

# 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.

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## 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

_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____