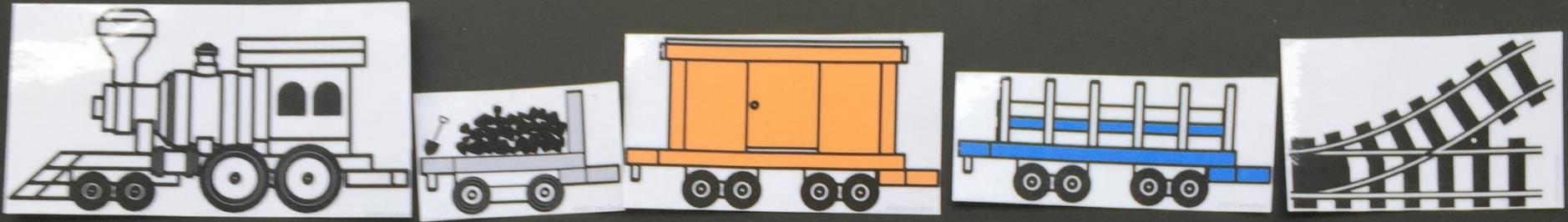
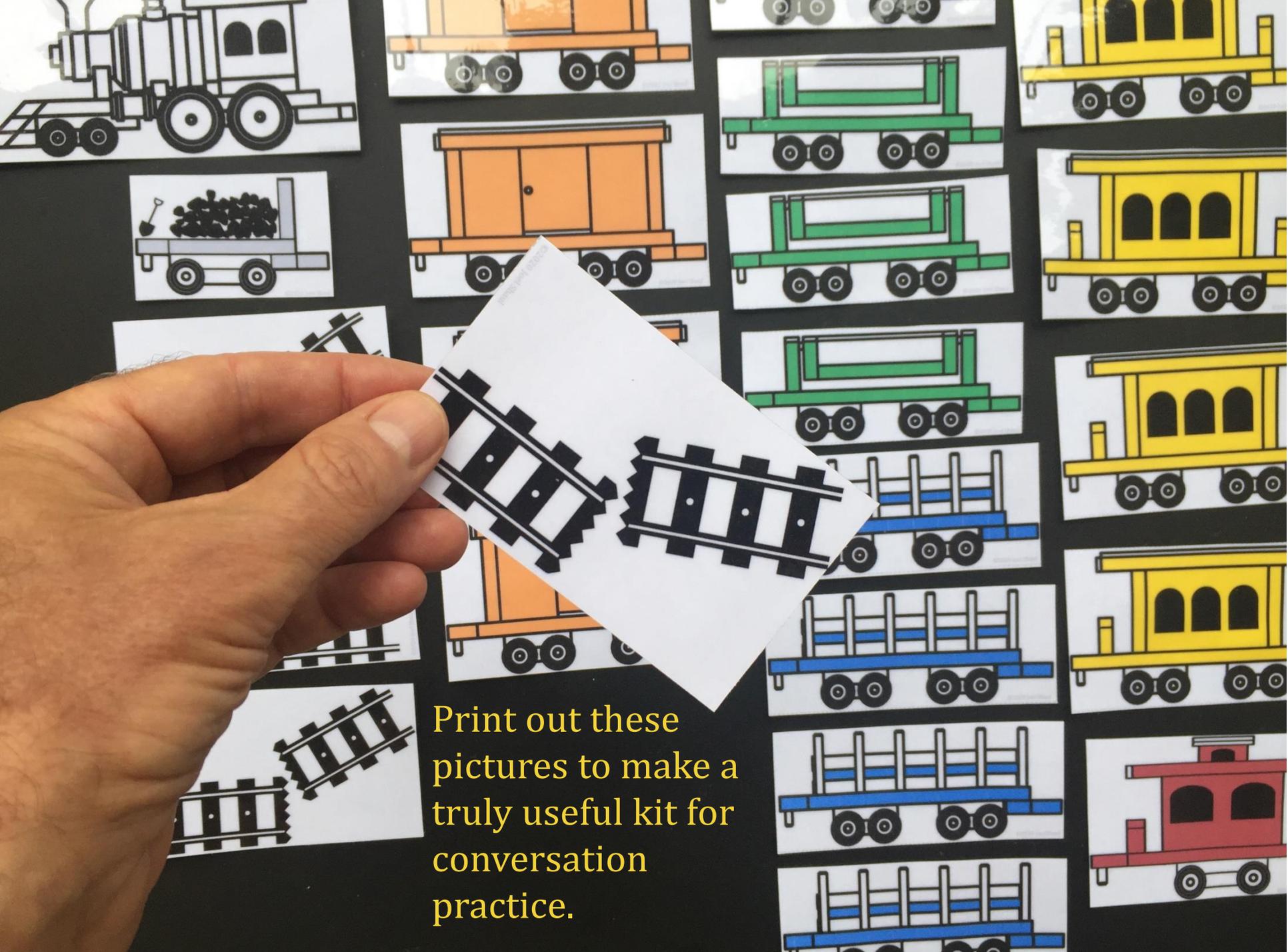


The Train Conversation Printable Kit



To teach beginning, middle, end of conversation, “on track” and “off track.”

Joel Shaul

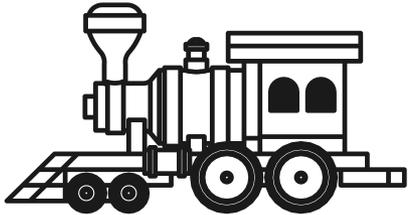


Print out these pictures to make a truly useful kit for conversation practice.

It is based on the train-based concepts of my book, *The Conversation Train*.

The Engine.

Usually, you need to greet someone (hi or hello) before you start talking.



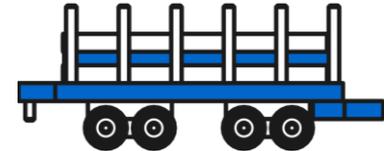
The Coal Tender.

Usually, you ask people how they are doing (how are you, how's it going).



Train Cars.

Each one of these means talking back and forth for one turn on a topic that you both like.



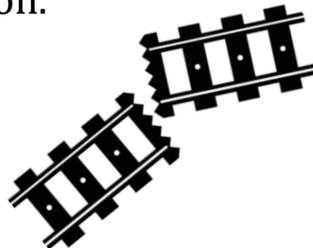
The Switch Track.

You can switch to a new topic if both people want that new topic.



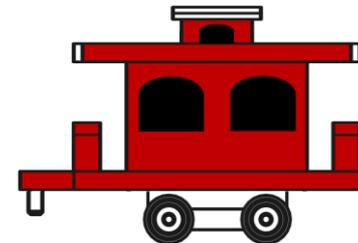
Off Track!

When you start a new topic that is confusing or not interesting for the other person.

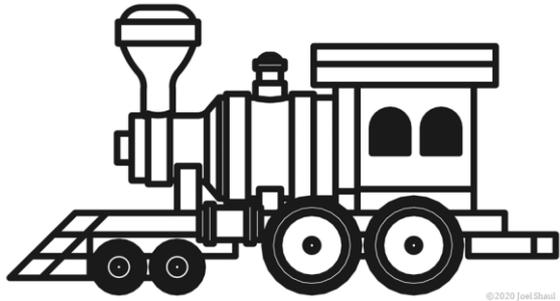


Caboose.

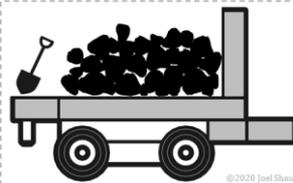
End the conversation. Explain why you are stopping. Use words like “goodbye” or “see you later.”



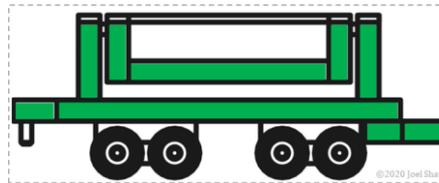
Examples of how to lay out the train pictures



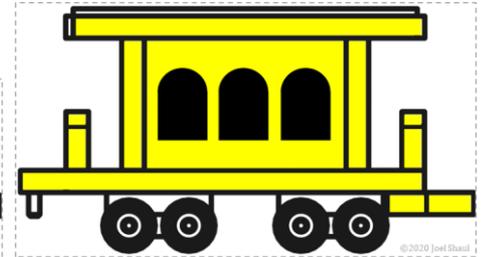
"Hello."
"Hi."



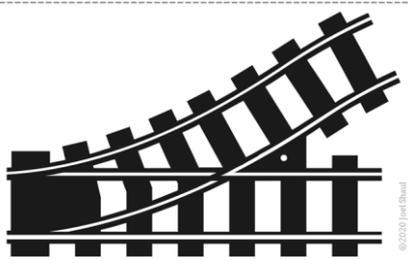
"How are you?"
"Good. You?"



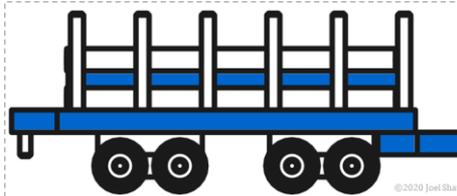
"I hope we have recess today."
"Yeah, me too. I want to try the new slide."



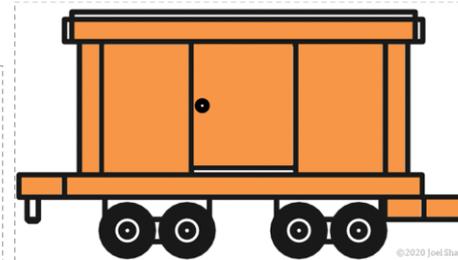
"Is that one swing still broken?"
"No, I saw someone fixing it this morning."



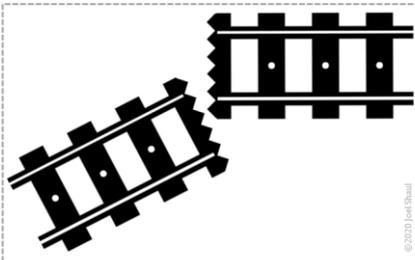
"The man fixing the swing – was that the new janitor?"
"Yeah. His name's Mr. Jones."



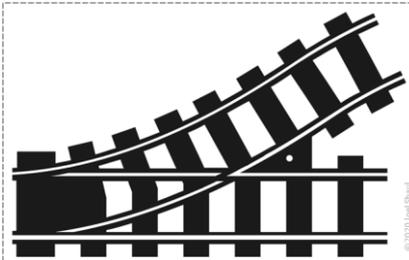
"Someone said the new janitor is nice."
"I hope so."



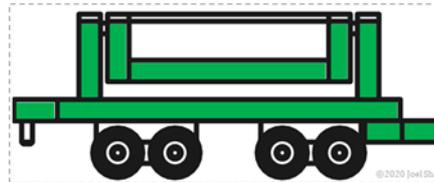
"The old janitor was nice too. Where did he go?"
"He's over at the high school."



"Most mushrooms are poison. Don't ever eat them."
"What.???"



"Uh...Do you think we will have a substitute again tomorrow?"
"Hope so. She lets us play a lot."



"I don't know how to say her name right though."
"Miss Pramuka. But she said we can call her 'Miss P.'"



"She's calling us now. See you at recess."
"Okay, see you."

Ways to use the train pictures

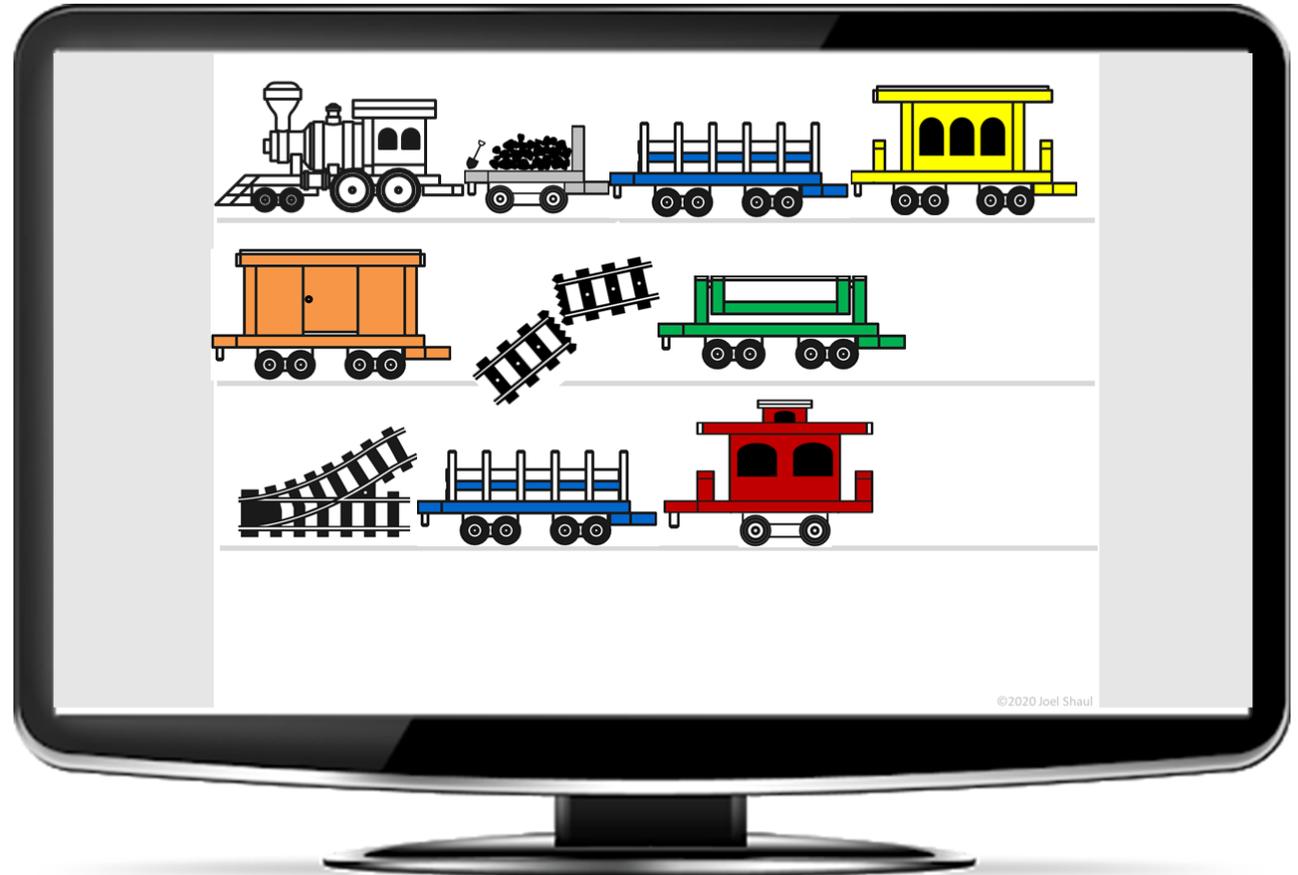
I have been using similar train picture kits with young people on the autism spectrum for many years, starting as young as age 7 and going up to age 18. Here are some ways the train pictures may be used.

- 1 You lay out the cards while you and the child are talking.
- 2 The child lays out the cards while you and the child are talking.
- 3 The child lays out the cards while listening to two other people talking.
- 4 The child lays out the cards while listening to two other people talking.
- 5 The off-track picture can be used by itself as a visual prompt when someone goes “off track.”
- 6 This activity works best when children have lots of topic ideas. Here are some picture cards you can print: <https://bit.ly/2DUfCDe>

A free **teletherapy version of this kit** is also available.

The teletherapy is also useful for “in-person” work in the office or classroom if you don’t want to print out the train pictures.

Download it here:
<https://bit.ly/2Y2OybP>



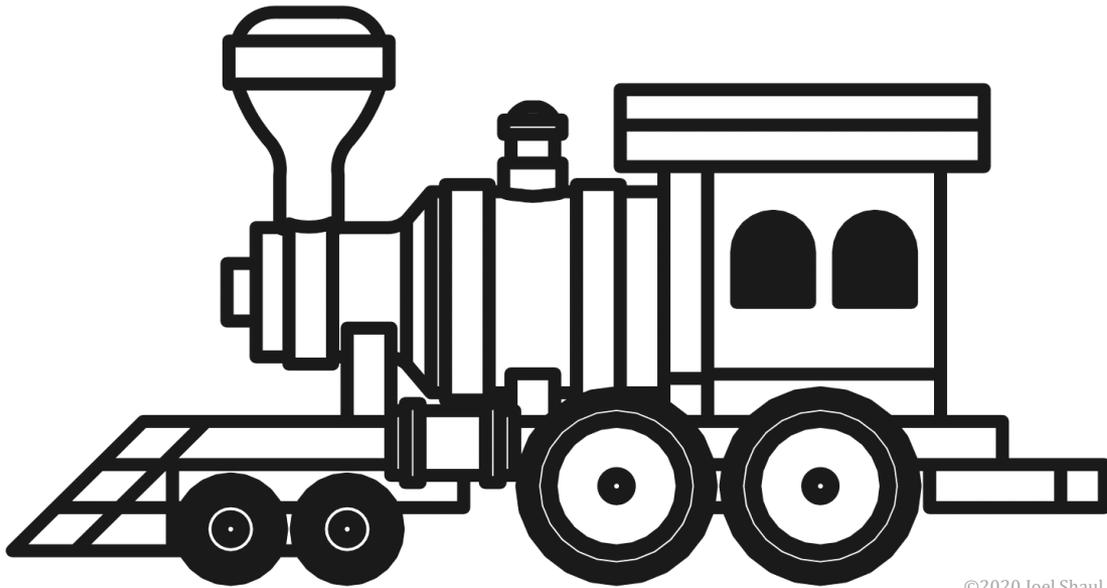
My book, *The Conversation Train* (Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2014), is a useful accompaniment for this free kit.



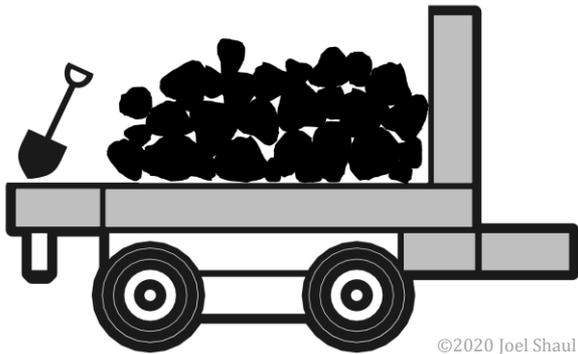
Best wishes to you in your work.

Joel Shaul

Print 1 copy of this page.
Use cardstock, or laminate.

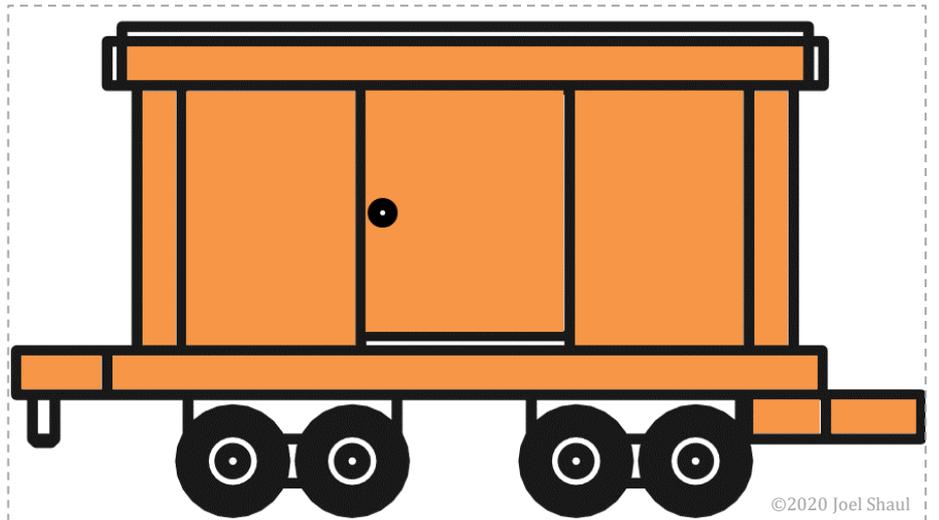
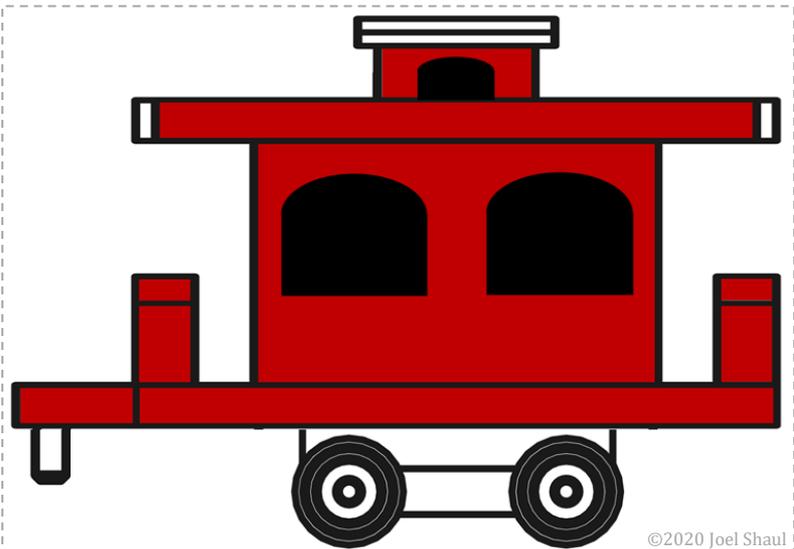
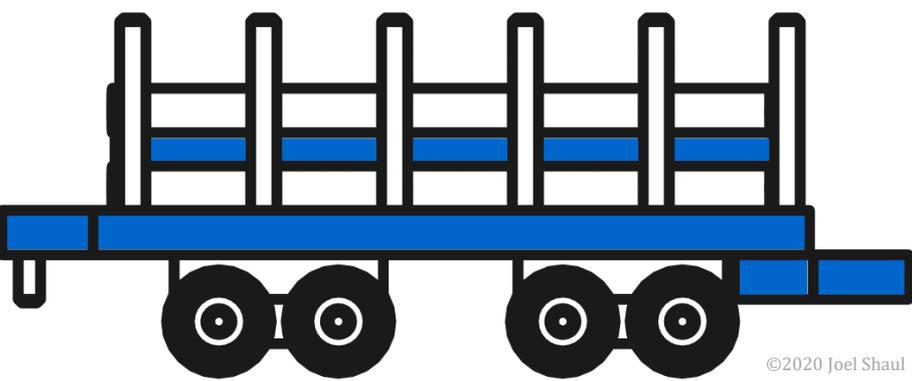
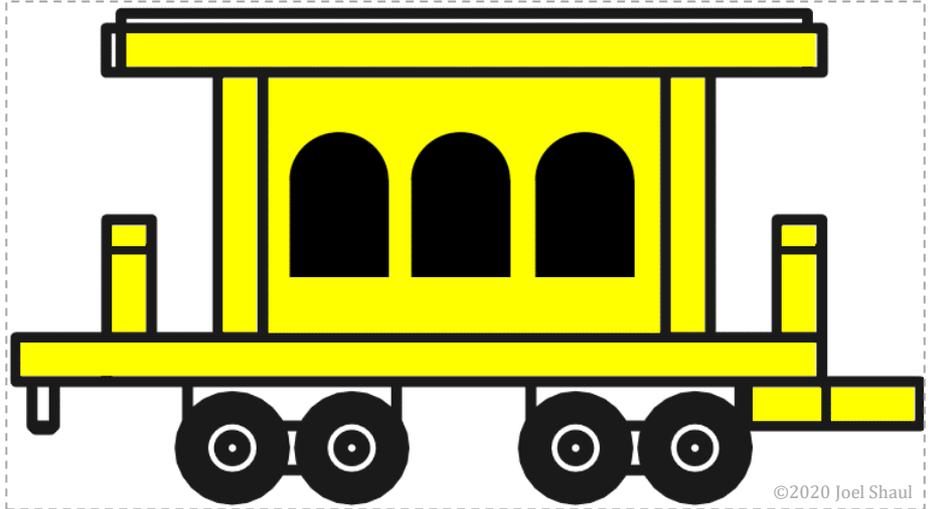
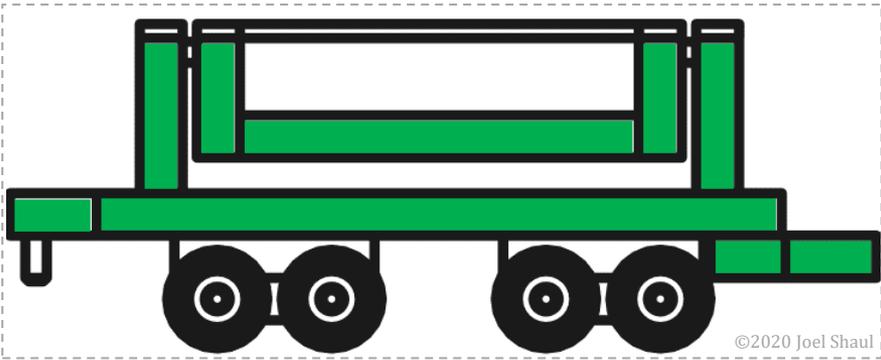


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