

# Train Ride

A Readers' Theater Script by Rebecca Besser

*This readers' theater skit a five friends have the opportunity to go on a train ride together!*



## 9 Characters (in order of appearance)

- Narrator
- Kid One
- Kid Two
- Kid Three
- Kid Four
- Kid Five
- Father (of Kid One)
- Conductor
- Train

**Narrator:** A small group of friends waits patiently for the train to arrive at the depot so they can board.

**Kid One:** Here comes the train!

**Kid Two:** I can see the smoke!

**Kid Three:** It's an old-fashioned steam engine?

**Kid Four:** Yeah, it is.

**Kid Five:** We're really going to ride on a train pulled by a steam engine?

**Kid One:** Yes, we are.

**Train:** Chugga-chugga! Chugga-chugga! Choo-choo! Screech!

**Kid Three:** I can't believe this.

**Kid Two:** Me neither. I've never been on a train before!

**Kid Four:** (looking up) Wow! The train is much bigger than I thought it would be!

**Kid One:** My father works for the railroad, so I've been on trains lots of times.

**Father:** Okay everyone. Train's here. Let's hop on!

**Kid One:** Thanks for letting my friends come along, Dad.

**Father:** This is a fun day for us all!

**All Kids:** Thanks for the tickets!

**Conductor:** All aboard!

**Narrator:** The group boards the train and takes their seats.

**Kid One:** You're gonna love this!

**Kid Two:** I love trains and have always wanted to ride on one.

**Kid Three:** I have a toy train set at home, but I've never been on a real train either.

**Kid Five:** I can't believe this is really happening.

**Kid Four:** We're starting to move.

**Train:** Whish! Toot! Toot!

**Narrator:** The train starts moving forward, slowly picking up speed. The conductor moves from person to person punching their tickets.

**Kid Two:** Is he going to punch our tickets?



**Kid One:** Yes, of course.

**Kid Three:** Is it true what they say about the punches they use?

**Kid Five:** What do they say?

**Kid Three:** They say each conductor has their very own punch that makes a unique shaped hole in the ticket.

**Father:** Yes, that's true. Each conductor has a hole punch tool with a different shape.

**Kid Four:** I can't wait to see what shape he punches in our tickets.

**Conductor:** May I have your tickets please?

**Kid One:** Sure. Here you go.

**Kid Two:** What shape will you punch?

**Kid Three:** Is it a dragon?

**Kid Five:** That's silly! Why would it punch a dragon shape?

**Kid Four:** Because dragons are cool.

**Conductor:** No, I'm not punching a dragon. We only have simple shapes. My punch has a small diamond shape with a line down the middle.

**Narrator:** The conductor hands their tickets back and moves on with a shake of his head and a smile.

**Kid One:** Neat!

**Kid Five:** I told you it wasn't a dragon!

**Kid Three:** Yeah, but you didn't know that before he punched them.

**Kid Two:** I like the diamond shape.

**Kid Two:** Me too.

**Kid One:** I keep my tickets in a shoe box at home. They have five different punch shapes.

**Kid Three:** Any dragons?

**Kid Five:** What is it with you and dragons today?

**Narrator:** They turn their attention to the scenery the train is passing.

**Kid Three:** Look, there's a really cool cloud. It's in the shape of a . . .

**Kid Five:** Dragon?

**Kid Two:** Stop talking about dragons!

**Kid One:** Look! There's the school, and the ice cream shop!

**Train:** Toot! Toot!

**Narrator:** The train blew its whistle as they crossed over an intersection in a street.

**Kid Four:** Look at all the cars waiting for us to pass!

**Kid Five:** I could really go for some ice cream.

**All Kids:** Yeah!

**Kid One:** Maybe my dad will take us when we get to the depot.

**Kid Five:** That would be awesome.

**Kid Two:** How fast is the train going? I think I've seen that same car a couple of times. It's like we pass it and then it catches up again.

**Father:** This is a thirty-five-mile-per-hour track.

**Kid Three:** What does that mean?

**Kid Two:** That's how fast the track moves.

**Kid Four:** No, it's not! The track doesn't move, silly!

**Kid One:** It's how fast the train can travel safely on this track.

**Father:** That's right!

**Kid Five:** Well if the train is only going thirty-five and those cars can go fifty-five on that road, how are we catching up to them and then passing them?

**Father:** Train tracks have to be straighter than roads, so cars sometimes have to travel further distances to reach the same place.

**Kid One:** The train travels in a straight line, but the cars have to make turns.

**Kid Three:** That sounds complicated.

**Kid Four:** Makes sense though.

**Kid Two:** Cars have to stop for stop lights too. Trains don't have to!

**Father:** Actually, there are some stop lights and signs along the tracks that the train engineers have to obey.

**Narrator:** The group looks out the window, watching the cars, people and buildings go by. The train starts to slow as they reach the depot.

**Train:** Screech! Whoosh!

**Kid Two:** We're here already?

**Kid Four:** Yep. The train ride is over.

**Father:** Time flies when you're having fun.

**Kid One:** Hey Dad? I was wondering....

**Father:** I already know what you're wondering.  
You're wondering if we can get ice cream.

**Kid Three:** Wow! Your dad can read minds!

**Kid One:** Well? Please?

**Father:** Let's go to the ice cream shop. Quickly, though. We'll need to hurry if we're going to catch the train back home.

**All Kids:** Hooray! Ice Cream!



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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1. Which character's father is on the trip?

- a. Kid 1
- b. Kid 2
- c. Kid 3
- d. Kid 4

2. Which character has a toy train set at home?

- a. Kid 1
- b. Kid 2
- c. Kid 3
- d. Kid 4

3. Which word describes best describes the father in this story?

- busy
- kind
- frustrated

Why did you choose this word?

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4. Read the sentence and write the best definition for the underlined word.

They turn their attention to the scenery the train is passing.

- a. train stations
- b. beautiful views
- c. people
- d. cars

5. In this story, the cars are moving faster than the train, but the train keeps catching up to the cars. Why?

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6. According to the story, do train engineers have traffic lights and signs to obey? \_\_\_\_\_

# ANSWER KEY

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1. Which character's father is on the trip? **a**
- a. **Kid 1**                      b. Kid 2  
c. Kid 3                        d. Kid 4

2. Which character has a toy train set at home? **c**
- a. Kid 1                        b. Kid 2  
c. **Kid 3**                      d. Kid 4

3. Which word describes best describes the father in this story?

busy

**kind**

frustrated

Why did you choose this word?

**He brought all of the kids along on a train ride and bought them ice cream.**

4. Read the sentence and write the best definition for the underlined word. **b**

They turn their attention to the scenery the train is passing.

- a. train stations                      b. **beautiful views**  
c. people                              d. cars

5. In this story, the cars are moving faster than the train, but the train keeps catching up to the cars. Why?

**The train travels in a straight line. The cars travel along curves and turns.**

6. According to the story, do train engineers have traffic lights and signs to obey? **yes**