

KEEP PERSEVERING!

"I give up!" Timmy said, and got off his bike in a huff and sat on the bench with Father. "I just can't go fast enough!"

Timmy watched his older brother, Alex, zip around the park on his bicycle. Timmy had only learned a week ago, and it was hard to keep up. He had been looking forward to riding together with his older brother, but Alex was not waiting for him to catch up.

Father put an arm around Timmy's shoulders and gave him a squeeze. "Did you know that Alex had this very same conversation with me when he was first learning to ride a bike?"



“Really?”

“Of course! The only way to become good at something is to patiently pass through the learning stage, which sometimes takes more than a week. It’s like that computer game you like to play. You can’t get to the pirate’s lair by only playing the easy levels, right? You have to master the harder levels to get to the end, and that takes practice. It’s the same with bike riding, or reading, or anything anyone is good at. First you put in effort to learn, and if necessary, you practice. Then if you persevere, you reap the rewards.”



“Like being as fast as Alex?”

“Yes, or maybe even faster!”
said Father, a wide smile on
his face. “How about I run
alongside you as you ride?”

Timmy grinned and strode
over to his bike.

What do you do when
something feels difficult?
Don't give up! Think
about all you can gain by
persevering. Imagine how
happy you will be when
you have mastered that
skill. Remember, everyone
is a beginner before they
become an expert.

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Illustrations by Alvi.

Design by Stefan Merour.

Published by My Wonder Studio.

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