

Tony the Train's Busy Day



Main purpose: To listen to sounds at the beginning of words and hear the differences between them.

Use a toy train and selection of objects starting with the same sound. A small group of children sits in a circle or facing the front so they can see objects placed on the floor. Use the props to act out a story with the train.

It was going to be a busy day for Tony. He had lots to do before bedtime. So many packages to deliver and so many passengers to carry. He set out very early, leaving all the other engines at the station, and hurried off down the track, clackedy clack down the track, clackedy clack down the track...

But he hadn't gone very far when...!!! He saw something up ahead lying on the tracks.

'Oh no!' yelled Tony. 'I must s - t - o - p.' And he did stop, just in time. To Tony's surprise there on the track lay a big brown bear, fast asleep.

'I had better warn the others,' thought Tony and so he hurried back to the station, clackedy clack going back, clackedy clack going back. Tony arrived at the station quite out of puff. 'Whatever is the matter?' said the other engines. 'Toot, toot, mind the...big, brown bear' panted Tony. 'He's fast asleep on the track.' 'Thank you,' said the others, 'We certainly will.'

Continue with the whole object set and encourage the children to join in with saying the growing list of objects. Remember to give emphasis to the initial sound.

The aim is to have the group chant along with you as you recite the growing list of objects that Tony finds lying on the track. Make up your own story using the props and ask: *What do you think happens next?*