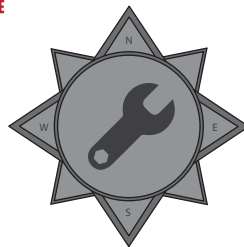


FIXING A PUNCTURE

Did you ever get a flat tire on a bicycle? What a bummer! Totally ruins the day. But never fear, because from now on you are going to know how to fix a puncture, so the good times can continue to roll.

FLIP OVER FOR YOUR NEXT CHALLENGE



EARN THIS NUGGET

With your parents help, practice the procedure with a pretend. It would be even better to have them make a small hole for you to find and then fix.

LEVEL D

PERIOD 7

TASK 1

First thing, you will need is a puncture repair kit and some tire levers, sometimes called tire irons or tire spoons. The whole set will cost less than ten dollars and if you have a bike, this is something you want to have around.

1. First thing you want to do is remove the wheel from the bicycle. (Go back to 7 years, period 6 if you need a reminder of how to do this.)
2. Next, let any remaining air out of the tire.
3. Pry one side of the tire off the rim using the tire lever so that you can get the inner tube out.
4. Pump up the inner tube and submerge it in a bucket of water. This will let you know where the hole is, because you will see the rising bubbles.
5. Mark the puncture. The repair kit will probably have a marking chalk. And dry the inner tube
6. Use the rasp (like a mini cheese grater) to scuff up the area around the hole.
7. Apply the rubber cement to the area of the hole and apply a rubber patch.
8. Place the tube back in the rim, start by inserting the pressure valve through the hole in the wheel, and then work around.
9. Now, work around the tire to get the tire back on the rim. This last step is the hardest and you may need an adult to help you. If you use the tire lever you will probably put another hole in the inner tube.
10. If you are totally stuck getting the tire back on, I've used a trick of re-inflating the inner tube a bit (just a few PSI) and then using the tire iron. This can stop the pinching that causes a puncture, but it is better to do it by hand if you can.

