



# Engineers Club NEWS

VOLUME III NO. 2

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## What a Party!

Nathan of Lake City, South Carolina had a wonderful party for his third birthday. We are sending him an Engineers Cap and Bag for sharing with all of us the highlights of his party.



Nathan and Noah as engine & caboose for Halloween

"We had a train party for Nathan, our 3 year old son. He is wild about trains (especially BRIO!). It was great fun. We decorated the table with a train printed bed sheet. The cake had a train going around the top. For favors, we gave each child an Amtrak paper hat. We also had train shaped whistles . . . a train . . . and a train story book for each child.

For fun we played pin the smoke stack on the engine. We provided large boxes decorated like an engine and caboose for the children to 'ride' in. We set up every train track we own for them to play with. We decorated train shaped cookies for each to take home."



The following BRIO Engineers deciphered the code and answered the question in a recent Newsletter. Their names were drawn from an Engineer's Cap—and they will receive a BRIO train of their choice.

Northeast—Steven of Exeter, New Hampshire  
East—David of Ringoes, New Jersey  
Southeast—Jonathan of Chesapeake, Virginia  
Southwest—Jeremy of Topeka, Kansas

Great Lakes—John of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
Midwest—Todd of Muncie, Indiana  
Mountain States—Chuckie of Littleton, Colorado  
Northwest—Megan of Lake Oswego, Oregon

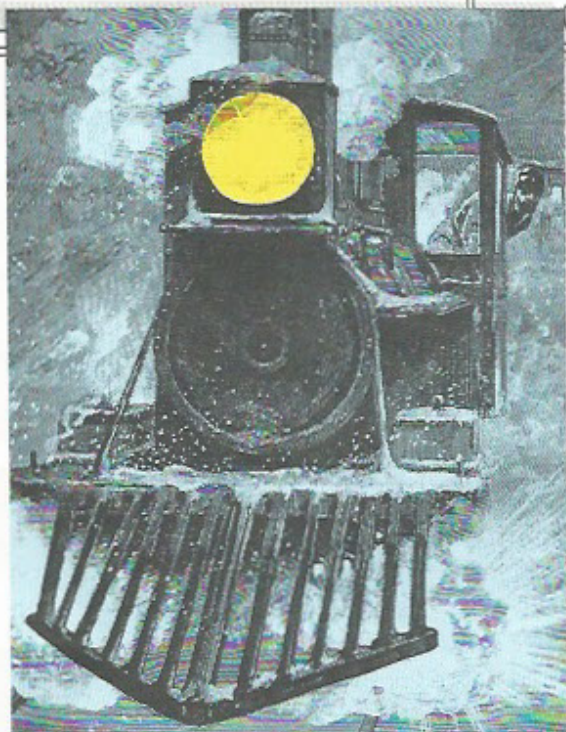
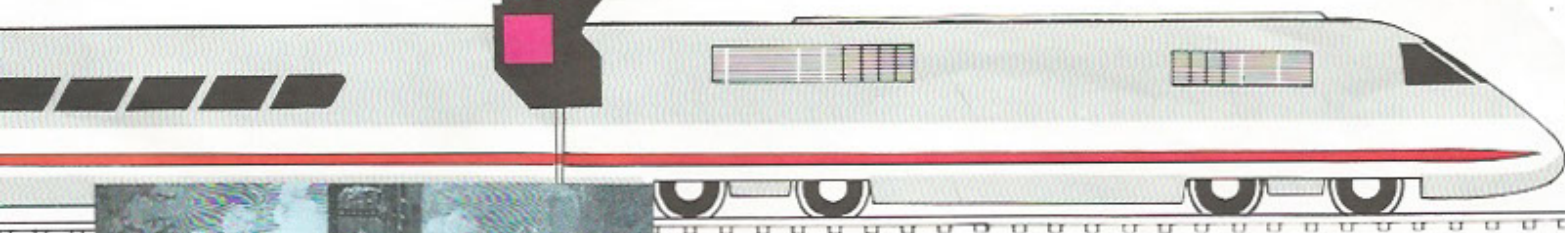
West—Michael of San Clemente, California



# ESPECIALLY FOR BRIO ENGINEERS



Do you know that . . .



. . . the first trains travelled at about 15 miles per hour, and that today the average speed is 65 mph? The bullet train goes about 150 mph?

. . . 'cowcatchers' found on old trains didn't catch cows? These metal bars on the front of the engine were used to push branches and rocks off the track.

. . . trains have lips? But not the kind you would want to kiss! Train lips are part of the iron wheels and fit inside the tracks, preventing the wheels from slipping off.

. . . in some countries the caboose isn't the last car on the train, but is coupled somewhere in the middle?

## WORD SEARCH CH

Can you find 11 words that have to do with freight trains and draw a line around them? How many did you find on the horizontal—on the vertical—on the diagonal? (Clues on the last page!)

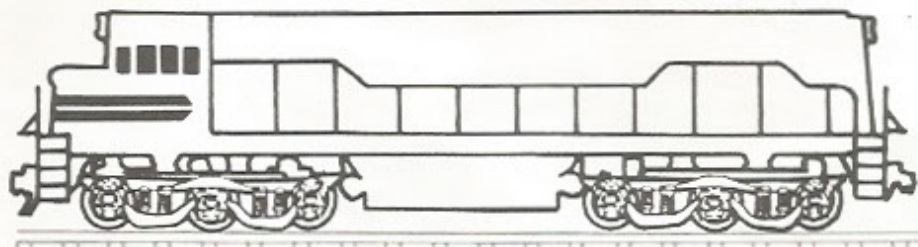




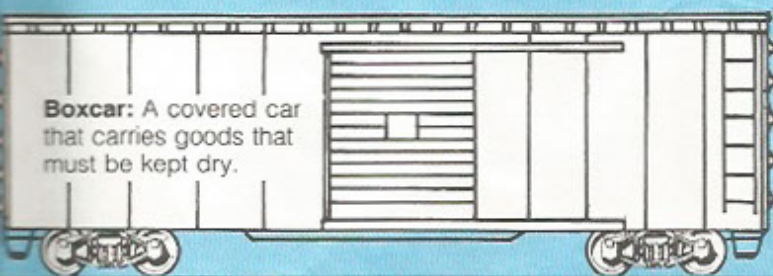


## FREIGHT TRAINS

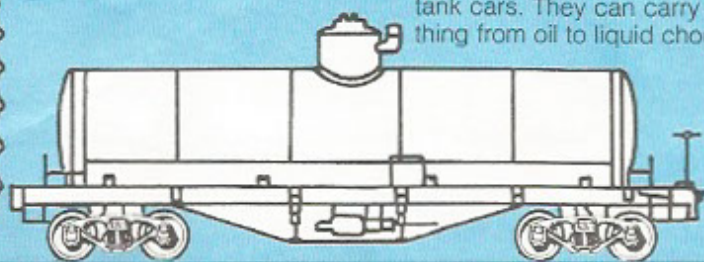
Freight trains carry no passengers. They carry goods: things like coal and livestock and cars and steel and logs and food. A freight train is usually about 100 cars long. There are 10,000 freight trains rolling every day in this country. (How many different cars are moving along the tracks every day?) 95% of railway revenues come from freight. The freight train has many different cars. Here are the most common ones:



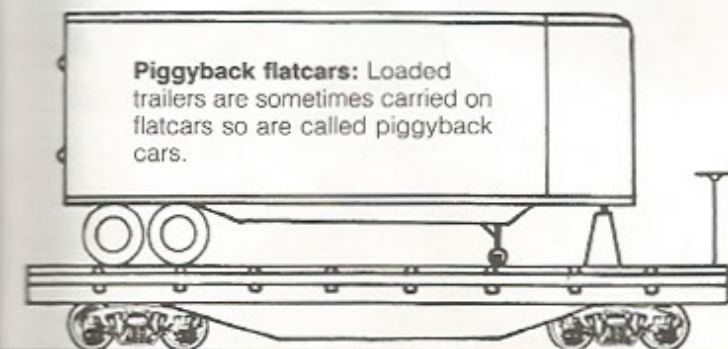
**Engine:** A freight train usually has two engines to pull the cars. These locomotives are at the front of the train.



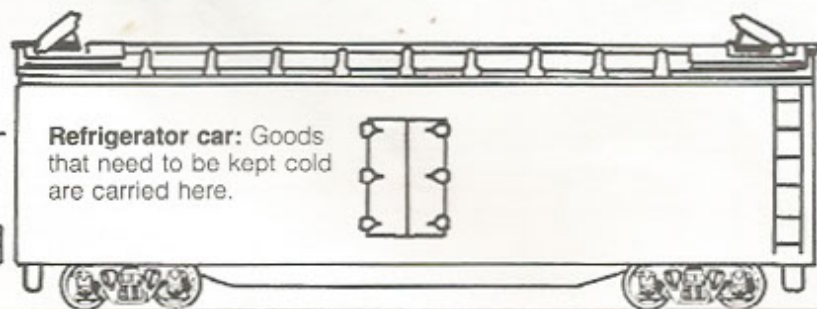
**Boxcar:** A covered car that carries goods that must be kept dry.



**Tank car:** Liquids are carried in tank cars. They can carry everything from oil to liquid chocolate.



**Piggyback flatcars:** Loaded trailers are sometimes carried on flatcars so are called piggyback cars.



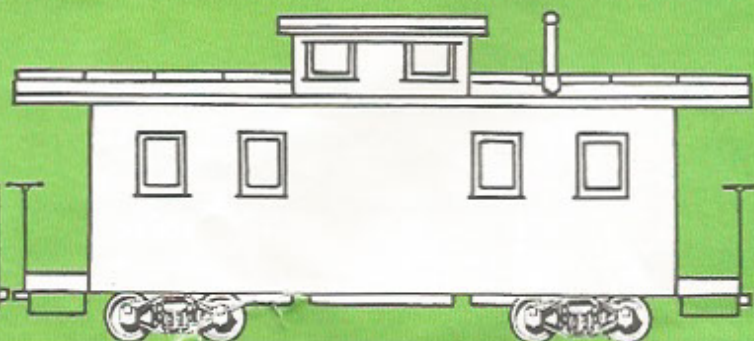
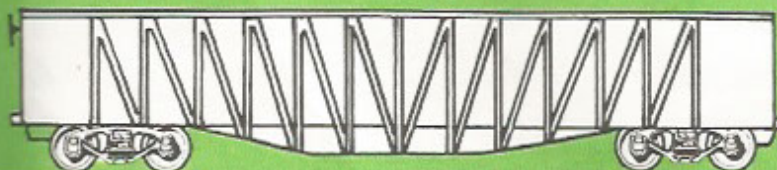
**Refrigerator car:** Goods that need to be kept cold are carried here.

**Hopper cars:** Open cars that usually carry coal or sand.

**Flatcars:** These cars have no sides; sometimes they carry logs.

**Gondola:** A car with sides but no roof; used to carry things that do not need to be kept dry.

**Livestock cars:** Cattle and other livestock can be transported in these cars.



**Caboose:** The caboose is the last car on the train (here in America!). It is an office for the workers.



## New Products for 1987

**Mini Straight Track** (#33333) Four pieces of 2½" track that is wonderful for finishing that almost-complete layout. Versatile and flexible—especially in tight spots and with curves.

**Ascending Track** (#33332) Two pieces of ascending track; good for use with bridge supports and elevated layouts.

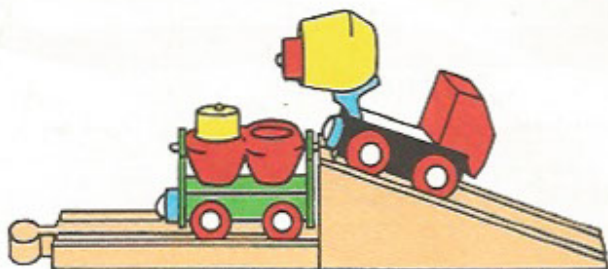
**Harbour Crane** (#33380) The long boom on this tall, quay crane makes loading and unloading at the docks very easy.

**Barge** (#33385) There are lots of product and loads that can be carried on this barge, supervised by a person in gray.

**Trucks & Cars** (#33520) A car, a dump truck, and two trailers make up this set. There are logs and loads to carry in the trailer and truck beds.

**Tractor & Equipment** (#33529) The farmer in green with his tractor, plow, and trailer can work his fields and transport his goods.

**Road Bridge** (#33565) This 13" long bridge has a road that can go over track, roads, or water.



**Concrete Transporter** (#33522) Any cement work will be made easier with this concrete truck and trailer with approach ramp.

**Harbour** (#33210) Lots of activity can center on this harbour playscape. It includes 2 sailboats, 1 fishing boat, 2 docks, 3 breakwaters, 1 lighthouse, 2 houses, 5 figures, 1 dog and miscellaneous products.

**COMING SOON (to your local station—toy store):** A textured play mat from BRIO. It is 40" x 60", polycotton, and machine washable. It is reversible. Side One has silk-screened and appliqued tracks, roads, water, parks, and buildings. Side Two with green and blue fabric represent land and sea. Enjoy endless hours of "open-ended" play around this mat.

(Clues to Word Search: Box, caboose, coal, engine, gondola, hopper, flat, livestock, piggyback, refrigerator, tank.)



## Engineers Club

LOCAL STATION MASTER

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TO BRIO ENGINEER

HERE'S YOUR NEWSLETTER

