

## The In-Line Skating Lesson



Aldo and Farah sat on the steps as Aldo put on his new skates. 1

“Here is a book called *How to In-line Skate*,” said Farah. “Lesson one is ‘How to Fall Down.’” 2

Aldo laughed. “I don’t want to fall down,” he said. “I want to skate fast.” 3

He stood up on his new skates. 4

“I’m not getting anywhere,” he said. 5

He wiggled some more. “I’m rolling!” he shouted. He waved his arms in the air. 6

Aldo wiggled and jiggled to a long, slow slope. “I’ll glide downhill,” he called. 7

“Lesson number three is ‘How to Stop,’” Farah called. 8

“I don’t want to stop,” Aldo yelled. “I’m having fun.” 9

Aldo skated past bushes, past hydro poles, past houses. 10

“Uh-oh,” Aldo thought. “The sidewalk ends soon. I have to stop or I’ll crash.” 11

“Farah! Read how to stop!” Aldo yelled. 12

“What?” Farah called from the step. 13

“How do I stop?” Aldo yelled. 14

“It’s complicated on a hill,” yelled Farah. “Fall down.” 15

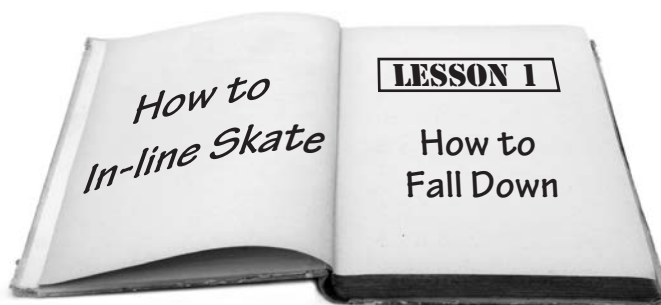
Aldo looked at the hard sidewalk ahead. He looked at the soft grass at the side. He wished he had practised lesson number one—how to fall. 16

Farah put down the book and ran after Aldo. “It says relax, be a wet noodle and fall.” 17

“I am a wet noodle,” yelled Aldo. 18

He flopped on the grass and rolled—one, two, three rolls. Finally Aldo stopped. 19

He grinned. 20



“I did it,” he said. “I can in-line skate, and I can stop.” 21

“You were wonderful,” said Farah. She smiled at her friend. 22

“But now let’s read the book,” she said. Aldo took off his skates,  
and the two friends walked back up the hill. 23

“And start at the beginning.” 24

**1** Why does Farah yell at Aldo?

- He is having fun.
- He is ignoring Farah.
- He is moving farther away.
- He is looking in another direction.

**2** In paragraph 15, what does the phrase “It’s complicated on a hill” refer to?

- falling
- yelling
- stopping
- wiggling

**3** The phrase “be a wet noodle” in paragraph 17 means that Aldo needs to

- slow down.
- glide gently.
- enjoy himself.
- loosen his muscles.

**4** Explain how Farah helps to make Aldo’s skating lesson a success. Use details from the text to support your answer.

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**5** Explain how Aldo’s attitude about using the book changes after he starts to skate. Use details from the text to support your answer.

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