



**BOOK TITLE:** **My Little Train**  
**AUTHOR:** Satomi Ichikawa



**SUMMARY OF BOOK:** A toy train takes its passengers - assorted toys and stuffed animals - anywhere they want to go. The exotic destinations are right there in the house! While the train is dropping off its passengers, it gets into some trouble and is rescued by one of them.

**\*BEFORE READING** (Ask questions and use what the child already knows to add to the discussion, assisting the child in understanding and enjoying the book):

1. Look at the cover and talk about what you see: "What do you think this story is about?"
2. Ask "Do you ever imagine that your toys come to life?"
3. Go through the book only looking at the pictures. What does your child think is going to happen in the story?

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**DURING READING:** (ask these questions)

1. Have your child make the animal and train sounds as you read along.
2. "What is the pond for real? The forest? The mountains?"
3. "Where else might a bear live other than a mountain? What could that be in our house?"
4. "What is the tunnel made of? What have you ever made of pillows and blankets?"
5. At the end of the ride, new passengers are waiting for the train (giraffe, penguin). Where might they want the train to take them?

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**AFTER READING** (activity to extend book experience):

1. Talk about the train's job, taking its passengers home. What are the different types of home you see?
2. Ask your child where he'd want to go on a train trip, both real and pretend.
3. Talk to your child about different modes of transportation and imagine what it would be like to travel on them. Can you create imaginary trips in your home?

Compliments of:



\* This activity created by students at the University of Alaska Anchorage.

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