



One Seat, One Rider: Story and Quiz

When it comes to the farm machinery, our parents are very strict with the **'One Seat, One Rider'** rule. None of our machines have a 'buddy seat'. Dad has always explained it to us like the seatbelts in a car: everyone needs to buckle up.

The other day, grandpa was over watching Blake and me. He was telling us about all the fun stuff dad used to do as a kid on the farm. We laughed when grandpa told us the story about when dad learned how to skate. It was cool hearing about dad's two-level tree fort. But when grandpa said he used to give dad rides around the field on the tractor, Blake and I were confused! Why did grandpa give him rides, and why did he stop? Why can't we have rides?

Grandpa explained that he always thought it had been fine to give dad and his siblings a ride around the field. In fact, he used to give rides to all the cousins, too! One day, when grandpa was turning the corner, dad's little brother bounced right off grandpa's lap and landed in the field... just a tiny bit away from the tractor's big rear tire. Grandpa jumped down off the tractor, with his heart beating fast, and scooped the little boy up off the dirt—realizing that he'd just had a very close call with his youngest son!

Grandpa said that from that day forward, a new rule was started on the farm: **One seat, one rider**. Grandpa asked all of his kids to promise never to ask for a ride again, just as he promised to never offer a ride. Now we understood why dad was always so strict about us not riding on the equipment with him, or anyone!



By: *Jenna*



Jenna's Research

- For kids in Alberta, **run overs** are the leading cause of agriculture-related death.
- Kids riding as a **passenger** on equipment (then falling off) is the major cause of the run over deaths.
- The most common piece of equipment that ran the kids over was the **tractor**.
- Some kids died because they were just not seen by the driver. This is why it's important to stay away from the farm machinery, even when it is **parked**.

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How much from Jenna's story can you remember?

Question #1: What is her family's rule for riding in/on machinery?

Question #2: Why did grandpa stop giving the kids tractor rides many years ago?

Question #3: What did Jenna's grandpa promise never to offer to his kids again?

Question #4: What's missing from Jenna's dad's machinery that means she can't go too?

Question #5: What's the most common piece of equipment involved in run overs?

How much did you remember? Did you answer all 5 correctly?

You can check back to the story if you need to!



What is a tradition?

A tradition is something (beliefs, legends, customs, ways of life) that has been handed down from generation to generation, especially by word of mouth or in practice.

For example, since our grandpa decided to stop giving dad rides, and dad decided to do the same with me and Blake, that's the start of a tradition. If Blake and I do the same with our future families, it'll be a family tradition (and rule!) to not take rides on machinery, unless there is a buddy seat!

Answer Key: (#1) One Seat, One Rider. (#2) His youngest son bounced off and was almost run over! (#3) He promised to never offer a ride on the machinery. (#4) Jenna's dad doesn't have a buddy seat. (#5) Tractors.