Hi, I'm Crissy Crossbuck! This special booklet will help you to learn how to be safe around the railroad tracks in your community. Remember – this is now an active railroad!

**Crissy’s Three Track SMART Rules**

1. TRACKS ARE FOR TRAINS—not for games
2. NEVER TAKE A SHORTCUT across the tracks
3. ONLY cross the tracks at a RAILROAD CROSSING sign
Use the code to complete this important safety rule.

_______ walk, ________, or ________ on or ________ the tracks—it is dangerous and ________ the _________. ________ are for ________ only!

- = AGAINST  - = NEAR
- = TRACKS  - = LAWS
- = PLAY  - = TRAINS
- = BIKE  - = NEVER

More Ways to be Track SMART:

• Never take a shortcut across the tracks!
  Cross tracks only where you see a railroad crossing sign, and obey all signs, gates, and warning signals.

• Never try to race a train!
  By the time the train engineer can see you and hits the brake, it is too late for the train to stop in time.

Train Your Brain

The SMART TRAIN is coming soon. To start, there will be ________ runs of the new passenger trains on the tracks, to prepare for regular service. These new trains will have all the latest safety features including ________ gates, lights and signs to alert us to tracks and trains. But none of that can ______________ someone who is playing around on the tracks!
Let’s take a shortcut home across these train tracks!

I don’t see a train coming. Let’s go!

WHOA! It’s not only dangerous to take a shortcut across the train tracks...

... it’s also against the law!

I don’t see a train coming. Let’s go!

Walking on railroad tracks is trespassing! It’s dangerous and illegal to take a shortcut across the tracks!

Be Track SMART! The only safe place to cross is at a RAILROAD CROSSING sign—it looks like me!

Can you read the signs?

Yellow, circular advance warning sign: This sign warns drivers and pedestrians that the road crosses train tracks ahead. It tells you to pay extra attention as you approach the crossing.

Red flashing lights with bells and gates warn drivers and pedestrians when a train is approaching. A gate will go down to keep people and cars a safe distance from the tracks. It is illegal to go around the gates.

Railroad Crossing Sign: This is the place to cross the tracks, after the lights stop flashing and the gate goes up and then only after you STOP, LOOK and LISTEN to make sure another train isn’t coming.

Next time you’re in the car or on a walk, see how many of these railroad crossing signs you can find.

How close is that train really?

An optical illusion is when your eyes and your brain don’t agree. It is when what you think you see isn’t the way things really are.

Trains at a distance look smaller and further away than they really are. At a distance, it’s even hard to tell how fast they are moving. That’s why crossing only at Railroad Crossings is so important—lights and bells can alert you to an oncoming train and keep you safe.

At 55 miles per hour, a train travels about 81 feet EVERY SECOND!

How long does it take each vehicle to stop?

Car 200 feet
School Bus 230 feet
Big Rig Truck 300 feet
Train 1 mile or more!

Construction of new tracks and improved crossings on the SMART rail line began in 2012 and will continue through 2014 and beyond.

After 10 years without trains, freight trains are already traveling on the North Bay rail lines again. Soon, SMART will start testing its new, fast, quiet passenger trains. Freight and test trains do not run on a schedule. The tracks are now active. And that means you should:

___LW___YS
___XP__CT
___ TR__IN!

(Replace the missing vowels)
REQUEST A FREE RAIL SAFETY PRESENTATION!

Help build a RAIL-SAFE COMMUNITY by scheduling a free rail safety presentation for your class, school, neighborhood or community group.

Visit the California Operation Lifesaver website at www.caol.us and just click “Request a Presentation.”

SMART works with Operation Lifesaver, a national non-profit dedicated to railroad safety education.