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READY,
SET,
SLEEP

by Susan Blackaby
illustrated by Mary Ann Lloyd

 Harcourt

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■ This afternoon I helped my parents get ready for a trip. We had a lot to do to get ready.



■ We stuffed our things into backpacks. I packed a sweatshirt and vest instead of a coat.



■ We got our camping stuff ready.
I helped carry lots of heavy
stuff to the van.



|| I held my bicycle steady as Dad put it on the rack. He said we will ride bikes up on the trails.



At night, Dad spread out the map. He read the names of the places we will see.



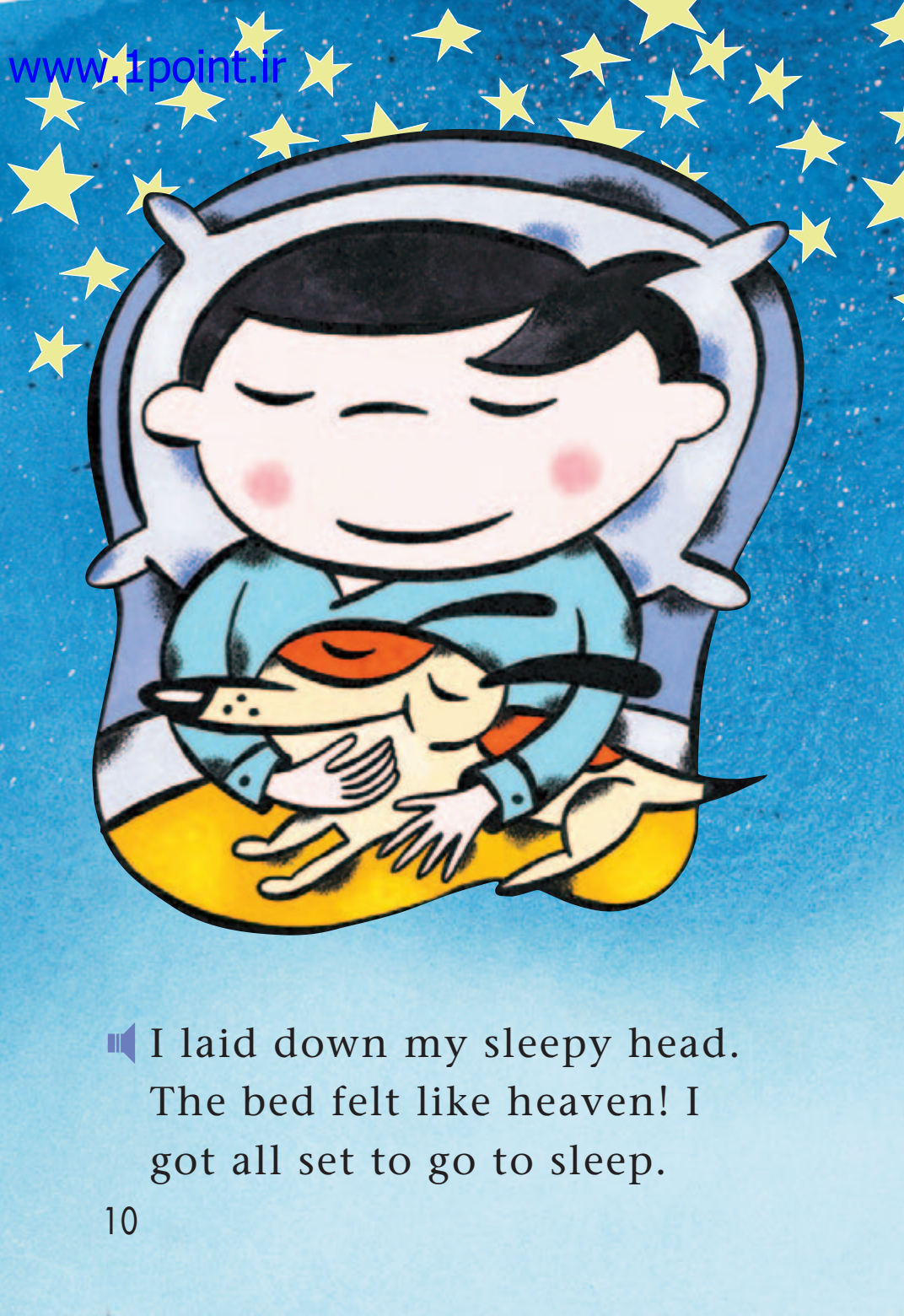
▶ We will eat breakfast first and then head out. It will be a long drive and a long day.



▶ Mom packed bread and cheese and plums in a sack for the drive. Now we just have to get some sleep.



■ I got ready for bed. I was dead on my feet. My arms and legs felt heavy. My head felt like lead.



🔊 I laid down my sleepy head.
The bed felt like heaven! I
got all set to go to sleep.



Now it is dark and quiet. I can't go to sleep. I toss and turn instead! My brain can't slow down!



🔊 I can hear the clock in the hall.
For hours I hear the clock tick
and the chimes ring.



■ I drink some hot milk and read a book. I count sheep. These tricks do not help. I still do not feel sleepy!



🔊 If this keeps up, I will see the sun rise. I will be ready to jump up and go when the day starts.








🔊 Dad shakes my arm. “Wake up, sleepy head!” he says.
“Already?” I ask. My eyes are hardly open, but I can hear the birds outside.



🔊 “Breakfast!” yells Mom. “In a while!” I say. “First I need to know one thing. When did I sleep?”

Think and Respond

-  **1** Where is the family going?
-  **2** When will they leave?
-  **3** Why are they bringing their bikes?
-  **4** How can you tell the boy is excited?
-  **5** What do you do when you can't sleep?



Loading Up for a Campsite Make a list of the things you would need to take on a camping trip. Remember to include the things you need to stay safe.



School-Home Connection After you read aloud the story to a family member, discuss how family members help each other with chores and responsibilities.



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