

# TRAIN TRIP!

## HOME ACTIVITIES

Choo, choo! It's time to focus your imagination on all things train. What's more fun than taking a train trip, even if it's only a pretend trip? Get ready for your child to become the chief engineer of what will soon be your new train-filled home. It's okay...you'll want to come along for the fun ride!



## ALL ABOARD!

### GET STARTED: Make a Crafty Train

Let's start small. Help your child make a train out of things commonly found around the house. So many of your child's fine motor skills will be put to fun use with your guidance. Don't forget to practice making the sounds of a train as you work. You'll need those sounds when the train is ready to leave the station!



Tap the icon to listen to Kindermusik's "New River Train."



Tap the icon to view the step-by-step instructions.

### What you'll need:



### SING ALONG: "New River Train"

Start the music, and enjoy learning it and singing along while you construct the train. Be sure to focus on the most important part: the train engine! Explain that the job of a train engineer is an important one—he or she keeps the train going at the right speed, and watches to see that the train is running smoothly and safely on the tracks. That's why the engineer sits in the front of the train!

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Small trains are fun to play with for a while. But now it's time to make a much BIGGER train that will get your child's gross motor skills involved as well!



## A TRAIN YOU CAN REALLY RIDE IN!

### SING ALONG: “Hinei Rakevet (Here Comes the Train)”

Turn up the music as you make a child-sized train that will get your kiddo moving those large muscles. All you need are a few items to get the imagination pumping (like cardboard, paint or markers, and glue). And once the train is ready, you can choo-choo-choo around the house!



Tap the icon to listen to Kindermusik's “Hinei Rakevet (Here Comes the Train).”

### What you'll need:

- Cardboard boxes
- Loose cardboard
- Paint or markers
- Empty tubes (e.g., toilet paper) or cans
- String
- Glue or staples
- Paper plates

Cut all but one short flap off of a cardboard box, and tape that flap sturdily shut.

With some imagination, this will already work as a great train engine! But you can embellish as much as you like.



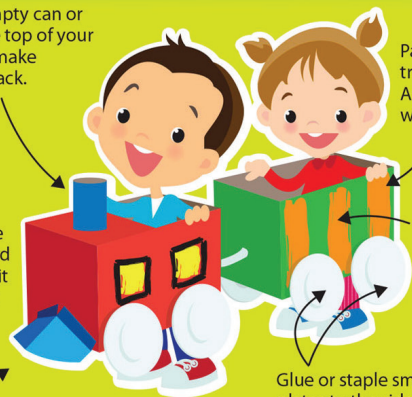
Glue an empty can or tube to the top of your engine to make a smoke stack.

Fold a piece of cardboard and attach it to the front to make a “bumper.”

Paint your train cars! Add words, windows, etc.

Build multiple train cars and hitch them together with string.

Glue or staple small paper plates to the sides, as wheels.



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When you're riding on a real train, you can't help but feel its rocking motion. It's so comforting that it often puts riders to sleep. That's one reason why each train stop is announced to the passengers...just in time for them to wake up and gather their belongings.

### ROCKING ON A TRAIN

#### GENTLY ROCKING: "Bought Me a Ticket"

Settle down in a comfortable chair with your child. A rocking chair is great, but you can rock with your child anywhere! Imagine the best train trip you could take. As your train gets going, rock with your child to the song.

Describe what you're seeing outside the train windows. Invite your child to add more details of the imaginary scenery going by. Announce the stops as you come to them, stop rocking briefly, and then begin rocking again as your train trip continues. You might both become drowsy and decide just to rock together silently for a while, or perhaps to rock while humming along with the music. That's the best trip of all!



Tap the icon to listen to Kindermusik's "Bought Me a Ticket."



#### ROCKING MOVES BEYOND BABIES

Gentle rocking provides a secure safety net during a child's life. Moments spent rocking together are especially poignant when a child is struggling between dependence and independence. During rocking, your child relishes a break from the stimulating outside world, free for a moment to settle into the comfort of your loving arms.



We'd love to see your train adventures! Take photos of your small crafty train and/or the child-sized train you create. Post to your favorite social media site and remember to tag @Kindermusik!