

RAILROAD SAFETY

Educational Toolkit



A guide to using select media to navigate conversations around rail safety



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EDUCATOR INTRODUCTION

RAILROAD SAFETY

Program Description: Three things you can do to stay safe around trains and train tracks.

Languages: English and Español

Captions: Yes

Recommended Audience: K-5

Content Warnings: None

Links to Videos:

QR

Rail Safety Pop Quiz (:90)

Review the three safety rules around trains and train tracks. Test your knowledge with Conductor Connie's pop quiz.

QR

Three Things You Can Do (3:00)

Learn the three things you can do to stay safe around trains and train tracks. Trains are fast and wide, and you need to be alert at all times when you are around the tracks.

How to Use This Resource:

- 1) Preview the videos you would like to share with your students.
- 2) Before watching, ask your students what they know about railroad safety to help activate prior knowledge (See discussion questions for educators on page 3).
- 3) Watch the videos together.
- 4) Lead a discussion on rail safety, using the discussion questions as a starting point.
- 5) Reinforce the three rail safety tips by completing the activity pages. Enjoy coloring, word games, and acting out how to stay safe around the tracks. The red activity pages are less challenging, while the blue are more challenging. Select the activities that fit your students' interests and abilities best.

**This content is produced by TPT NOW - Twin Cities PBS.
Funding for this content is provided by Union Pacific Railroad**



RAILROAD SAFETY

Program Description: Talk to your kids about rail safety. Respect the rails and they will, too.

Languages: English and Español

Captions: Yes

Recommended Audience: K-5

Content Warnings: None

Links to videos:

QR

Respect the Rails: Limit Technology Use (:15)
Railroad Safety Rule Number 1: Put away electronic devices and distractions and remove earbuds around trains and train tracks.

QR

Respect the Rails - Short (:30)
Respect the rails and they will, too. Model safe behavior and start a conversation about rail safety with your kids.

QR

Respect the Rails: Wait for Trains to Pass (:15)
Railroad Safety Rule Number 2: never race a train, always wait for them to pass.

QR

Respect the Rails - Long (:60)
Whether you are walking or driving, remember the three simple rules to stay safe around trains and train tracks.

QR

Respect the Rails: Always Obey Signs (:15)
Railroad Safety Rule Number 3: always obey signs. Do not walk or or near the rails, and do not go around warning devices.

How to use this resource:

- 1) Preview the videos you would like to share with your child.
- 2) Before watching, ask your child what they already know about railroad safety (See discussion questions for parents & caregivers on page 3.
- 3) Watch the videos together.
- 4) Engage in conversation with your child about how to respect the rails.
- 5) Practice remembering the three simple rules of railroad safety by completing the activity pages. Enjoy coloring, word games, and acting out how to stay safe around the tracks. The red activity pages are less challenging, while the blue are more challenging. Select the activities that fit your child's interests and abilities best.

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

EDUCATORS

Before watching, consider the following questions to activate prior knowledge:

- 1) Have you seen a train before? Have you been on a train before?
- 2) Do you have train tracks in your neighborhood? Where are they located?

After watching, discuss the following:

- 1) What did you learn after watching this video?
- 2) Where is a safe place to cross the tracks?
- 3) If you see a train coming, what should you do?
- 4) Why is it important to put your electronic devices away?
- 5) What can you do to teach your friends and family about rail safety?

PARENTS & CAREGIVERS

Before watching, consider the following:

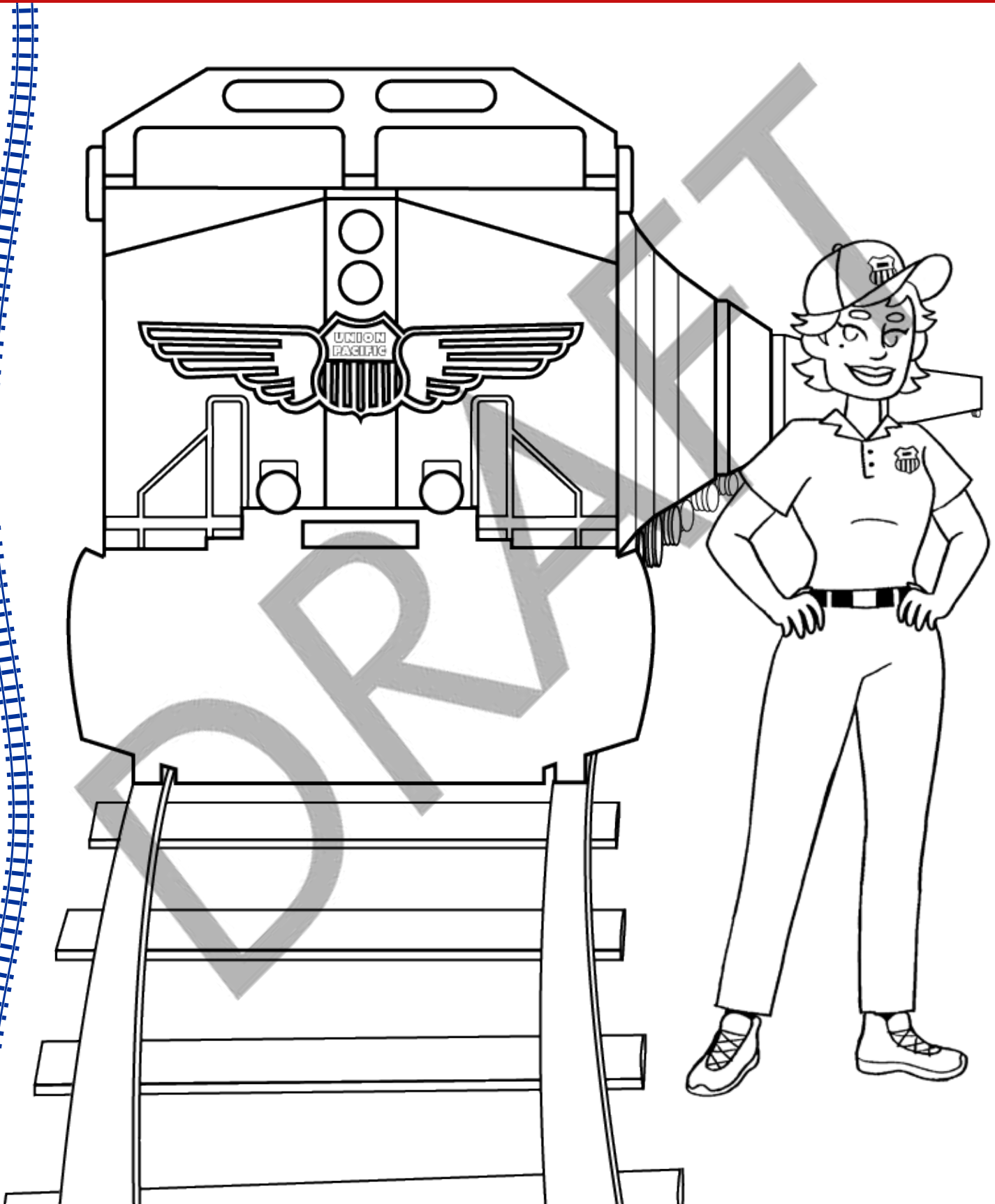
- 1) Together with your child, identify the train tracks in your community.
- 2) Talk to your child about the tracks you cross most often.

After watching, discuss the following:

- 1) What did you learn about rail safety?
- 2) Why is it important to put our electronic devices away?
- 3) What can we do while we wait for a train to pass?
- 4) Why is it important to obey lights, gates, and signs?

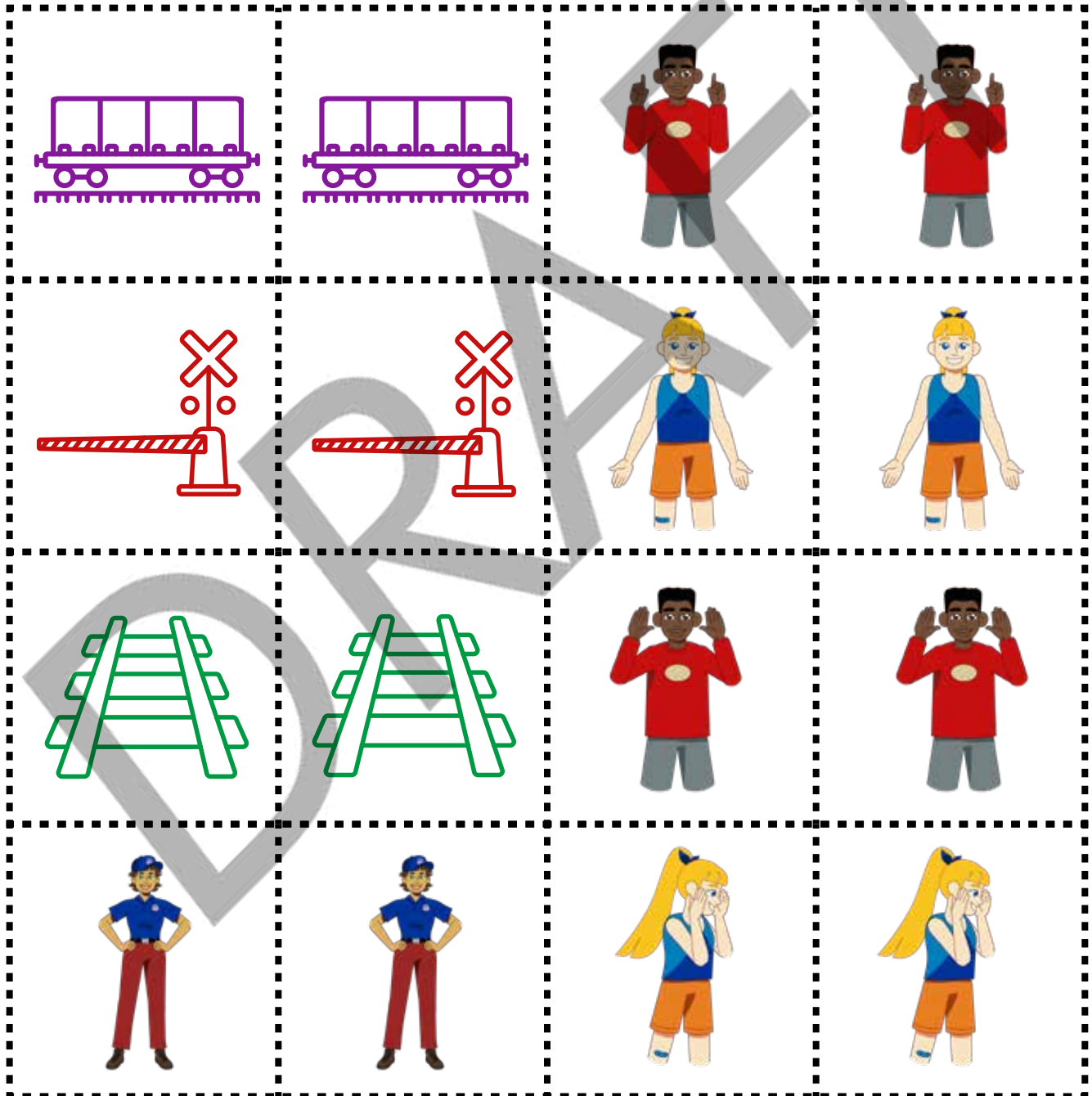


CONDUCTOR CONNIE



MEMORY GAME

Directions: Cut out the cards below. Lay out all the cards face down. With a friend, take turns flipping over two cards at a time. Try to match the pictures on the cards. If you get a match, keep those two cards and go again. If you don't get a match, return the cards to their spot face down and it's your partner's turn. Keep playing until all the cards are gone. Whoever finds the most matches wins the game!



SAFETY SEQUENCING

Directions: Color the pictures below then cut them out. Glue the pictures in the correct order.

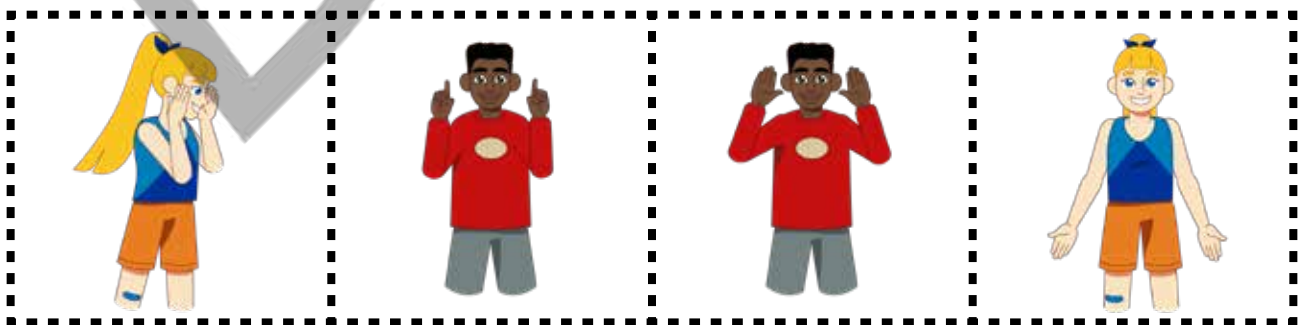
First, heads up

Next, electronic devices down

Then, eyes and ears open

Finally, look around

First	Next	Then	Finally
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WORD SCRAMBLE

Directions: Unscramble the letters to find the words.

1. R I N A T

2. E S Y T F A

3. P T S O

4. A W T I

5. A D O L R I R A

6. S R O S C

7. K A C T S R

8. E T G A

KEY: 1. Train, 2. Safety, 3. Stop, 4. Wait, 5. Railroad, 6. Cross, 7. Tracks, 8. Gate

WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

T R A I N S E S I S
R A I L R O A D P S
L G F I W S T O P G
I L M A C N M P S A
G C S C R R F A S T
H T I S O L O O K E
T W G O S W O A P Y
S N N G S L W A I T
T R A C K S A U T I
S A F E T Y Y U T Q

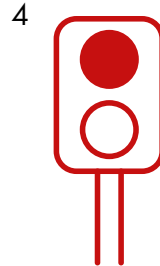
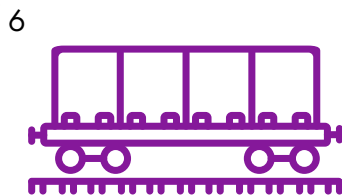
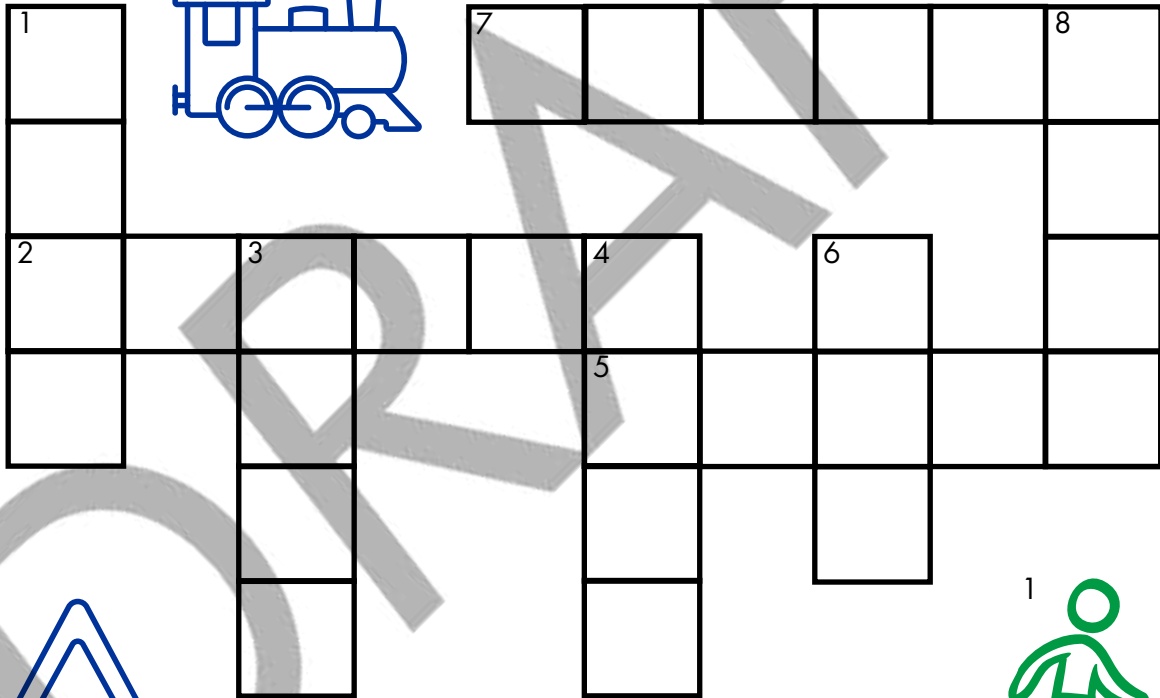
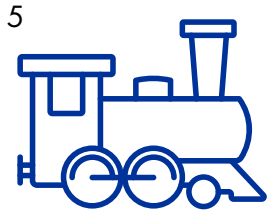
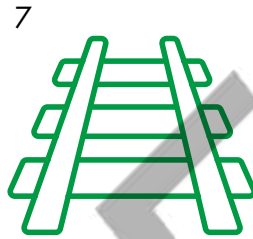
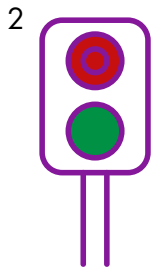
**Train
Tracks
Safety
Railroad**

**Cross
Fast
Sign
Lights**

**Gate
Stop
Look
Wait**

CONDUCTOR CONNIE'S CROSSWORD

Directions: Look at the numbers on the picture. Fill in the crossword puzzle with the railroad safety vocabulary. Use the key at the bottom if you get stuck.



KEY: 1. Walk, 2. Lights, 3. Gate, 4. Stop, 5. Train, 6. Car, 7. Tracks, 8. Sign

A SILLY STORY

Directions: Fill in the blanks to create a silly story.
(Hint: a **verb** is an action, a **noun** is a person/place/thing, and an **adjective** describes a person/place/thing.)

Taking a Trip

My friend, _____, and I went to _____ yesterday. On our way there,
(person) (place)

we saw a _____ in a _____. It was crazy! Then,
(adjective) (noun) (vehicle)

we saw a train carrying _____ and _____. We could see our
(plural noun) (plural noun)

destination on the other side of the tracks. To cross safely, we did not _____ on
(verb)

or near the tracks. We waited for the train to pass. We put down our _____
(plural noun)

as we watched the train go by. We counted _____ cars! After the train
(number)

passed, we finally made it to _____. We got to see the _____
(same place) (noun)

and play in the _____. It was a _____ day!
(noun) (adjective)

ACT IT OUT

Directions: Create a short skit including each of the three safety tips. Use the template to help write your skit. Practice your skit. Then, perform for your friends and family!

Include these three safety tips:

- 1) Don't walk on or near tracks.
- 2) Wait for a train to pass.
- 3) Put away electronic devices.



Title: _____

By: _____

Characters:	Played By:	Props/Costumes:

Setting: _____

Story: _____

NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT

Directions: Record a 30-second video of yourself as a news reporter talking about railroad safety.

YOU WILL NEED

- A device to record yourself
- Props (optional)

STEP 1: Introduce yourself and where you are reporting from.

STEP 2: Answer the five Ws for your viewers.

WHO should know about railroad safety?

WHAT should they know about railroad safety?

WHY is it important?

WHERE to practice safety.

WHEN to be aware.

HOW to stay safe.

STEP 3: Share your video with your friends and family.

Post on social media and tag [@TPTNOW](#) and [@UnionPacific](#).



WORD SCRAMBLE

Directions: Unscramble the letters to find the words

1. AHDSE PU

2. RILDRA OA

3. SIRSGCON

4. KOLO NRUDOA

5. ATSYEF

6. IVECDES WNOD

7. DTNOCORUC

8. NITAR ATKRSC

KEY: 1. Heads Up, 2. Railroad, 3. Crossing, 4. Look Around, 5. Safety, 6. Devices Down, 7. Conductor, 8. Train Tracks

WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

N I A R T V C D X B W V S W E
H L Q E A C A O A M B J I M P
P O N S D I Q R N P F X G E L
H O X N A D L P Y D A J N M X
S K T L B F O R N B U D A I S
B T I S E K E Y O P T C L J D
A A R R T O I T X A X C T Q O
R H H A I O U E Y W D W D O T
R S C Y C L P F E C A R C H R
I J L H K K U A F Y E I R M A
E B D C R O S S I N G Q B R I
R T S J P T C A G O Z F Y X N
E L T S I H W H I S T L E Z C
E A F A V N V Q R O D Z R V L
X O W F P H V Q M V Q V V M X

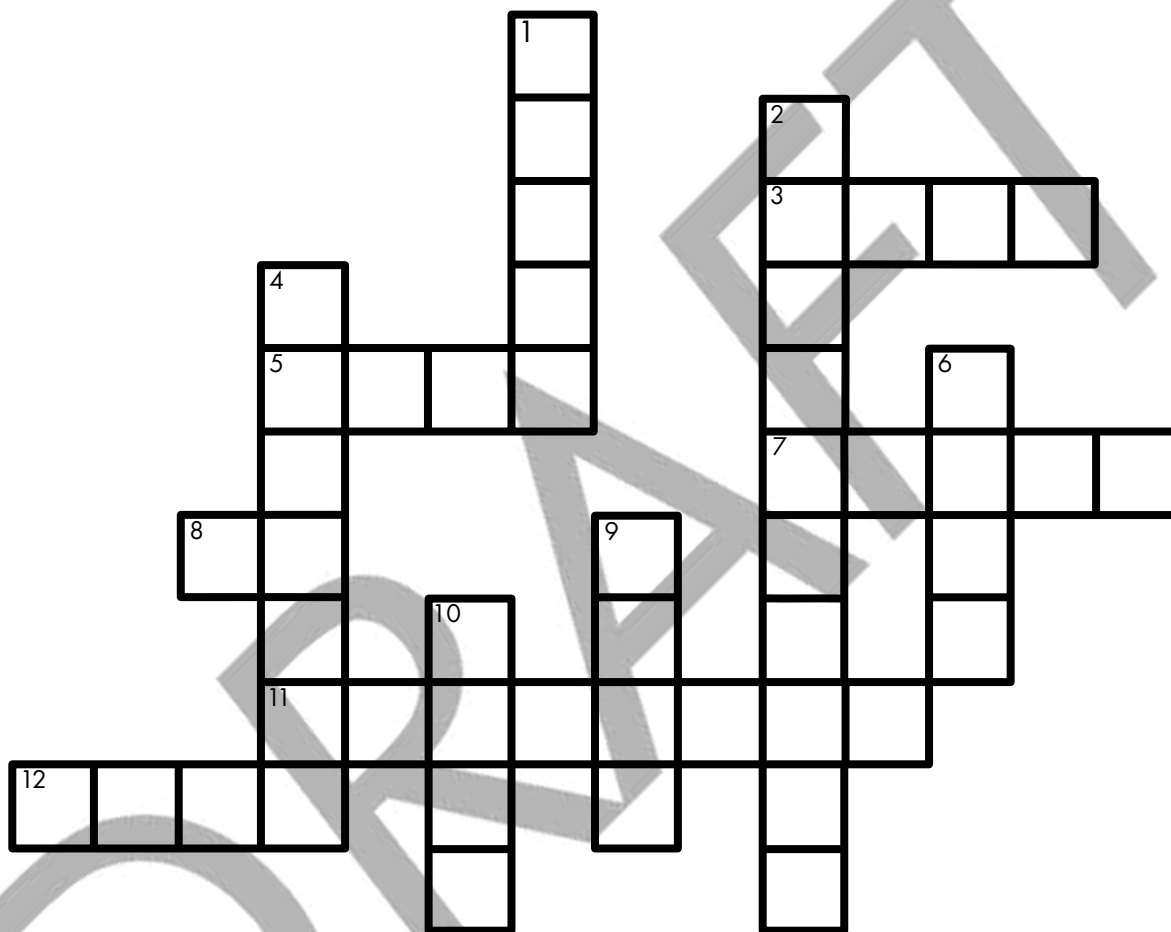
**Train
Tracks
Safety
Railroad**

**Crossing
Conductor
Signal
Barrier**

**Whistle
Stop
Look
Wait**

CONDUCTOR CONNIE'S CROSSWORD

Directions: Fill in the crossword puzzle with the words missing from the sentences below. Match the number of the sentence to the boxes. Use the key if you get stuck.



ACROSS

- 3. ____ around.
- 5. Eyes and ____ open.
- 7. Never race a ____.
- 8. Heads ____.
- 11. Cross train tracks at a marked _____.
- 12. Always ____ for a train to pass.

DOWN

- 1. Obey barriers and ____.
- 2. Put away _____ devices.
- 4. _____ the rails.
- 6. Never ____ on or near tracks.
- 9. Trains move really ____.
- 10. Electronics _____.

KEY: 1. Signs, 2. Electronic, 3. Look, 4. Respect, 5. Ears, 6. Walk, 7. Train, 8. Up, 9. Fast, 10. Down, 11. Crossing, 12. Wait

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

LEARN MORE ABOUT RAILROAD SAFETY

Union Pacific cares about the communities it serves and partners with organizations to promote rail safety. Additional education resources to enhance rail safety can be found on Union Pacific's website.

Safe Kids Worldwide offers tips and information on how to keep your family and community safe around trains and tracks. Visit the Safe Kids website to learn more about rail safety.

SING AND DANCE

Learn the Rail Safety Cha Cha - Sing and dance along to this fun tune!

[Link to song](#)

STORY HOUR

Tips on how to do a story hour:

- 1) Pick a book to read featuring trains.
- 2) Watch the video, *Three Things You Can Do*, to learn about railroad safety.
- 3) Discuss how to stay safe around trains and train tracks.
- 4) Choose an activity to practice and remember the rail safety tips.

Book List:

Look for these books and more at your local library.

- *Alphabet Trains*, Written by Samantha R Vamos, Illustrated by Ryan O'Rourke
- *Clifford and the Railroad Crossing*, Written and Illustrated by Norman Bridwell
- *The Little Engine That Could*, Written by Watty Piper, Illustrated by Dan Santat
- *The Little Train*, Written and Illustrated by Lois Lenski
- *Locomotive*, Written and Illustrated by Brian Floca
- *The Polar Express*, Written and Illustrated by Chris Van Allsburg
- *Steam Train, Dream Train*, Written by Sherri Duskey Rinker, Illustrated by Tom Lichtenheld
- *Thomas the Tank Engine Story Collection*, Written by Rev. W. Awdry, Illustrated by C. Reginald Dalby and John T. Kenney
- *Trucker and Train*, Written by Hannah Stark, Illustrated by Bob Kolar