

Railroads and Trains Biography

Casey Jones by Allan Drummond

2001 Frances Foster Books ISBN: 0374311757

Heroic train engineer Casey Jones gets star treatment in this spirited picture book, the story related by engine-wiper Wallace Saunders and fireman Sim Webb.

Casey Jones's Fireman: The Story of Sim Webb by Nancy Farmer

illustrated by James Bernardin ISBN 0803719299

1999 Phyllis Fogelman Books

Readers see the legendary train engineer Casey Jones through the eyes of his fireman, Sim Webb. The real stars of the book are the dark-hued dramatic oil paintings of the trains seen on nearly every page.

John Henry by Julius Lester, illustrated by Jerry Pinkney

1994 Dial Books

John Blair and the Great Hinckley Fire by Josephine Nobisso,

Illustrated by Ted Rose ISBN 0-618-01560-4

2000 Houghton Mifflin Company

Tells how a brave African American porter helped save many lives when the train on which he was working was caught up in the horrendous firestorm near Hinckley, Minnesota, in 1894.

Kate Shelley Bound for Legend by Robert D. San Souci,

illustrated by Max Ginsburg

1993 Dial Books for Young Readers

A biography of the fifteen-year-old Iowa teenager who helped avert a train disaster in 1881 and became a national heroine.

The Real McCoy The Life of an African-American Inventor by Wendy Towle,

paintings by Wil Clay

1995 Scholastic Inc. 0-590-43597-3

Elijah McCoy patented over 50 inventions, none of which was more famous than his automatic oil cup, which eventually became standard equipment on most locomotives and heavy machinery.

A Lucky Dog Owney, U.S. Rail Mail Mascot by Dirk Wales,
illustrations by Diane Kenna

2003 Great Plains Press 0-963259-0-2

The true story of the stray dog from Albany, New York, who became a world-famous mascot for the U.S. Postal Service and traveled around the world with the mail.

Orphan Train Rider: One boy's true story by Andrea Warren

1994 Scholastic, Inc.

One account of the orphan trains

Fantasy and Fiction

Country Crossing by Jim Aylesworth, illustrated by Ted Rand

1991 Atheneum 0-02-179041-8

Sights and especially sounds of an old car stopped on a summer night to watch the passing of a rapidly moving train.

The Banshee Train by Odds Bodkin, illustrated by Ted Rose

1995 Clarion Books

In the mountains outside of Denver, a passenger train is saved from certain disaster by the ghosts of a previous wreck.

Crossing by Philip Booth, illustrated by Bagram Ibatoulline

1953, 1981 Candlewick Press 0-7636-1420-3

Delightful illustrations for a poem inspired by a railroad crossing in Brunswick, Maine.

The Train to Timbuctoo by Margaret Wise Brown, pictures by Art Seiden

1951, 1979 Golden Press/Western Publishing Co.

Story of a big train and a little train on their way home to Timbuctoo from Kalamazoo with appropriate sized sights and sounds.

Two Little Trains by Margaret Wise Brown, illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon

2001 HarperCollins ISBN: 0060283769

Two trains are heading west. One is streamlined, the other small and old. On their parallel journeys, the trains encounter rivers, hills, snow, and dust storms, but neither is thwarted. Brown's brilliant yet simple text and the Dillons'

clever and striking pictures, will serve as inspiration to many flights of fancy in a new generation of the youngest readers.

Train to Somewhere by Eve Bunting, illustrated by Ronald Himler

1996 Clarion Books/Houghton Mifflin Company

In the late 1800's, Marianne travels westward on the Orphan Train in hopes of being placed with a caring family.

Hey! Get Off Our Train written & illustrated by John Burningham

1989 Crown Publishers

A boy's imagination turns a toy train into something special

Choo Choo The Story of a Little Engine Who Ran Away

written & illustrated by Virginia Lee Burton

1937, 1964 Houghton Mifflin Company 0-395-47942-8

1,2,3, to the Zoo written & illustrated by Eric Carle

1968 Philomel Books/Putnam & Grosset Group

A wordless counting book featuring animals from zoo on a train

This Train written & illustrated by Paul Collicutt

1999 Farrar, Straus and Giroux, Inc. 0-439-29518-1

Simple text making comparisons, using opposite words.

Tootle by Gertrude Crampton

Reissue 2001 Golden Books ISBN 0307020975

Freight Train written & illustrated by Donald Crews

1978 William Morrow & Co. 0-590-42694-X

A Caldecott Honor Book

Mouse & Mole and the All-Weather Train Ride

written & illustrated by Doug Cushman

1995 W.H. Freeman and Company

Follows Mouse & Mole on a train ride that takes them through different climates

Time Train by Paul Fleischman, illustrated by Claire Ewart

1990 HarperCollins Publishers

Spring vacation train trip to the dinosaurs

Me and the Man on the Moon-eyed Horse by Sid Fleischman ,

illustrated by Eric von Schmidt

1977 Little, Brown and Co.

Young Clint's ingenious scheme foils a villainous train wrecker's attempt to rob the circus train.

The Christmas Train by Ivan Gantschev

Translated from the German by Karen M. Klockner ISBN 0-316-30346-1
1982 Little, Brown and Company

On Christmas Eve a little girl has to be brave and think quickly to save a train from a dangerous situation in the mountains.

Death of the Iron Horse written & illustrated by Paul Goble

1987; 1993 Aladdin Books

In an act of bravery and defiance against the white men encroaching on their territory in 1867, a group of young Cheyenne braves derail and raid a freight train.

The Mighty Santa Fe by William H. Hooks, illustrated by Angela Trotta Thomas

1993 Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers ISBN 0-590-13206-7

William is not happy about Christmas at Granny Blue's without his trains until she shares a secret and takes him on a magical ride.

I dream of trains by Angela Johnson, illustrated by Loren Long

2003 Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers 0-689-82609-5

The son of a sharecropper dreams of leaving Mississippi on a train with the legendary engineer Casey Jones.

Iron Horses by Verla Kay, illustrated by Michael McCurdy

1999 G. P. Putnam's Sons 0-399-23119-6

Illustrations and simple rhyming text depict the race to construct railroads across the country during the second half of the nineteenth century.

Orphan Train by Verla Kay, illustrated by Ken Stark

2003 G. P. Putnam's Sons 0-399-23613-9

Illustrations and rhyming text tell the story of a sister and two brothers who become orphans, are taken in, and make a journey aboard an orphan train to separate new homes.

The Little Train written & illustrated by Lois Lenski

1940 Henry Z. Walck, Inc.

The Owl Who Became the Moon by Jonathan London, illustrated by Ted Rand

1996 Puffin Books

While riding on a train at night, a young boy listens and watches as he passes by many creatures in their wilderness homes.

The Train written & illustrated by David McPhail

1977 Little, Brown and Co.

During the night while everyone is asleep, a boy takes a ride on his toy train.

I'm Taking a Trip on My Train by Shirley Neitzel,
illustrated by Nancy Winslow Parker 1999 Greenwillow Books
0-688-15833-1

In cumulative verses using rebuses, a young boy describes his experiences as engineer on the train in his room.

The Caboose Who Got Loose written & illustrated by Bill Peet
1971 Houghton Mifflin

Katy Caboose was unhappy at the end of the train. "If you wish hard enough then your wish might come true."

Pamela Camel written & illustrated by Bill Peet
1984 Houghton Mifflin 0-395-41670-1

A tired and dejected circus camel finds long-sought-after recognition along a railroad track.

Smokey written & illustrated by Bill Peet
1962, 1990 Houghton Mifflin 0-395-34924-9

Little switch engine regrets that he doesn't get to go anywhere and sets off on an adventure when he hears that he is to be retired to the junkyard.

The Little Engine That Could by Watty Piper,
pictures by George and Doris Hauman ISBN: 0448405202
1978 Penguin Putnam Books for Young Readers

In this well-loved classic, a little train carrying oodles of toys to all of the good boys and girls is confronted with a towering, seemingly impassable mountain. It is left up to the Little Blue Engine to overcome insurmountable odds and pull the train to the other side.

The Little Red Caboose by Marian Potter, illustrated by Tibor Gergely
1953 Golden Press/Western Publishing Co.

"The little red caboose always came last." A real problem until he saved the train.

Silver Packages An Appalachian Christmas Story by Cynthia Rylant,
illustrated by Chris K. Soentpiet 1997 Orchard Books

Every year at Christmas a rich man rides a train through Appalachia and throws gifts to the poor children who are waiting, in order to repay a debt he owes the people who live there.

Clickety Clack by Rob and Amy Spence, illustrated by Margaret Spengler
1999 Viking/Penguin Group 0-670-87946-0

A train gets noisier and more crowded as quacking ducks, dancing acrobats, talking yaks, and packs of elephants board.

I Love Trains! By Philemon Sturges

2001 HarperCollins ISBN: 0060289007

A little boy in a striped engineer cap and overalls extols the many virtues of trains.

Night Train by Caroline Stutson, illustrated by Katherine Tillotson

2002 Roaring Brook ISBN 0761315985

On an overnight train to see Grandma, a boy traveling with his father takes in the sights and sounds. Small sensations and experiences are just as important as big ones.

From a Railway Carriage by Robert Louis Stevenson,

illustrated by Llewellyn Thomas 1993 Viking

Detailed pictures to match a poem

Window Music by Anastasia Suen, illustrated by Wade Zahares

1998 Puffin Books 0-14-056093-9

Brief text in rhyme describes the trip taken by a train as it travels over hills, through valleys, past horses and orange trees until it arrives at the final station.

Mailing May by Michael O. Tunnell, illustrated by Ted Rand

1997 Greenwillow Books (Tambourine)

In 1914, because her family could not afford a train ticket to her grandmother's town, May gets mailed and rides in the mail car on the train to see her grandmother.

The Polar Express written & illustrated by Chris Van Allsburg

1985 Houghton Mifflin Company Caldecott Medal winner

A magical train ride on Christmas Eve takes a boy to the North Pole to receive a special gift from Santa Claus.

Train Song by Harriet Ziefert, paintings by Donald Saaf

2000 Orchard Books 0-531-30204-0

A young boy watches a freight train go by on its daily run.

"Chug-a-chug-chug and clickety-clack . . . Steam is white and the engine's black."

Non-fiction

This Was Railroading by George B. Abdill

1958 Bonanza Books

Lots of black and white photos of steam trains

The Best Book of Trains by Richard Balkwill

1999 Kingfisher ISBN: 0753452006

With its action-oriented text, detailed, full-color spreads and step-by-step illustrations, this book takes a trip aboard trains from all over the world and every period of railroad history.

Trains Traveling Machines by Jason Cooper (photographs)

Rourke Enterprises, Inc., 1991 ISBN 0-86592-490-2

Examines the history, varieties, and uses of trains.

Ten Mile Day and the Building of the Transcontinental Railroad

Written and illustrated by Mary Ann Fraser

1993 Henry Holt and Co. 0-8050-4703-4

Chronicles the race to build the first railroad to cross the North American continent.

Trains by Gail Gibbons

1988 Holiday House ISBN: 0448405202

The text is spare and accurate in its description of different kinds of trains, past and present, and how they work. The final page gives signs and signals related to trains.

All Aboard Trains (Platt & Munk All Aboard Book)

By Mary Harding, illustrated by Richard Courtney

1989 Grosset & Dunlap ISBN: 0448191113

Freight trains, passenger trains, and super-speed trains—they're all here in this colorful collection, filled with easy-to-read facts and realistic pictures, just right for young train lovers.

Big Book of Trains by Christine Heap

1998 DK Publishing Inc. ISBN: 0789434369

In the usual DK photo-essay style, with great, big, freestanding, close-up photographs in full color and sharp detail, there are more than 50 trains, from the early steam locomotives in England and the U.S. to today's high-speed bullet trains and monorails.

The Railroad (Life in the Old West series) created by Bobbie Kalman
1999 Crabtree Publishing Company 0-7787-0108-5
Describes the development of the railroad in North American and its influence on the settling of the West and the Native Americans during the nineteenth century.

Across America on an Emigrant Train by Jim Murphy
1995 Clarion Books
Combines an account of Robert Louis Stevenson's experiences as he traveled from New York to California by train in 1879 and a description of the building and operation of railroads in 19th century America.

All Kinds of Trains by Seymour Reit, pictures by Roberto Innocenti
1979 Golden Press/Western Publishing Company
Detailed illustrations accompany brief descriptions of history of trains.

Seymour Simon's Book of Trains by Seymour Simon
2002 HarperCollins 0-06-446223-4
Excellent photographs illustrate information book about railroading.

Trains (Internet-Linked Usborne Discovery Book) by Stephanie Turnbull,
illustrated by John Woodcock
2002 Usborne Publishing Ltd. 0-7945-0174-5
A detailed reference book with suggested web sites for further information and pictures that can be downloaded for personal use.

I Like Trains by Catherine Woolley, pictures by George Fonseca
1944, 1965 Harper & Row
Simple introduction to all kinds of trains.

Other Publications

KIDS Discover Trains (magazine)
Volume 2, Issue 9 November, 1992

I've Been Working on the Railroad illustrated by Alan and Lea Daniel
1993 The Wright Group
Traditional song; illustrations give additional information about steam locomotive train travel

Trains to Color Locomotives, Cars, and Railroad Equipment
(An Activity Coloring book)

1954 Treasure Books/Grosset & Dunlap, Inc.

Thomas the Tank Engine's ABC Fun Book (Color & Activity Fun)

(based on *The Railway Series* by the Rev. W. Awdry)

illustrations by Bobbi Barto and Arkadia 0-679-89158-7

1992, 1993, 1998 Random House (Reed Books Ltd. , London)