



I DARE YOU II

The railway industry is aware of the potential danger of trespass on the railway network and is continuously striving to inform people, especially children, of the serious consequences. As part of the ongoing action to reduce the incidence of railway crime the following script has been developed to alert young people to the possible result of playing on or near to the railway tracks.

The script can be used in which ever way a teacher feels would gain the best reaction from their pupils. Originally written to be performed as a class assembly it also has the potential to act as the basis for a drama workshop.

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

Suggested pupil roles:

Poem Reader: One child can read each section of the poem.

Group A, B, C

Voices: Individual children can read each one of the lines.

Group: Any number of children can simultaneously say these lines.

Individuals

Voice: These lines can be read by either one child or three children each reading the individual lines

Prof, Reporter, Judge: Again this can either be read by one child or three. These lines require a more theatrical style of delivery.

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 British Transport Police or Railway representative.
- Use untuned percussion to simulate the rhythm of trains. This can be used between each section of the script.

Get a life - don't lose it

I DARE YOU II

School Play

Based on the Railtrack Play
"I DARE YOU"

Poem: The 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 train 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: Railway Officials/ British Transport Police

Voice: Fences and signs are put up 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
Group: Safety first

Individuals

Voice: Good evening ladies and gentlemen.
Welcome to the National Trainspotting
Lecture. Without further ado let me
introduce our guest speaker Professor
(Child's name).

Prof: I must say it is a great honour for me to
be here and I would like to begin by
sharing with you some fascinating facts
about trains. Did you know that trains
are not only used for carrying
passengers but also all sorts of things.
They are particularly useful for carrying
loads that are large and heavy which
could not easily be moved by road. But
we are most used to seeing passenger
trains and there are several types like
the Intercity 225 and 125 as well as
Sprinters and Pacers. An Intercity 225
can travel at a maximum speed of 125
miles per hour which means it will
travel 1 mile in 28 seconds. At that
speed and because it weighs about 500
tonnes if it had to stop suddenly it
would take just under 1 mile to come
to a complete stop. Now not a lot of
people know that.

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

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

Individuals

Voice: And now over to our outside broadcast
for news of the terrible accident that
happened today
Rep: Today a serious accident happened at
the railway line here in (Home town). A
young child became another one of the
far too many accidents that happen on
railway lines, accidents that so easily
could have been avoided. 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. This child
has become one of the many people
killed or injured on railway lines in a
year as a result of railway crime. 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.

I DARE YOU II

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 railway 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 railway 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
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
Don't let it happen
Voice: A train driver will have nightmares
about accidents that happen
Don't let it happen
Group:

Group C:

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

Individuals

Voice: The court will now rise for the
honourable Judge (Child's Name)
Judge: Ladies and gentlemen of the jury. You
have heard the evidence before you.
Now it is time for you to make your
decision. But before you do I would like
to add that this is a serious matter and I
suggest you treat it as such. Every day
there are 350 reports of crime on our
railways. If you return a verdict of guilty
of being on railway land, I will be
forced to impose the maximum fine of
£1,000. If someone actually attempts to
endanger the safety of the railway then
that carries a maximum of life in prison.
If though you are guilty of playing on a
railway line then you may well be
seriously injured or even pay with
your life.

THE DECISION IS YOURS

