# **SKILL-BASED ACTIVITY Group Riding Etiquette**

**Timeframe** Adapted and Beginner: N/A

> Intermediate: 20-30 minutes Advanced: 15-20 minutes

**Objectives** 

At the conclusion of this activity, the student will be able to:

- 1. Demonstrate exceptional or reliable bicycle etiquette associated with group rides as measured by the bicycle etiquette rubric. (Psychomotor)
- 2. Demonstrate exceptional or reliable social behavior as measured by the social behavior rubric. (Affective)

#### National Standards Standard 1

Standard 2 Standard 3 Standard 4

#### **Equipment**

- Helmets
- · Head barriers
- Bicvcles
- · Bicycle pump
- · Allen wrench
- · Red floor tape
- · Cones, domes, polyspots or chalk to mark riding course
- · Bike Safety: Tips for Youth handout www.nhtsa.gov/staticfiles/nti/bicycles/pdf/8024a\_YouthTips.pdf
- Communication & Cycling worksheet (optional)
- Pencils (optional)

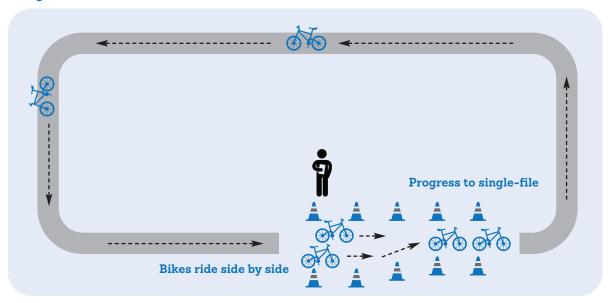
Teacher Overview This activity teaches and/or strengthens bicycling etiquette that is especially important when riding in a group setting. There are two courses within this activity to reinforce cycling etiquette skills.

#### Preparation

- 1. Designate a riding course that enables the teacher to see the students at all times. This will enable students to ride throughout the class period, even when they are not performing skills.
- 2. Set up a riding course, using cones, chalk or field paint, to indicate where the student will perform the skill and the teacher will conduct the assessment. This area should also serve as a teaching station in which the skill will be demonstrated for the students and where students will return when instructed.

3. Lay out the Who Goes First? course based on the associated diagram.

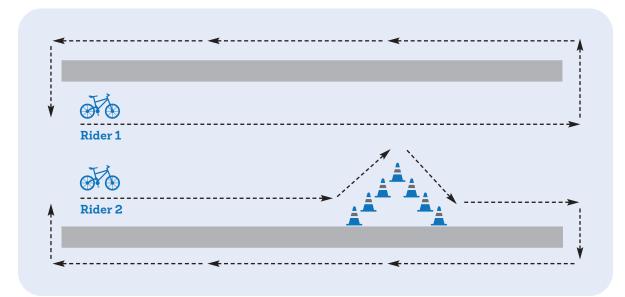
### Diagram: Who Goes First?



Note: Riders ride side by side and must communicate who goes first when they encounter the obstacle.

4. Layout the Squeeze Box course based on the associated diagram, preferably in the middle of the riding course. Students will complete the Squeeze Box course after completing Who Goes First? If space allows, set up both courses at the same time; if space does not allow for both courses to be set up at the same time, make sure all materials for the Squeeze Box course are ready to go when the Who Goes First? course is completed by all students.

#### Diagram: Squeeze Box Course



- **5**. Practice the *Who Goes First?* and *Squeeze Box* courses before demonstrating to students.
- **6**. Make appropriate number of copies of *Bike Safety: Tips for Youth* handout
- **7**. Make appropriate number of copies of *Communication & Cycling* worksheet (optional)

#### **Directions**

1. Introduce this activity using the following prompt:

We have talked a lot about the importance of having rules to follow when riding and communicating with other riders. Today, we are going to practice combining this information with the actual skills to continue to make you a safer rider when you ride with a partner and in groups.

- **2.** Use the following sample questions to prompt students' thinking about the content in this activity.
- Q: You are riding with a group of other bicyclists in single-file and you approach a stop sign. How would you signal to each bicyclist in the line that you were slowing down and stopping?
- **A**: Both nonverbal and verbal signals are necessary. You could call out 'slowing' and/or 'stopping' AND also use the stop hand signal.
- Q: You are riding side by side with a friend and you needed to get into single-file, because up ahead there wasn't enough room to continue to ride side by side. How would you determine who should go where?
- **A**: Communicating who was going first and who was dropping behind.
- Q: Considering everything we have learned to date, what skills and behaviors might be important with regard to cycling etiquette?
- **A**: Distribute and review *Bike Safety: Tips for Youth* handout. http://www.nhtsa.gov/staticfiles/nti/bicycles/pdf/8024a\_YouthTips.pdf



- Complete the Helmet Fit and ABC Quick Check (#4-10) if they have not been completed as part of the current day's lesson; otherwise proceed to (#11.)
- 4. Divide students into groups of two or three.
- **5**. Instruct students to fit helmets and have partner(s) check if the helmet is fitted correctly.
- **6**. Instruct students to retrieve bicycles according to number assigned.
- 7. Instruct one student to complete the ABC Quick Check while the partner observes to ensure that the check was completed properly, and to provide prompts if an item was missed. Switch roles.
- **8**. Instruct pairs to proceed to the riding area to meet teacher after students have successfully completed the helmet fit and ABC Quick Check.
- Inspect helmets and instruct students to proceed on the riding course for the 'Check' of the ABC Quick Check and when finished return to the teaching station.

#### 10. Conduct the Who Goes First activity

- Explain and demonstrate skills to students on the Who Goes First? course, reinforcing the following points. Riders should:
  - · Ride side by side until they encounter an obstacle.
  - Communicate by saying, 'You go first' to indicate who goes first and second around the obstacle.
  - Make the decision about who goes first right when they encounter the obstacle, instead of before, to make the activity more realistic.
  - Ride back to the beginning on the outside of the station after completing the course.
  - Switch sides whoever was riding on the left is now on the right when they ride through the course a second time.
- Another option for this activity is for students to ride side by side.
  When the teacher signals they must decide who goes first. This
  option would not have an obstacle, but would encourage more
  impromptu decision-making. The teacher could signal again to
  have students return to side by side riding.
- Divide students in pairs or in a group of three if necessary.
- Instruct students that those who are not participating in the activity can ride around the outside of the skill practice area to increase fitness until it is their turn.
- **11**. Set up the *Squeeze Box* activity course if you have not already done so, due to limited space.

#### 12. Conduct the Squeeze Box activity

- Instruct students to gather at the teaching station.
- Explain and demonstrate skills to students on the Who Goes First? activity course, reinforcing the following points. Riders should:
  - · Start and end as a group.
  - · Stay within the boundaries of the activity course.
  - · Stay within the lines.
  - Communicate with fellow riders to determine who will go ahead, who will go right or left, who will ride behind and when to finish.
- **13**. Divide students into groups of three or four. Group size can increase to five or six with more advanced riders.
- **14.** Start group at the starting line, shoulder to shoulder.
- **15**. Instruct students to evaluate their performance using the *Communication & Cycling* worksheet (optional).

#### Assessment

1. Assess performance of group riding etiquette of each student using the following rubric.

## PERFORMANCE RUBRIC: GROUP RIDING ETIQUETTE



Exceptional	Reliable	Inconsistent	Struggling/ Survival	
Student consistently verbally and nonverbally communicates his intentions with other riders; Student knows when to speed up or slowdown in order to maneuver safely, and allow other riders to maneuver safely; Student is conscientious of other riders' safety as well as his own.	Student verbally and/or nonverbally communicates his intentions with other riders, but may not do both all the time; Most of the time the student is able to determine when to speed up or slowdown in order to maneuver safely, or to allow other riders to maneuver safely, but is not completely consistent and may require prompting by the teacher and/or other students; Student is conscientious of other riders' safety as well as his own.	Student can communicate his intentions either verbally or nonverbally (typically not both at the same time), but this may not be on a consistent basis;  Student has difficulty determining when to speed up or slowdown in order to maneuver safely, or to allow other riders to maneuver safely, and needs significant help from teacher and/or other students;  Student is too focused on his own riding to be conscientious of other riders' safety.	Student is unable to participate in the activity due to unsafe riding behavior:  Student is unable to signal;  Student is unable to gauge his own speed and position, relative to that of others, to ride in this activity in a safe manner.	

2. Assess the performance of social behavior for each student using the following rubric.

## PERFORMANCE RUBRIC: SOCIAL BEHAVIOR



Exceptional	Reliable	Inconsistent	Struggling/ Survival
Student is respectful toward classmates, teacher, and equipment; Student receives and uses feedback from teacher and peers in a courteous manner; Student participates fully, without teacher prompting or supervision; Student is able to work cooperatively and productively with classmates, including during peer assessments; Student perseveres, even through difficult skills/activities, and maintains a positive attitude; Student is committed to learning; Student is committed to engaging in cycling in a safe manner, and keeping all classmates safe during the cycling unit.	Student is respectful toward classmates, teacher, and equipment; Student receives and uses feedback from teacher and peers in a courteous manner; Student participates fully, but needs some teacher prompting and/or supervision; Participates in most class activities at an appropriate and productive level; Student is most often able to work cooperatively and productively with classmates, including during peer assessments; Student is able to work hard and not get frustrated with setbacks; Student is committed to learning; Student is committed to engaging in cycling in a safe manner, and keeping all classmates safe during the cycling unit.	Student may not always be respectful toward classmates, teacher, and equipment; Student may listen to feedback from teacher or peers, but may not attempt and/or have difficulty applying it; Student requires some teacher supervision, but does exhibit some self-control at times; Student demonstrates the ability to work cooperatively and productively with classmates, but may need teacher direction or supervision; Student participates in most class activities; Student is willing to try, but may get frustrated with setbacks, and pout and/or verbalize frustration; Student may fluctuate between riding safely and unsafely at times.	Student may struggle with being respectful toward classmates, teacher, and equipment and/or show anger and/or blame others for cycling mishaps; Student does not listen to feedback from teacher or peers, and does not attempt to apply it; Student requires ongoing supervision and does not ride safely; Student may be unprepared and show very little interest in learning or the activity; Student becomes frustrated easily and may quit participating.

### **Safety**



- 1. Follow the 2-2-2-2 Rule (2 wheels on the ground; 2 feet on the pedals; 2 hands on the handlebars; 2 fingers on the brake levers) while riding the bicycle.
- **2.** Use the rear brake only to stop the bicycle, until the skill level advances to be able to safely use the front brake.
- **3**. Instruct students to ride the bicycles on the designated course.
- **4**. Instruct students to keep at least three-bicycles-lengths between each rider.

### Differentiating Instruction

#### Adapted and Beginner

· Not recommended

#### Intermediate

• Fewer students can be in one group during the Squeeze Box activity if necessary.

#### Advanced

- · More students can be in one group during each activity.
- · Courses can be made slightly narrower or more lines added.

#### **Best Practices**

1. Provide a discreet opportunity and safe environment for students to share information pertaining to their ability and comfort level for riding a bicycle.



- 2. Always complete the Helmet Fit and ABC Quick Check at the beginning of every class in which the students will be riding. The use of peers/partners to practice, inspect, and correct each other will make the most efficient use of class time and reinforce bicycle safety skills. This should not replace teacher assessment.
- 3. Review the three-bicycles-length rule to promote safe riding. The three-bicycles-length rule is a reminder of keeping a safe distance between cyclists while riding single-file. To help maintain proper spacing, have a marker on the course that allows students to see when it is their turn to go. When the first rider gets to the marker, the next student may start riding.