The Dog Walker

Summer vacation had just started, and Earl was thinking about how to spend his time. Earl liked to read, but he didn’t want to spend the whole vacation just reading. He also liked to do things and go places with his friends, but many of them were away for the summer. Then Earl got the idea that it would be wise to try to earn some money.

While playing with his dog, Earl suddenly had a thought. Perhaps people would pay him to walk their dogs. Earl went to the houses of people he knew had dogs, like Mrs. Green. Because she was old and had trouble getting around, she was delighted to hire Earl to walk her big brown dog. In all, Earl was able to find seven people to hire him. By the end of the summer, he was able to buy a new bike.
Lonely Nina

Nina had never felt as lonely as she did at her new school. She had moved to town over a month ago, and she still had not made any friends. As she sat eating her lunch, she listened to Jen and the other girls from her class talk and laugh. Afraid that they wouldn’t like her, she thought it best to keep to herself.

All of a sudden, Nina heard Jen start to choke on some food. When she saw that the girl couldn’t breathe, Nina rushed over. She put her arms around Jen’s waist from the back and pressed in with her fist. The food came out, and Jen began to take in air.

When she could talk, Jen thanked Nina and asked her to join the other girls. “I would have asked you before,” Jen said, “but you always seemed to want to be by yourself.”
A Biography

In 1892 a 13-year-old boy beat 25 men to win his first bike race. The boy was Marshall Taylor, and he would become one of the best racers of all time.

Just four years after winning his first race, Taylor became the first black man in the United States to race for money. By the time he was 20 years old, he was setting many records for speed. Sadly, he was not allowed to enter some races because of the color of his skin.

In the years that followed, Taylor raced all over the world. He won almost every race he entered. Millions of people came to see him, and he made friends everywhere he went. Taylor would stop racing in 1910 at the age of 32. But before he did, he broke every speed record there was to earn the title of the fastest bike racer in the world.
Sleep

People of all ages need to sleep, but some need more sleep than others do. As people grow older, they need less sleep. Babies sleep about 15 hours a day, while adults need about 8 hours of sleep every night.

Sleep is very important because it will give the body and mind time to rest and prepare for the next day. During the early stages of sleep, the heart does not beat as fast and the brain slows down. If a person dreams while asleep, the heart begins beating faster and the brain goes back into action. At this stage of sleep, your eyes move back and forth very fast under your closed lids.

When people don’t get enough sleep, they may be hard to get along with. They also may have trouble thinking and doing things. After five days with no sleep, people will start to see things that are not actually there.