



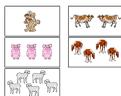
M28



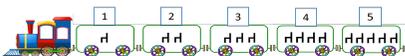
10-15 minutes



- ❖ Animal Families – Set 1 from M26



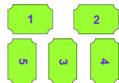
- ❖ Number Train from M27 with numerals on



- ❖ Ticket Office sign from M26



- ❖ 5 Tickets (with numerals) from M27



- ❖ A whistle (optional)
- ❖ A hat to dress up as the Ticket Officer (optional)
- ❖ Blu Tack or similar

# THE RIGHT TICKET FOR THE SPECIAL NUMBER TRAIN



To foster the ability to recognise and name the quantity (from one to five) meaningfully and reliably  
 To enable children to consolidate the connection between a number (the quantity) and its name  
 To enable children to consolidate the connection between a number (the quantity), its name and the written symbol conventionally used to represent it (its numeral)  
 To encourage children to work together cooperatively



**Note:** Ultimately, when we ask questions about Carriage Three of the Number Train – whether we ask: *How many passengers? How many seats? Or, Which carriage?* – we want children to answer: 3. In this session we are aiming for the consolidation of this understanding – the moment when children recognise for themselves the quantitative identity between the 4 in 4 passengers and the 4 in 4 seats. To foster the development of this understanding, we withdraw support and require children themselves to ask for the correct ticket for their set of animal passengers. The child must look at a card, for example with three pigs on, and say: ‘Please give me a ticket for Carriage 3’. When children can do this, they demonstrate that they have internalised the meaning of the fact that carriage number 3 has 3 seats. It means that they are aware that the number of the carriage simultaneously tells us the number of seats and the number of passengers. Saying, ‘Give me the ticket for carriage number 3,’ means exactly the same as, ‘Give me a ticket for 3 passengers.’ The ability to ask for the correct ticket independently is a crucial outcome. Children who find this difficult may need additional opportunities to play the game – you can simplify it by working with three carriages if necessary. To keep the game fresh if they need to practise more, you can vary the animal pictures and the story of taking the animals on various trips or holidays.

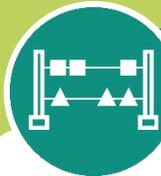
## Going to the Fair:

Put out the Animal Families cards from Set 1 and explain: *These animals from the other day have come back to the station today because they want to take the Special Number Train to the fair too! The Monkey Family told them how wonderful the fair was and how easily you helped them to board the right carriages. So now they want to go too. Can you help these animals buy the tickets they need for boarding the Special Number Train?*

## CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE



Your child asks for the correct tickets for all the animal families.  
 Your child can place the Animal Families cards and their tickets on the correct carriages of the Special Number Train.  
 Your child can sell the appropriate tickets to the passengers, in their role as the Ticket Officer.  
 Your child can make the connection between the number (the quantity of objects in a group) and its name and the numeral.  
 Your child can work with you and any others cooperatively.



M28

## THE RIGHT TICKET FOR THE SPECIAL NUMBER TRAIN – continued



You are the Ticket Officer – set up everything as before. Then say: *The Ticket Officer has got a terribly sore throat today and it hurts him/her to talk. He/She has mostly lost her voice. So when you get to the ticket office, you just have to show each Animal Family card in turn and ask for a ticket for the exact carriage you need for that family. OK?*

Then explain: *There are only a few minutes before the train leaves so you should get the ticket for each family in one trip to the Ticket Office and only when you have all the tickets, then go and help the families to 'board' the train.*

Make some gestures during the game that show you have a sore throat and if you need to talk, do so in a croaky, strained voice. If your child asks for the wrong ticket, say (out of role): *Remember the rule is 'as many seats as there are passengers'. Is there a pig for every seat? Is there a seat for every pig?* Continue to prompt your child until they ask for a ticket for the correct carriage. Make some mistakes, as before, and change the ticket when your child notices.

When your child is sure that they have the correct tickets for all five animal families, ask them to move to the train and help the families board their carriages, one at a time, starting with Carriage One and going in order. As before, have them stick the Animal Family card and the correct ticket onto the correct carriage with Blu Tack.

When the five carriages are ready, blow your whistle for the train to depart for the fair.

### I can be the Ticket Officer:

Remove all the Animal Families cards and the tickets from the train.

Say: *It's now the next day and the animals want to go back to the fair again! But the Ticket officer is off sick from work today – he had a terribly sore throat, remember? So can you help the station by being the Ticket Officer today and giving all the animal families the right tickets for the right carriages?*



Have your child put on the Ticket officer's hat (if using). Your job is to bring the Animal Family card to them, as they did to you before, and when they give you the ticket, pretend that you or the animals are a little confused. Ask your child to explain to you why it's the right ticket and which carriage that animal family should board.

Encourage your child's use of suitable vocabulary by talking to the families yourself to back up what your child has said, for example: *Pig Family – this is the right ticket for your family because there are three of you and this is Carriage Three and it has three seats – so all of you will have a seat and there will be no seats left over. Three pigs in three seats in Carriage Three, and a ticket with number three on it!*

Repeat until you have tickets for all the animal families. You can stop there or continue the game by helping the animals board if your child wants you to.