



## Teachers' Notes

### Warning Signs – General

The 'Warning Signs – General' whiteboard resource provides a basis for you to discuss with your pupils the dangers of trespassing on railway tracks and of inappropriate behaviour on level crossings, train station platforms and trains.

The resource includes images about real incidents. It contains characters and messages found in the 7-11 year old publications that can be ordered free of charge by visiting the Track Off website at: <http://www.trackoff.org/materials.html>. Some of the video clips in the Track Off Teaching Zone video bank (<http://www.teachingzone.org/videobank.htm>) can be downloaded to complement this resource.

Please send any feedback about the resource and any suggestions for additional programs to [feedback@teachingzone.org](mailto:feedback@teachingzone.org).

1 The PowerPoint version of the resource is a short program with learning points.

The notes with the slides give some basic information on which you can base your discussion.

2 The Smart Notebook version of the resource allows you to:

- Import the warning signs from the gallery
- Import characters, arrows and captions to indicate learning points
- Import characters and speech bubbles to create your own learning points

The notes for each page on which to base your discussion are as follows:

Page 1

Trains travel quickly and take the length of 20 football pitches to stop when going at top speed. If you go down on the railway tracks trains cannot swerve out of your way like a car. A train

travelling at normal speed cannot be heard until four seconds before it passes. Always take notice of warning signs near the railway – warning sign 'Beware of Trains'.

#### Page 2

Trespass means going somewhere without the owner's permission. If you trespass on the railways by taking a short cut or walking along it you are breaking the law and can be caught by the police. (The railway police are called British Transport Police)

#### Page 3

It's very dangerous to trespass on railway tracks whether it is out in the countryside or in train stations. Young people have been caught as a result of being filmed on CCTV camera or photographed by passers by or trackside patrols

#### Page 4

If you walk on railway tracks you can trip, slip or get your feet trapped. Railway points that change the direction of the track are particularly dangerous as they move automatically and there is no warning. Feet can be damaged and the person trapped in front of a train.

#### Page 5

Walking by the side of the tracks is dangerous as well. When trains travel very fast they stir up the air at the side of the track and people walking close to the track can be sucked under the train wheels.

#### Page 6

Some railway tracks are even more dangerous to trespassers because they are electrified by live conductor rails. These extra live rails look like any other rails but rest on insulators as well as sleepers. There are warning signs by the tracks and at train stations warning people of the dangers. The power is on all the time even if there are no trains running on the track at the time.

#### Page 7

When you are on a train station platform you must stay behind the warning line on the platform until the train stops. If you are at a station where the train doesn't stop but passes through at high speed it is particularly important that you stay behind the warning line.

#### Page 8

You must not go beyond the yellow warning line and sit on the train station platform with your legs dangling over the edge of the platform (why? -because some people have lost their legs doing just that). You must not play around on a train station platform – with a ball or on a skateboard.

#### Page 9

To cross the railway tracks you must use a proper crossing - a bridge, underpass or level crossing. There are different types of level crossing and you must always follow the instructions on the warning signs. There are signs on the road approaching the crossings - the train sign means a level crossing without barriers, the gate sign means a level crossing with barriers.

#### Page10

There are different types of level crossing and you must always follow the instructions on the warning signs. At automatic crossings do not try and cross when the barriers are down and the warning lights are flashing – a fast moving train is on its way.

#### Page 11

When travelling on the train always take notice of the warning sign not to stick your head out of a carriage window. Trains pass very closely to tunnel walls.

#### Page 12

Trains also are very close when they pass each other on the tracks.

#### Page 13

Tragically some young people ignore the warning signs not to trespass on the railway tracks or mess about on station platforms and trains. They also ignore warnings from parents and teachers and as a result they can be badly injured and in some cases killed.

