

Bicycle Craft

Early bicycles were called “*boneshakers*,” as they rattled your bones as you rode over rough ground. Bicycling became very popular in the 1890 to 1900 time period as millions of Americans, both young and old, “*straddled the saddle*.” What was their attraction? A bicycle could become a part of you. It was an extension of your arms and legs. It could take you to the store or carry you along an open road. It was a source of fun and adventure.

See if this short poem describes how you feel when you’re riding a bicycle:

*“Faster, faster, what a thrill,
Cycling down a country hill.
No need for effort, nor for care,
Just coast along as fast as air.”*

Materials:

2 pages of card stock
2 page graphic
2 paper clasps
Crayons or coloring pencils

Instructions:

1. Cut out two wheels.
2. Color the page.
3. Punch through center of the wheel with one paper clasp per wheel and then through coloring page and fold clasp outward to fasten.

Your wheels should turn easily as if the bicycle was moving.

Courtesy of Pennypacker Mills
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