

When Ben was six years old, his parents bought a new truck. It was enormous. Its tires were huge. Ben had to jump as high as he could to climb in the front seat. The truck was dark blue and had bright yellow lights. It made a funny beep if his parents opened the door before they turned the engine off. The truck also made noises if his parents tried to get out before they had turned the headlights off. Ben asked his mother why the truck did this. She explained that leaving the lights on when the engine is turned off drains all the power out of the battery. This could cause problems, especially if you were far away from people who could help.

Ben liked to ride in his family's truck. It seemed like he could see everything from the front seat. In the truck he was taller than all of the other cars on the road. The only vehicles that were bigger than them were the huge trucks that drove all across the country. Ben liked the sound the truck horn made when you honked it because it always made him laugh. His dad liked to honk the horn when they were in the middle of tunnels. There were only two problems with the truck. The first problem was that it was really loud. The second problem was that the truck needed lots of gas to run. It cost a lot to fill the truck up at the gas station.