



Steam Train, Dream Train

Third Reading: Analysis

During this reading your child and you will read the story all the way through. There are many ways that you can add fun as you improve the comprehension and recall of the story:

You may switch roles and become the listener and the questioner as your child “reads” (retells) the story to you.

- Your child and you may alternate the pages you read to each other.
- You may stop before the second rhyming word and have your listener supply the second rhyming word. (using the sense of the text to **make a prediction**)

*Stress the directions given by Ms. Rinker’s use of special type and punctuation marks. These directions add so much to the enjoyment of the text.

DISCUSSION OPTIONS:

- On page 25, what might the author mean when she says: “The next stop. . .is another day.”?
- (Possible interpretation: The train is a dream. Dreams stop when the day begins.)
- What kinds of real **cargo** or **freight** might the each of the train cars carry?
- The crew had a big job to do. Yet, all of them slept with smiles on their faces. What might make hard work fun to do?
- If the dream had continued, where might the train have gone? What might happen next?

ACTIVITY OPTIONS:

- Read Good Night, Good Night Construction Site written and illustrated by the same team. Look for similarities between the two books. If the book isn’t available to you, check out: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OoBLhG1erjg>
- In this text, there are several words that have special meanings. Find them in the text and talk about the meanings of these words. Add these words to your Word Wall and practice using both meanings of the words: rock (page 7), hops (page 10), ball