***Pete the Cat’s Train Trip***

***By James Dean***

* **About This Book**

Pete the Cat is excited to take a train ride to see his grandmother. The conductor gives Pete a tour of the train. Read to find out what fun adventures Pete has on his train trip.

* **Before Reading**

Ask the students to:

1. sit “criss-cross”
2. hands in lap
3. eyes on the person speaking
4. raise hand to speak (explain that you won’t be able to call on everyone)

Keep in mind, kindergarten students have a very short attention span. It is best to keep a fast pace and give very clear directions. Use a big, strong voice. Try not to ask extra questions because students will get chatty and it will be hard to get back their attention.

Briefly introduce yourself:

* Your name & occupation
* Your favorite books when you were a child or that you read to your children
* You will be coming several times to share a story and give them each a book to keep
* Have students ask you questions about you (3 or so)
* Ask students if they remember some of the other books you have shared with them.

***Call attention to the cover illustration.*** Tell students that the title of the book is Pete the Cat’s Train Trip and the author (person who wrote the book) is James Dean.

Ask the students to think of two things that Pete the Cat might see or do on his train trip. Have them whisper their ideas to the person next to them. Give them a minute to whisper. Ask students to get to a voice level 0 as you count down from five.

* **Read the Story**
* **Interactive Reading Options (optional)**
  + Ask students to think about a time they went to visit their grandmother or a family member. How did you feel? Show me on your face how you felt.
  + Pause briefly to explain a few new words (choose 3-4):
    - cargo train (a train that carries things like coal, not people)
    - conductor (the person who takes tickets and helps people on a train)
    - caboose (the last car on a train, usually red)
    - engineer (the person who drives the train)
  + At the end of the story, ask students to think of a place they would like to visit on a train. Have them whisper it to someone near them.
  + Have the teacher follow up on another day by playing the Pete the Cat Train Trip video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l2kk-8sk-ZY> The students can follow along in their own books.
* **Wrap Up Questions (optional)**

Think of the characters in the book, whisper them to the person next to you.

Tell the children they will each get a copy of the book to keep. Encourage the children to read the book again at home.