

# I dare you



The script is written to be performed as a class assembly or as the basis for a drama workshop.

The script can be performed by any number of children without the need for specialised props.

## Suggested support activities:

- Discover where the nearest railway lines are and where the correct crossing places are located.
- Make your own safety posters and slogans.
- Arrange a visit from the Schools and Community Liaison Officer or the Police.
- Use untuned percussion to simulate the rhythm of trains. This can be used between each section of the script.

## Poem

The Metro announcer says that  
"On platform one  
the train is on time"  
and the people get on.

When the doors all close  
and the passengers are in place  
the train pulls out and increases its pace.

It's Friday evening at 5.45.  
The weekend's coming it's good to be alive.

## Group A: The Kids

Voice: We just want to have fun  
Group: Yeah!  
Voice: We just want to meet where we're out of sight  
Group: Yeah!  
Voice: We don't want grown ups around  
Group: Yeah!  
Voice: We want to do what we want to do  
Group: Yeah!  
Voice: Let's meet down by the railway line  
Group: Yeah!

## Group B: The Grown Ups

Voice: As parents we trust our children to play safely  
and we know they will  
Group: Quite right  
Voice: As teachers we make sure that we teach our  
children about safety  
Group: Quite right  
Voice: Young people like to have fun but without doing  
anything stupid and dangerous  
Group: Quite right  
Voice: As passengers on trains we like to feel safe on our journey  
and not have any holdups.  
Group: Quite right  
Voice: As a Metro driver I am not expecting anyone to  
be silly enough to suddenly appear on the tracks  
in front of me  
Group: Quite right

## Group C: Metro Police Unit

Voice: Metro puts up fences and signs to keep people  
off railway lines  
Group: Safety first  
Voice: There are specially made places for people to cross  
railway lines  
Group: Safety first  
Voice: It's dangerous to dump any kind of rubbish on the  
side of the tracks

## Poem

By 5.56 the train's well on its way  
and nobody wants to get caught in a delay

By 5.57 the track ahead is clear  
So it's full speed ahead with no station being near

Keep watching ahead that's what the driver must do  
when all of a sudden from out of the blue

A child appears through the fence at the side  
and crosses the tracks, look out!, we'll collide!

A screaming of the brakes but all too late  
The accident was over by 5.58

The driver gets out and looks down the line  
Everything's quiet by 5.59

The police arrived with the ambulance too  
but all in all there's not much they can do

# I dare you



## Group A

Voice: I dare you to put this coin on the line  
Group: I dare you  
Voice: I dare you to run across the tracks  
Group: I dare you  
Voice: I dare you to put these bricks on the tracks  
Group: I dare you  
Voice: I dare you to throw this stone at a train  
Group: I dare you  
Voice: I dare you to stand on the line when the train is coming  
Group: I dare you

## Group B

Voice: As parents we worry about our children and what might happen to them  
Group: It's a worry  
Voice: As teachers we hope that children don't think everywhere is as safe as it is in school  
Group: It's a worry  
Voice: As young people, while we're out, sometimes we do dangerous things that perhaps we shouldn't  
Group: It's a worry  
Voice: As passengers on a train the last thing we want is to be involved in an accident  
Group: It's a worry  
Voice: As a train driver I know that if someone steps out in front of my train then there's no way I can stop in time.  
Group: It's a worry

## Group C

Voice: Some people make holes in the fences and ignore the warning signs that run along the railway lines  
Group: It's against the law  
Voice: And cross the tracks in the wrong places  
Group: It's against the law  
Voice: And dump rubbish on the side of the lines  
Group: It's against the law

## Reporter

Voice: And now over to our outside broadcast for news of the terrible accident that happened today.  
Rep: Today a serious accident happened on the metro line here in (Home town). Police say a group of children had ignored the fencing and warning signs and trespassed on the track. At first they played a few simple games on the track side but eventually the group began to dare each other to do more and more dangerous things. Eventually the inevitable tragedy happened. Some of those were children under the age of 16. It seems that between 3 and 7 o'clock in the afternoon and on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays are the most common times for accidents and this gets worse during school holidays. This is (Child's name), for schools news, at the scene of the accident.

## Poem

Accidents, we think,  
Happen to others who aren't aware  
They do stupid things and don't seem to take care

But sometimes we forget  
To look after number one and let others tell us what  
is and isn't fun

If that means you're asked for a dare  
to go on a Metro line  
then you shouldn't be there.

Not only are you in danger from the trains on the line  
you're breaking the law and could face a fine

Make a rule for yourself that you must not break  
Stay clear of Metro lines for your own sake.

## Group A

Voice: We thought we were having fun  
Group: We were wrong  
Voice: We thought we were safe  
Group: We were wrong  
Voice: We thought we would never be caught  
Group: We were wrong  
Voice: We thought we had found a great place to meet  
Group: We were wrong  
Voice: We thought that nothing would happen to us  
Group: We were wrong

## Group B

Voice: As parents our worst fear is losing our children  
Group: Don't let it happen  
Voice: As teachers, losing a member of a class takes a very long time to get over  
Group: Don't let it happen  
Voice: As young people there's nothing worse than losing a friend  
Group: Don't let it happen  
Voice: As passengers on a train it's a terrible feeling if the train you are on is involved in an accident  
Group: Don't let it happen  
Voice: A Metro driver will have nightmares about accidents that happen  
Group: Don't let it happen

## Group C

Voice: Metro lines are not a playground  
Group: Keep off  
Voice: Metro lines are full of hidden dangers  
Group: Keep off  
Voice: Never go on Metro lines  
Group: Keep off