

HELPING ME LEARN ABOUT NEW THINGS & EXPERIENCES

Draw on my past experiences with objects and events to help me understand new ones. Remember, a new object or event may be frightening at first. Try to guess what may be bothering me and help me understand what it is. Here's a story of how my family helped me learn.



When my father came home yesterday, there was a strange, loud growling sound outside. I was scared and stood very quietly at a distance. My brother and sister were excited, and told me my father had bought a motorbike. It seemed scary and I did not want to go near it.

Then my brother said the sound was only a motor just like the one that sends water up to our tank. He sat near me as I was still scared and let touch it by myself. He showed me the wheels and where the feet were kept. Then when I realized it was just like a big, fat bicycle, I wasn't so scared anymore.





They helped me sit on it and then they asked Appa to start it while I was on it, so I could hear and feel the sound it made. Although it was a little scary, it was exciting too! I could feel the whole motorbike throbbing under me as the engine growled. In the evening, the three of us counted motorbikes as they roared by in front of our house. Appa has promised us a ride later. I hope I will be the first to get to go!

Remember:

- Help me make sense of what I hear or feel.
- Explain new things by telling me how they are like and different from things I already know.
- I may take a while before I am willing to try something new. Be patient! I learn better if I try out of my own curiosity rather than at your insistence.

Children Learn in Different Ways Series Editor, Namita Jacob Chetana, Chennai www.chetana.org.in