

Engineers Club NEWS

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The World's Biggest Train Layout?

We think so! We hope to be in the Guinness Book of Records to prove it!

107 children at BRIO in Osby, Sweden spent 30 minutes setting up this layout. They used 12,801 pieces of track and bridges. The total length of the joined pieces of track was 6,303.14 feet. That is over a mile long!



Can you find the answers to these questions in the photograph or story?

1. Mark an X on a suspension bridge in the picture.
2. Mark an O on a viaduct or archbridge in the picture.
3. Can you find a tunnel in the picture?
4. Circle the name of the town where BRIO trains are made.
5. How many feet over a mile was the total joined length of track?
6. Swedish children use meters instead of feet. Can you change the total length into meters? (Hint: 1 meter = 39.37 inches)

ESPECIALLY FOR BRIO ENGINEERS



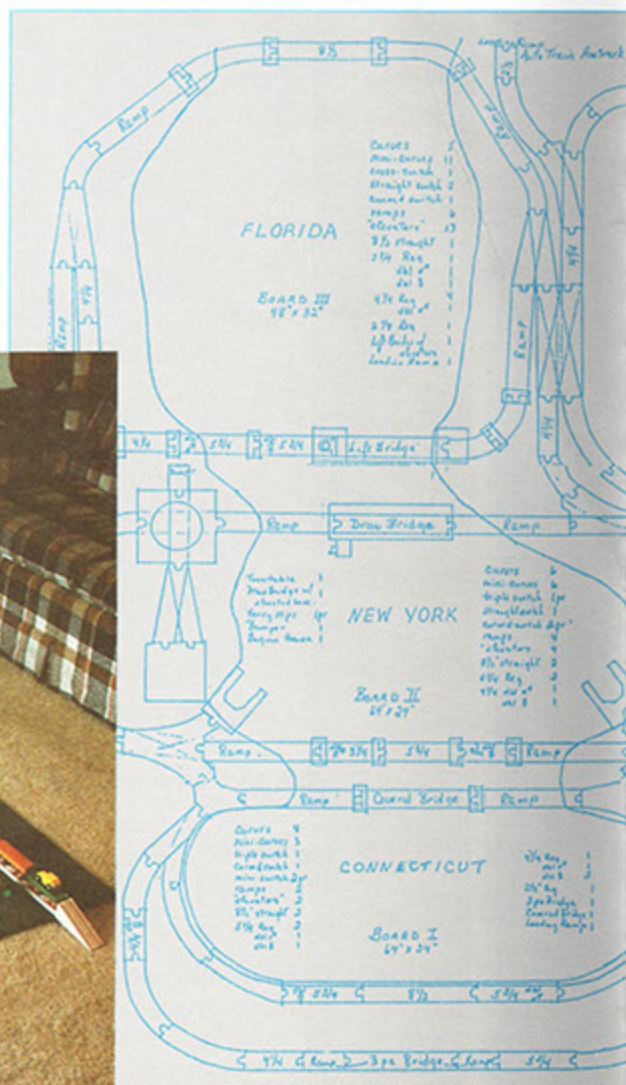
Do You Know . . .

- . . . that the first railway tracks were built about 400 years ago and the rails were made of wood?
- . . . that private railroad companies in the U.S. abandon 12 miles of track each day (or 3,000 to 4,000 miles per year)?
- . . . that BRIO makes over 2 miles of track each day (equal to about 750 miles per year)?

From you . . .

Alan from Knoxville sent us the Korean word for train. It is **gicha**. (Do you remember the Newsletter which had the word **train** in many different languages - words like *ki sha*, *der zug*, *treno*, and *le train*?)

The Train to Grandma's by Ivan Gantshev is a beautiful book. Perhaps you have taken a train trip to visit your grandma. Andrew, in Connecticut, has a special grandma who has set up a wonderful train layout in her Granny's Corner. This BRIO collection started with a circle set in 1983. Now it is on three boards, joined together with switches. Andrew helps with the layout. Do you notice the "auto-train" he added after his grandparents took a trip to Florida last year? Four younger grandchildren are also beginning to play with the railway. We wonder what they will add next.



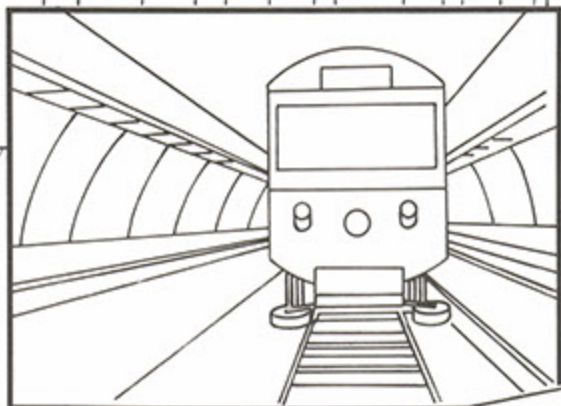
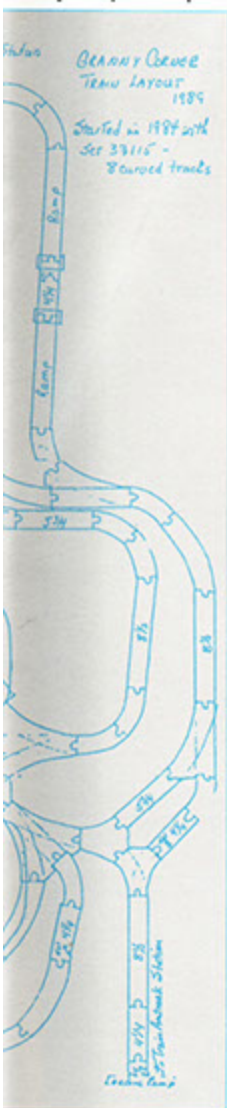
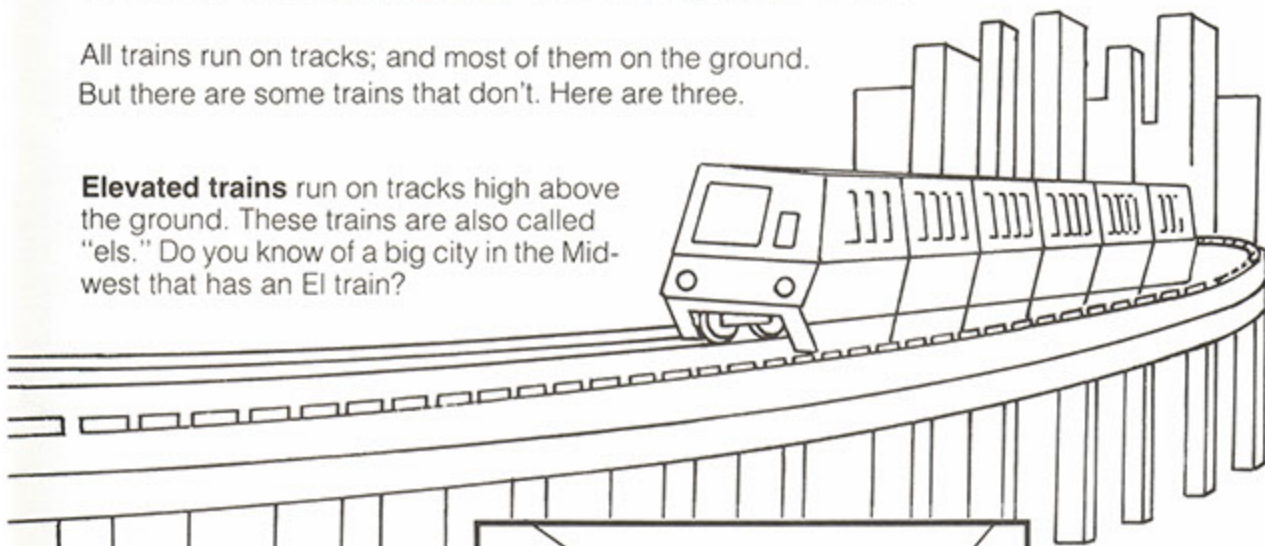


OVER . . . UNDER . . . ABOVE . . .

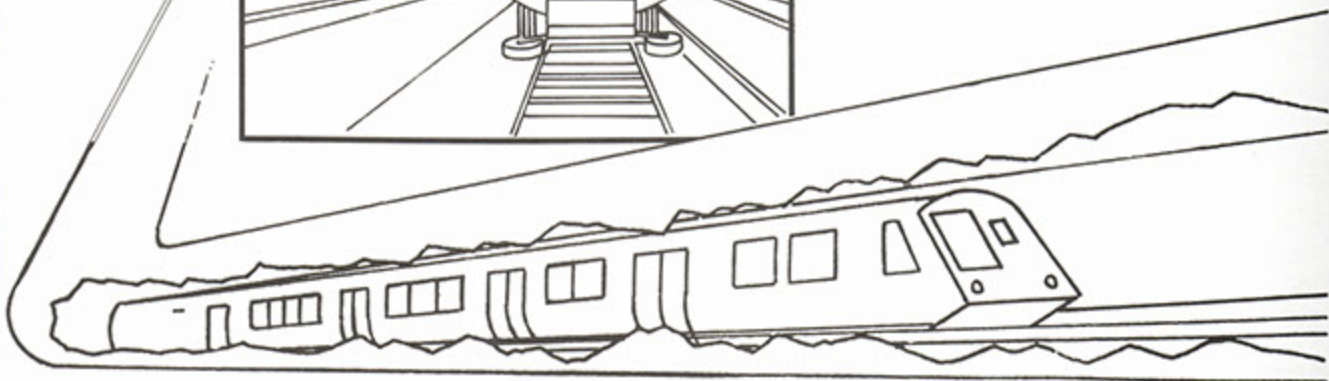
All trains run on tracks; and most of them on the ground. But there are some trains that don't. Here are three.

Elevated trains run on tracks high above the ground. These trains are also called "els." Do you know of a big city in the Midwest that has an El train?

Can you build an 'el' train with your bridge supports and ascending track?

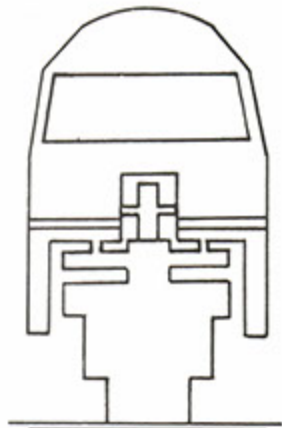
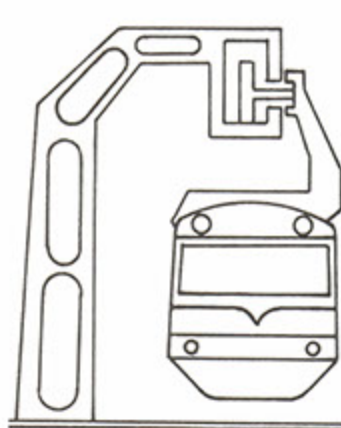


Subways run underground through tunnels. The first underground railway was built in London in 1863. Can you name a city in the East that has a subway?



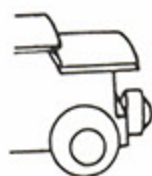
Monorails are trains that run on just one rail. Some monorails run on top of the rail; some hang from the rail. Monorails are often used at ski resorts; to carry people from a city to an airport; or to move people around a scenic area. Do you know a place in the West that has a monorail?

You can color these trains. You might try to build some layouts too.



HEADS & TAILS

Can you match the 'heads & tails' of these BRIO trains and vehicles? You can cut out the two parts, glue them together on a piece of paper, and then color them.



Did you find a caboose? two engines? a police car? an ambulance? a truck? a concrete truck? a gas truck?



Engineers Club

Local Station Master

To BRIO Engineer

HERE'S YOUR NEWSLETTER

