.

“It looks muddy,” said Tim. “There must have been a lot of rain up here lately.”

“What do they use a road like this for?” asked Jeff.

“Forestry workers and scientists often come up here to check the growth of the trees,” explained Dad. “And on weekends, trail-bike riders can use it too.”



As they came around a bend in the road, they stopped and stared. Part of the hillside had slipped away! An enormous pine tree lay across the road, among the rocks and mud that had been pushed down with it.

“This is going to be really dangerous for vehicles coming around the bend,” exclaimed Jeff. “If bike riders are travelling really fast, they won’t be able to stop in time.”

“At least riders coming from the other direction will be able to see it,” said Mum. “But we’re going to have to think of a way to warn people, before there’s an accident.”

Just then, they heard the sound of a trail-bike engine in the distance, as the rider changed gear to come up the hill.

“Quick!” shouted Tim. “We’ve got to do something!”



For teachers' inspection ONLY

Tim and Jeff raced back down the hill, to stop the bike before it reached the bend.

“Grab that small branch over there!” yelled Jeff, as he began to pull off his T-shirt. “This red colour will be a good warning. Help me put it on the end of the branch, and we’ll wave it like a flag!”

As the boys threaded the end of the branch through the sleeves of the T-shirt, the noise of the trail bike became louder and louder.

