



# Lesson 5: Swerving

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## Parents' Instructions

- Review the background information and Parent/Child Activity that follows.
- Have your child complete the age appropriate activity on the back.
- Sign the Rodeo Round-Up Form at Lesson 5 when the lesson is completed.
- Discuss with your child the fact that although riding in a straight line may not always be easy, in traffic it is critically important.

## Swerving Background

Thirty percent of all automobile-bicycle collisions involving children under 15 occur when a child turns unpredictably into the path of faster moving traffic.

## Parent/Child Activity

### Discuss:

Before swerving to make a turn, change lanes or avoid an obstacle, look back over your shoulder to be sure the road is clear of traffic, signal and look again.

### Practice:

Take your children to a safe parking lot or playground. Stand behind them while they ride along a straight painted line. Hold up numbered or colored cards and have them practice looking back over their shoulder and telling you the number or color of the card -- without riding off the painted line. Next, have your children practice the lane change process: Look back over the shoulder, signal, look again, then change lanes. ***Children should not be allowed to ride their bikes on the street until they have mastered this skill.***

# Lesson 5: Swerving

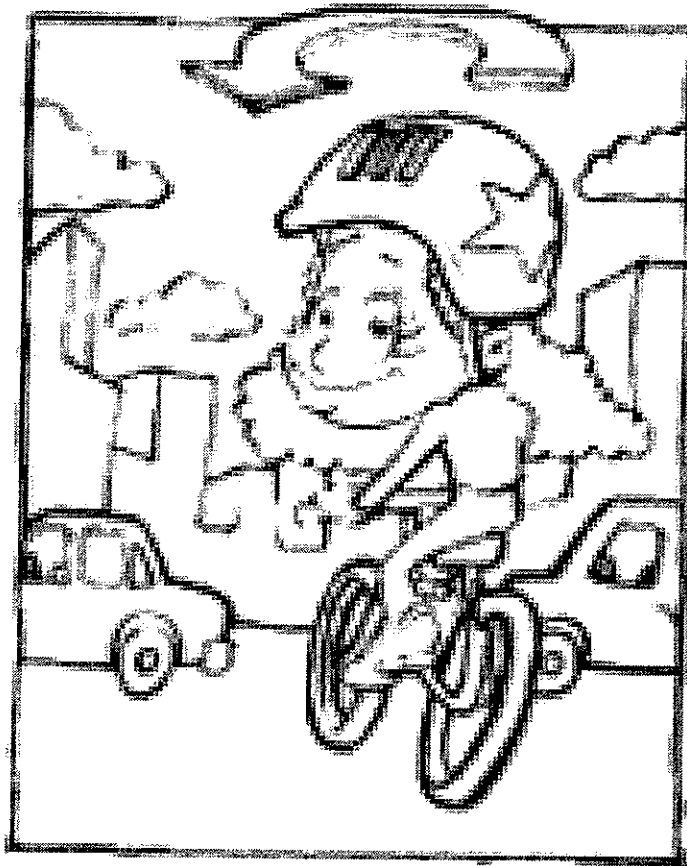
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## Activity Grades K-3

Color the rider below. Explain what the bicyclist is doing.

## Activity Grades 4-6

You should always look over your shoulder to check for traffic before changing lanes. List five instances which would require you to change lanes (remember to always check for traffic from behind **BEFORE** changing lanes).



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The Ride Safe Take Home Bicycle Rodeo