Bill wanted a bike for his birthday. His parents told him they would get him one if he could persuade them he needed it. But he was not a good persuader. He couldn´t figure out what to say to them. He thought for days but the words did not come to him.

One day, he was watching the news on TV. A scientist was talking about oil. She said that using oil was bad for the earth. Cars put dangerous gases into the air. She also said that oil would run out soon if people kept using it so much.

That gave Bill an idea. He told his parents that he needed a bike to get to school. If he rode a bike, they wouldn´t have to drive him. They wouldn´t have to use the car for two trips every day. The school was close to where he lived. He could ride his bike safely with other students and help Earth, too. On his birthday, he got a beautiful new bike!
How Zebra Got His Stripes

Many years ago, Zebra was grey. Today, he has a coat with black and white stripes. How did that happen?

Poor Zebra could never make up his mind. When it was time to eat, he always asked the other animals, “What tastes best?” When it was time to play, he always asked, “Which games are the most fun?” When it was time to work, he always asked, “What should I do?” The other animals got tired of Zebra’s questions. They wished he would make up his mind.

One day, the animals had a fancy party. They all decided to wear their prettiest clothes. But Zebra could not decide. He liked his white coat, but he also liked his black coat. “Which one should I wear?” he asked. Lion said, “You should cut them into pieces and sew them together. That way you could wear both coats.” So that’s what Zebra did. And he still wears that striped coat today!