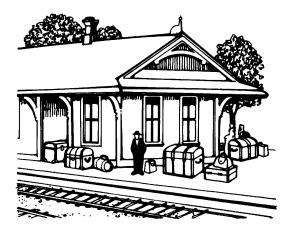
Family Times

Name____

Summary

Will Marianne Find a Home?

From the time she was left at the orphanage in New York City, Marianne had expected her mother to come back for her. When Marianne boards the train that will take her and thirteen other orphans to the Midwest, she hopes her mother will be there waiting to claim her. But doubt creeps in, and she begins to wonder if anyone will want her.



Activity

Train Talk. Imagine you're on a train in 1878 carrying orphans across the prairie to new homes. Choose characters to play, such as a conductor, an orphan, one of the adult caretakers, or another passenger. Talk about what you see out the window and how you feel about your journey.

Reading Skills

Sequence

Sequence is the order in which things happen. It can also mean the steps we follow to do something. Some ways to identify a sequence of events are:

- Clue Words. First, then, next, and finally, while, and during are some words that help you figure out the order of events. So do dates and times of day.
- ❖ Flashback. Watch for events that are told out of order. An event from the past that is retold is called a flashback.



Activity

Scrambled Events. Partner up for this activity. Have each person write down four or five events from the day on strips of paper. Use clue words in the sentences. Mix up the slips and exchange them with your partner. Try to put each other's events in order.

Family Times

Tested Vocabulary

Words to Know

Knowing the meanings of these words is important to reading *Train to Somewhere*. Practice using these words to learn their meanings.

adopt accept a child of other parents and bring up as your own

atlas a book of maps

carriage a four-wheeled vehicle that is pushed or pulled

couple two people who are married, engaged, or otherwise paired

misery great suffering or unhappiness

platform a raised level surface

Grammar

Subjects and Predicates

A sentence has two parts: a **subject** and a **predicate**. The subject is the word or group of words about which something is said: **The big, noisy train**. It usually begins the sentence. The predicate tells something about the subject and usually follows it: **pulled into the station**.

Activity

Mix and Match. Take pairs of index cards and write the subject of a sentence on one card and the predicate on the other. Make separate piles of subjects and predicates. Take turns picking a card from each pile and then putting them together. Did you make a serious or a silly sentence?

Tested Spelling Words
