# 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!
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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?
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________

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?
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________________

6. According to the story, do train engineers have traffic lights and signs to obey? ______
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3. Which word 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.  

   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