

The Boxcar Children

by Gertrude Chandler Warner

Classroom Favorites

Teacher's Guide by Holly Trigg

A Perma-Bound Production

Note to the Teacher: The strengths of *The Boxcar Children* story are those which the author set out to portray--independence, resourcefulness, the importance of the family and the contributions to it by every child. At the same time, you will find the roles of the members to be stereotyped where the boy goes out and assumes the bread winning role and the girl stays home and takes over the housekeeping. This portrayal of the family gives the teacher an excellent opportunity to discuss what is universal and what is transient in the books his or her students read.

In the vocabulary section of this teacher's guide T, M, B refers to the top, middle or bottom part of the page on which the word is to be found. *mm refers to a multiple meaning entry where you may wish to discuss other meanings of the word as well.

Objectives

1. Students will be introduced to decisions authors must make as they create stories.
2. Students will make predictions based on their own experiences and the information gained from the story.
3. Students will recognize and explain the children's determination to keep their family intact.
4. Through various activities students will gain an appreciation for the independence and creativity of the children in the story.
5. Students will explain how every member of the family helps the rest.
6. Students will describe how the children use appropriate safety rules with fire and water.
7. Students will recognize and explain the change in the children's attitude toward their grandfather.
8. Students will recognize and use a selected vocabulary.
9. Students will distinguish multiple meanings of familiar words.
10. Students will interpret and transfer descriptive phrases to drawings and the reverse.

Vocabulary for Pre-Reading Discussion

1. What is a boxcar? Note the cover of the book for help if you're not sure. Have you ever been close to a real boxcar? What was it like?

2. Read the last printed page in the book. You will find here that the author, Gertrude Chandler Warner, wanted her characters to be independent and resourceful. What do these words mean? Keep track as you read the story to see how the author works with these ideas.

Questions for Pre-Reading Discussion

1. Authors want to catch our interest with their titles. Gertrude Chandler Warner has chosen *The Boxcar Children* as the title for the first book in her series of stories. Do you think the title works? Why? If you look at the first printed page in the book, you will see the rest of the titles of the books in the series. What do you notice about most of the titles? You will find there is also a mystery in this story. As you read, try to recall when you first discover what the mystery is.
2. Every author wants to get the reader's interest and draw him or her quickly into the story. Some people call beginnings that do this well, "grabbers." Read the first page (page 7). Has the author grabbed you? Look at some other story beginnings, especially those of your favorite stories. Are they grabbers? Share some of the best with your classmates. Do the other students react the same way you do? Do you think about this when you write your own stories?
3. Now that you've read the beginning and a little about the author, what questions would you ask her about *The Boxcar Children*?
4. The children in the story do many things for themselves and each other. How have you helped the other members of your family? How have they helped you?
5. Did you ever babysit? What problems did you have? Did you have any surprises? What were they? How did it feel when you got paid?
6. The children in this story have to be brave. Tell about a time when you were brave.

Synopsis

This is the story of four orphan children who, while escaping from an unknown but feared grandfather, show courage and resourcefulness in staying alive and together. There are four children: Benny, the youngest, about five years old; Violet, ten years old with brown hair and brown eyes; Jessie, the next in age, who likes orderly things and becomes the housekeeper for the family and Henry James Alden, the

oldest, who eventually finds work to buy food for the children.

As the story opens we learn the children are hungry and on the move. The first adult we meet in the story is a baker's wife who is tricky and mean. She wants to keep the older children to work for her and to send the baby to the children's home.

The older children overhear this plan, awaken Violet, carry Benny and sneak out of the bakery at night. They have with them at the beginning of the story a knife, clothes, a cake of soap, towels, a laundry bag, a workbag, and about four dollars. As the story unfolds, the author shows how the children need and use all the things they have brought with them. The children travel at night and sleep during the day. They hear a horse-drawn cart, hide behind some bushes and hear the baker and his wife discussing their attempts to find the children.

They evade the baker by traveling in the opposite direction and are soon caught in a rainstorm. Jessie discovers an abandoned boxcar in the woods. The boxcar is clean, tight and dry and has a stream and waterfall nearby, so the children decide it is a perfect place for themselves. Henry goes to the closest town for food. The other children pick blueberries and befriend a dog. Benny names him Watch and Jessie becomes his closest friend after she removes a thorn from his paw and ties the wound with her handkerchief.

The children make a home of the boxcar with pine needle beds, a clothesline from the laundry bag, a refrigerator rock behind the waterfall and a shelf of treasures. They find the treasures down the rusty train tracks at the dump. Here they gather dishes, silverware, wheels, a kettle and boards. The children show good sense in cleaning the china and silverware and making a fire as they do later in not drinking the brook water.

Henry goes into town, (Silver City) to find work. He begins by cutting grass for Dr. Moore, a physician, who lives with his mother. While Henry is cutting grass, the cook gives him a cookie which he only pretends to eat so he can bring it home to the younger children. At noon he is given a dollar by the doctor and a bag of cookies by the cook. He buys milk and dried meat for the children and a bone for Watch. He also buys an unhemmed tablecloth which Violet hems with the tools from her workbag.

In the afternoon Jessie makes a broom from sticks, Henry brings back some butter and Benny is delighted with the magic spoon Henry has discovered--the handle becomes a knife to spread butter when it is turned around.

That evening Jessie and Henry hear a noise in the woods. Watch barks and they listen intently but nothing more happens. They don't tell the younger children.

Henry works in Mrs. Moore's (the doctor's mother) garden. He is allowed to keep the vegetables he has thinned out of the rows of carrots, turnips and onions. Mrs. Moore asks Henry if he has chickens when he asks for the extra vegetables but doesn't wait for an answer, and Henry is relieved. The children cook a stew with the vegetables in a fireplace they have made with stones. They put water by the fire to throw on it in case it gets out of control.

The next job Henry has is to clean the doctor's garage and sort the things in it. Henry is given a hammer and bent nails by the doctor, and he uses these to make a cart from the boards and wheels Benny found at the dump. Violet and Benny use the cart to collect the stones and all the children work to make a dam for a pool. We even hear of a dinnerbell made from a tin can. The children go for a walk, Watch

chases a runaway hen from her nest, Benny finds the eggs and the children have eggs for supper.

All the children pick cherries for the doctor. Benny becomes the favorite of all the people in the orchard. That night the doctor reads in the paper that the children's grandfather, James Henry Alden, is offering a \$5,000 reward for information about his lost grandchildren. Dr. Moore realizes who the children are, but decides not to tell.

Field Day comes to Silver City. The doctor sends Henry to watch the races for him and Henry enters the free-for-all race which he wins. The silver cup and twenty-five dollar first prize is presented to Henry by his grandfather. Neither knows who the other is, but Henry decides not to give his full name, so when he is asked his name, he replies, Henry James.

The girls decide it's time for Benny to learn to read, so they make him a book and with a burned stick try to teach him letters and words. He is not interested in learning to read until Watch seems to be able to do so. By the time Henry returns home that evening, Benny can read four sentences.

Henry buys Benny some new socks and with one of his old ones Jessie makes him a toy bear with a long tail. Benny calls him Stockings. Benny takes the scissors and cuts Watch's coat. He cuts a J in the fur, J for Jessie.

Violet becomes very ill. Henry runs for the doctor who returns with him immediately. He takes all the children to his house where Violet makes a slow recovery and the children meet a stranger. This turns out to be Mr. Alden, their grandfather. Grandfather learns the children are afraid of him. He accepts the doctor's invitation to stay with them all until the children can learn to know and love him.

The plan works and the children move to his home where they are very happy. However, they do miss the old boxcar and Grandfather has it brought to his estate.

The last crisis in the story occurs when Watch's owner appears. Mr. Alden buys the dog for the children and the story ends happily with Violet saying they would never go away from Grandfather.

Discussion Questions/Vocabulary/Creative Activities by chapter

Chapter 1 - The Four Hungry Children

Discussion Questions:

1. By the end of chapter one you've met the four children in the story. What do you know about them so far?
2. On page thirteen we learn what the children have brought with them. Make a list of these things to see how they are used later in the story. What would you take with you if you were running away?
3. Why do the children decide to leave the bakery?
4. What do we know about Grandfather? Who tells us?

Vocabulary: workbag, p. 13B; Children's Home, p. 12B; laundry bag, p. 13B

Creative Activity: Using a large sheet of paper cut out the shape of a laundry bag; on one side draw what the children have brought. On the other side draw what you would take if you were running away. Don't forget the string, it is important later in the story.

Chapter 2 - Night Is Turned Into Day

Discussion Questions:

1. Violet persuades Benny to do what she wants him to do in a loving way. How does she do it? Why do you think it works?
2. Henry does something similar later in this chapter. What does he do?
3. Two important things happen in this chapter because the children hear something. What do the children hear and how does it affect their plans?
4. So far in the story the children have had three unusual beds. What are they?

Vocabulary: haystack, p. 18B; pump, p. 20T, fountain, p. 24T

Creative Activity: On page 24 there is a description of an unusual fountain. On a piece of construction paper draw a large fountain that follows the description. Try not to look at any other student's drawing so we can see how many different designs fit the description. Use blue tissue in several shades for the water in the fountain.

Chapter 3 - A New Home In The Woods

Discussion Questions:

1. What was Benny's fear about the boxcar? Who assured him? How?
2. What makes the boxcar such a good place for the children to live?
3. The author ends this chapter with a sound. What is it and who do you think made it?

Vocabulary: engine, p. 28B; waterfall, p. 30B; blueberries, p. 33T

Creative Activity: Make a boxcar from a shoebox. See patterns and instructions in back of guide under "Activities."

Chapter 4 - Henry Has Two Surprises

Discussion Questions:

1. The author gives this chapter the title, "Henry Has Two Surprises." What are they?
2. Who names the dog? Why do the children think it is a good name?
3. The children are careful about the water they drink. Why don't they just drink the water from the brook? Where does Henry get the water?

Vocabulary: clothesline, p. 42B

Creative Activity: make a collage of the scene of the boxcar in he woods. Make a moveable door on the boxcar so the inside can be drawn, a yarn clothesline, cardboard stump and tissue paper brook.

Chapter 5 - The Explorers Find Treasure

Discussion Questions:

1. Jessie has an unusual refrigerator. How does it work?
2. Benny finds the first treasure. What is it?
3. What other treasures do the children find?
4. Here again the children are careful about their health. How do

they clean the treasures and what do they do to make them *very* clean?

5. What does this chapter tell us about the children's resourcefulness?

Vocabulary: housekeeper, p. 45B; treasures, p. 47M; dump, p. 47B (*mm); explorers, p. 49T; kettle, p. 51M; fireplace, p. 55B

Creative Activity: Pretend you are Watch, the dog. Write about this trip to the dump. What might you see that the children might miss? Don't forget that your sense of smell is much better than the children's.

Chapter 6 - A Queer Noise In The Night

Discussion Questions:

1. Look at the illustration on page 59. What is Henry doing? What other jobs does Henry do in this chapter?
2. How do we know that the doctor thinks Henry is a good worker?
3. Why does Henry just pretend to eat the cooky?
4. Violet uses something from the workbag. What is it and how does she use it?
5. Toward the end of this chapter Watch is uneasy. How do the children act and what do you think is happening?

Vocabulary: bundle, p. 57B; hem, p. 61M; admire, p. 63M; dam, p. 64B

Creative Activity: Make molasses cookies. See the recipe in back of guide under "Activities."

Chapter 7 - A Big Meal From Little Onions

Discussion Questions:

1. The noise in the woods has frightened the children. How do they plan to protect themselves?
2. Why does Mrs. Moore ask Henry if he has chickens?
3. What fire safety rules has Violet followed?
4. How does Henry use what he has gotten from the doctor?
5. At the end of the chapter Henry laughs at himself and his brother. Why?

Vocabulary: queer, p. 69B; thin, p. 71B (*mm); turnip, 72T; mill, p. 72B; eager, p. 74T; stew, p. 75M; ladle, p. 79B

Creative Activity: Make a collage of the garden using different colored papers and scraps of material for the ground and different vegetables. You might even want to add a scarecrow.

Chapter 8 - A Swimming Pool At Last

Discussion Questions:

1. Why and how does Henry measure the pool?
2. The author says on page 85, "... the children liked hard work." Give three examples of this and tell why you think they did.
3. What problem did the children have with the dam and how was it solved?
4. How did the boys know it was time for dinner?

5. Benny and Watch have a part in this night's supper. What do they do?

Vocabulary: rinse, p. 85T; delight, p. 85B; brush, p. 86B

Creative Activity: Using clay, sticks and pebbles, make a model of the dam the children have built. If you make it in a clear plastic shoe box, you can add water, and you can see how it works.

Chapter 9 - Fun In The Cherry Orchard

Discussion Questions:

1. Watch has another important job in this chapter. What is it?
2. Why do you think everyone liked Benny?
3. What question does the doctor ask that makes the children uncomfortable? Who answers?
4. Dr. Moore reads something very important in the newspaper. What is it? Why do you think he does what he does?

Vocabulary: orchard, p. 94T; delicious, p. 97M; dumplings, p. 98T; polite, p. 98M

Chapter 10 - Henry And The Free-For-All

Discussion Questions:

1. What kind of race was the free-for-all?
2. What reason does Dr. Moore give for taking Henry to the Field Days? What other reason might he have?
3. How do Henry's ideas of the race change as he is running?
4. Henry tells the truth but not the whole truth in this chapter. Explain.
5. How does Watch help Benny in this chapter?

Vocabulary: bleachers, p. 103M; train, p. 104M (*mm)

Creative Activity: Draw a picture of Henry's silver cup.

Chapter 11 - The Doctor Takes A Hand

Discussion Questions:

What is unusual about Benny's new bear?

2. What does Benny do to Watch?
3. How does Jessie know that Violet is sick? Where is Violet taken? By whom?
4. Benny meets a stranger in this chapter. Who is he? What do they think of each other? How do you know?

Vocabulary: stockings, 118T; hot-water bottle, p. 124T; crossly, p. 124B

Creative Activity: Make a toy using an old sock.

Chapter 12 - James Henry and Henry James

Discussion Questions:

1. Dr. and Mrs. Moore have a plan for Mr. Alden and his grandchildren to become friends. What is it? How do we know it works?
2. How does Henry discover the truth about Mr. Alden?
3. We learn the solution to a mysterious noise that the children and Watch heard earlier (p. 67) in the story. What was it?

Vocabulary: delight, p. 130M; cucumber, p. 130B; daytime, p. 137T

Chapter 13 - A New Home For The Boxcar

Discussion Questions:

1. In Grandfather's house the children know which rooms are Violet's and Benny's. How do they know?
2. There is a problem about Watch in this chapter. What is it? How is it solved?
3. Why do you think the children miss the boxcar?

Vocabulary: maids, p. 144M; wagged p. 149B; homesick, p. 151T

THE BOXCAR CHILDREN TEST

Part I: Vocabulary

Use the words below to complete the following statements.

1. It was a beautiful morning in the _____ . There were big, ripe apples on all the trees.
2. The _____ was such an exciting place to hunt for things. Mary found a cracked teapot and Charles found two wheels.
3. They tied the newspapers in a big _____ and took them to the recycling center.
4. The day was very hot, so the water from the _____ felt icy cold on her hands.
5. All the children liked _____ on their cereal, but their favorite way to eat them was in muffins.
6. Pat worked in the garden all morning. She had to _____ the carrots and radishes so they would have room to grow.
7. The pirates were looking for _____ but the chest was empty; someone had gotten the gold before them.
8. You would certainly _____ Sam's model. He made it himself from 300 pieces and it is beautiful.
9. If you look in my _____ you should find the scissors and the thread you need to make that toy.
10. Don't forget to _____ those clothes. If the soap stays in them, they will be bad for your skin.
11. He grew the largest _____ in the county. They made prize winning pickles.
12. The tired child said _____, "I don't want to go to bed," then he kicked and cried and everyone knew it was past his bedtime.
13. They sat in the _____ to see the exciting game.
14. He used the _____ to fill the bowls of soup from the old kettle.
15. The children were filled with _____ when they saw how beautiful everything was for the party.

workbag
ladle
delight

pump
rinse
thin

blueberries
orchard
treasure

dump
bleachers
cucumbers

admire
crossly
bundle

Part II - Matching

On the blank in front of each description write the name of the character who is described.

Henry	Violet	Benny
Jessie	the baker's wife	Mr. Alden
Mrs. Moore	Mary, the cook	Watch

- _____ 1. This character named the dog and found the eggs in the nest.
- _____ 2. This character knew who the children were but didn't try to collect the reward for them.
- _____ 3. This character wanted to keep the older children but send the youngest to the Children's Home.
- _____ 4. This character was the children's grandfather.
- _____ 5. This character won the free-for-all race.
- _____ 6. This character gave the oldest child a treat which he saved to share with the other children.
- _____ 7. This character had the workbag and hemmed the tablecloth. This was also the character who became very sick.
- _____ 8. This character took the thorn out of the dog's paw, and found the boxcar.
- _____ 9. This character heard something in the woods and gave the alarm, chased a chicken, and had an unusual haircut.

Part III - Multiple Choice

Complete each of the following statements with the best answer, indicate your choice by writing the letter of the appropriate response in the space provided.

- ___ 1. The town the children *didn't* want to go to after they heard the baker and his wife talking about them was
- Greenfield.
 - Silver City.
 - Milltown.
- ___ 2. The youngest of the children was
- Benny.
 - Violet.
 - Jessie.
- ___ 3. The children think Grandfather doesn't like them because
- he yelled at them.
 - he never came to see them.
 - he wrote them a letter saying he never wanted to see them.
- ___ 4. This was *not* in the laundry bag:
- clothes.
 - soap.
 - toys.
- ___ 5. The dog was limping because
- he had caught his foot in a trap.
 - there was a thorn in his paw.
 - his leg was in a cast.
- ___ 6. The children found their treasures
- in the boxcar.
 - in the fountain.
 - at the dump.
- ___ 7. Henry's magic spoon
- digs holes.
 - spreads butter.
 - turns into a fork.
- ___ 8. With Jessie's scissors Benny
- cuts Violet's hair.
 - pries up nails.
 - cuts a J in Watch's fur.
- ___ 9. Benny wanted a long tail on his toy bear
- so he could carry it.
 - so he could find it easily.
 - so he could pull it.
- ___10. At the end of the story the children are living with
- Dr. and Mrs. Moore.
 - Grandfather.
 - the baker and his wife.

Part IV - Short Answer

1. The children in this story are very wise about safety. Give one example.
2. The older children get the youngest to do what he should by pretending. Tell how they do this.
3. We learn a lot about the things the children eat in this story. Name three things.
4. How do the children show they love each other?
5. What was Henry's prize for winning the free-for-all race and what did he do with the prize?

Part V - Essay Test

Choose three of the following questions to write about. Be sure to give as complete an answer as you can. Give as many details from the story as you remember to support your answer.

1. The children work very hard to stay together and take care of each other. Give examples and tell why you think they act this way.
2. The children are very clever in making useful things from what they find. Give three examples of this and describe fully how they made one of them.
3. Watch is an important character in the story. Tell what he does. How would the story have been different without Watch?
4. Which character in the story would you like to go camping with? What would you two do?
5. The author doesn't tell us why Grandfather never came to see the children before their parents died. Why do you think he acted this way? Be sure you remember what Grandfather was like at the end of the story.
6. What is the most important event in the story? Why do you choose this one? What happens before? What happens after? Are they all related?
7. What do you think is the biggest problem the children face in the story? Tell why it is and how the children solve this problem.

THE BOXCAR CHILDREN ANSWER KEY

Part I - Vocabulary

- | | | | | |
|---------------|-------------|---------------|------------|----------------|
| 1. orchard | 2. dump | 3. bundle | 4. pump | 5. blueberries |
| 6. thin | 7. treasure | 8. admire | 9. workbag | 10. rinse |
| 11. cucumbers | 12. crossly | 13. bleachers | 14. ladle | 15. delight |

Part II - Matching

- | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|----------|
| 1. Benny | 2. Dr. Moore | 3. the baker's wife | 4. Mr. Alden | 5. Henry |
| 6. Mary, the cook | 7. Violet | 8. Jessie | 9. Watch | |

Part III - Multiple Choice

- | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. a | 2. a | 3. b | 4. c | 5. b |
| 6. c | 7. b | 8. c | 9. c | 10. b |

Part IV - Short Answer

1. Examples of the children's safety rules and good sense include: stones around the fireplace, water by the fire, not drinking the brook water, going to town by twos, not letting Benny go into the woods by himself, keeping Watch in the boxcar with them at night and how they clean the silverware.
2. The older children get Benny to do what he should by having him pretend to be a little brown bear hunting for a bed to get him to walk; to be a horse to get him to drink from the pump; and to be Little Brown Bear splashing in the brook to get him to wash.
3. Food the children in the story eat include: bread, milk, cherries, cherry dumplings, carrots, turnips, onions, butter potatoes, dried meat, blueberries and cookies.
4. The children show they love each other by working for each other, sharing--Henry brings back the cookies; the girls make Benny the toy bear, they run away rather than have Benny go the the Children's Home; Henry builds a cart for Benny, and the girls teach Benny to read.
5. Henry's prize for winning the free-for-all was a silver cup and \$25.00. He brought it home to Jessie.

Part V - Essay Questions

Should be scored according to teacher's judgment

ACTIVITIES

Molasses Cookies

1/3 c. shortening	3/4 c. sugar	2 medium eggs, beaten	3/4 c. molasses
3 c. flour	1/2 tsp. salt	1 1/2 tsp. baking soda	3/4 tsp. cinnamon
3/4 tsp. nutmeg	3/4 tsp. cloves	1 1/2 tsp. ginger	

sugar to roll cookies in

Beat the shortening until light, add the sugar and beat well. Add the molasses and eggs. Sift the dry ingredients together and add to the molasses mixture.

This makes a sticky dough which needs to be chilled at least two hours or overnight.

Make 1 1/4 inch diameter balls with the dough and roll in sugar. Place on a greased cooky sheet. Dip the bottom of a glass in sugar and use it to press down the dough. The cookies spread in the heat so leave space between them on the cooky sheet.

Bake in 400 degree heat for ten minutes.

This recipe makes approximately 39 cookies. They are about 3" in diameter when they are baked.

These cookies are very tasty as is. However, you may wish to frost them after they cool. Blend 3/4 cup sifted confectioners' sugar with 1/4 teaspoon vanilla and enough milk (approximately 1 tablespoon) to make spreading consistency.

The children may also enjoy putting raisin faces on the cookies (two eyes and a nose) before they bake to see them change in the baking.

Shoebox Boxcar

The measurements given are for a shoebox for adult shoes. Other shoeboxes will do as well--just use similar proportions.

MATERIALS: 1 shoebox with lid, lightweight cardboard (from a cereal box or shirtbox--wheels and wheel housings are best cut from cardboard about 1/16 inch thick), paint or paper to cover

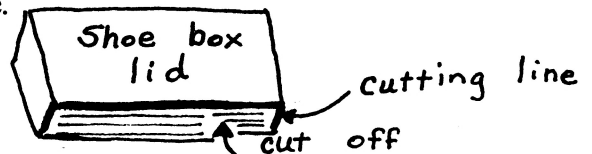
EQUIPMENT: scissors, glue, ruler, marking pens

I. Sliding door and door braces

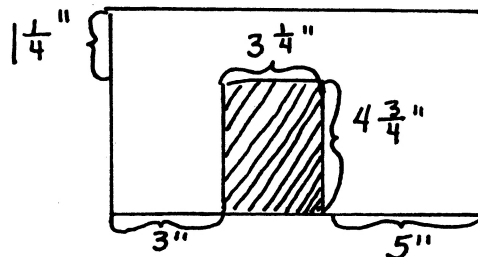
The lid to the shoebox becomes the front of the boxcar, the sliding door and the top brace for the sliding door.

The bottom brace for the sliding door must be cut from the lightweight cardboard.

A. Cut off the bottom fold-over from the shoebox lid and reserve.



B. Cut the door. The exact measurements aren't important. You want the door to be offset from the center and to leave room at the top of the lid for the braces for the sliding door.

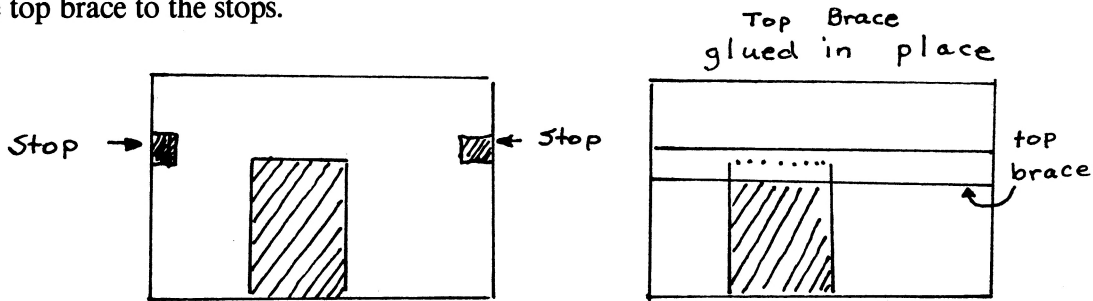


C. Make the braces.

With the piece you cut from the lid make the top brace.

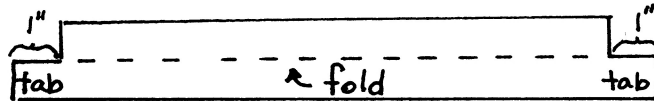
a) Make 2 stops from cardboard thicker than the lid (you may have to sandwich and glue 2 or 3 thinner pieces). These will hold the brace away from the lid and allow the sliding door to move freely. Cut the stops about 1" square and glue to the lid at the edge on a line with the door opening.

b) Glue the top brace to the stops.



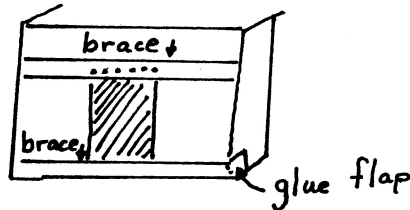
c) Cut the bottom brace from the lightweight cardboard. This brace will form a trough for the door to rest in and roll along. It should be the length of the box lid plus 2" for the lap over. It should be about 1" wide.

Fold the strip in half lengthwise. Open up the strip again and at each end cut the lap over, that will secure the brace to the edge of the lid.



Fold again and glue.

Glue the back of the strip to the bottom of the lid. Glue the tabs to the sides of the lid. Use paper clips to hold the brace in position while it dries.

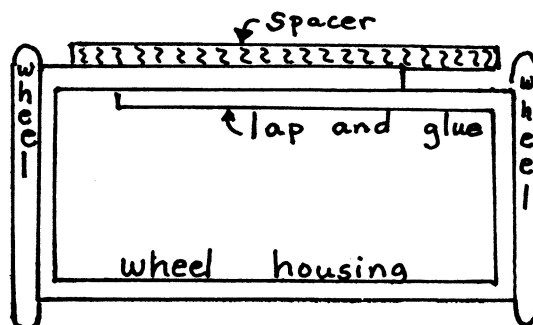


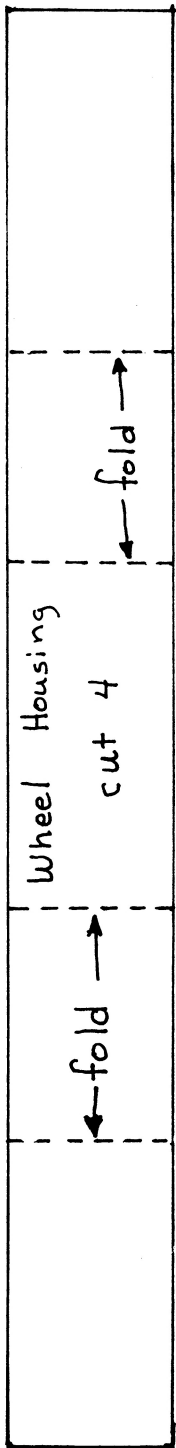
Slip the door in from the top. It should move freely.

II. Wheels

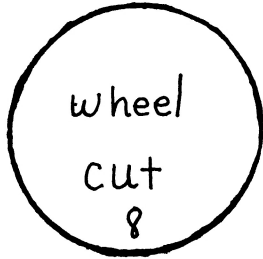
There are 4 sets of wheels (2 to the set) with a housing and spacer for each set. (See patterns on the next page). They should be cut from medium weight cardboard or lightweight cardboard sandwiched and glued to about 1/32" thickness.

Fold the wheel housing on the dotted lines, lap over and glue. Glue the wheels to the outside of the housing. To allow room for the tops of the wheels (so they won't hit the bottom of the boxcar) glue a spacer to the top of the wheel housing.

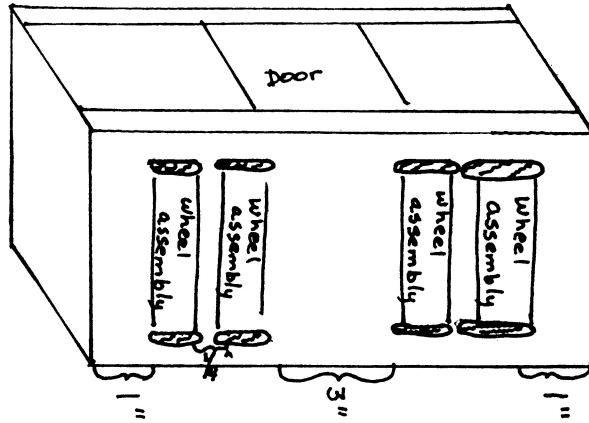




Spacer
Cut 4

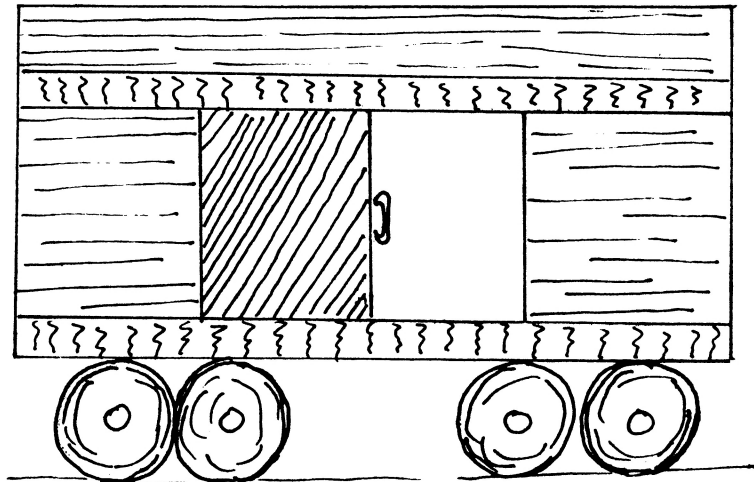


Glue the wheel assembly to the boxcar. Note the bottom of the boxcar is not the bottom of the shoebox but its side.



When the wheels have dried, glue the lid down on the 3 sides that remain.

Finish by painting, covering with construction paper or decorate with marking pens. The inside may be finished according to the story if the children wish.



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