



Making Tracks **Over 65 Years of Stories and Adventures**

Who Is *Thomas the Tank Engine*™?

Thomas the Tank Engine™ is the No. 1 blue engine. He is a cheeky little engine who often gets into scrapes, usually by being over-eager to do things best left to bigger and more sensible engines. But clouds never last long in Thomas' world and soon he's bustling about again, playing his part in the yard and on his very own branch line. Thomas works hard and he always strives to be a Really Useful Engine.

How Did *Thomas & Friends* Get Started?

Thomas & Friends™ was created by a father for his son. The father was inspired by real-life steam engines and used his rich imagination to give each of the engines names and personalities. The tales captivated his family, as well as a publisher who had the foresight to see a great future for *Thomas & Friends*. Today, children embark on fun and exciting adventures with those very engine friends, as their timeless stories and life-lessons are enjoyed by families in more than 185 territories and 30 languages.

Who Are *Thomas the Tank Engine's* Friends?

Being "really useful" is hard work and *Thomas the Tank Engine* has many friends to accompany him on his adventures. There's cheerful green *Percy*, self-proclaimed "really splendid" red engine James, proud, but boastful *Gordon*, benevolent *Bertie the Bus* and high-flying *Harold the Helicopter* to name a few. And who could forget *Sir Topham Hatt*, Chairman of the Railway, who keeps the engines running right on time in a firm, but kindly manner.

Where Does *Thomas & Friends* Take Place?

Thomas the Tank Engine and his friends are stationed on the enchanting Island of Sodor, a lush countryside where the sun invariably shines and clouds never last long. Rich with green valleys and rolling hills, the Island of Sodor is a scenic backdrop for *Thomas & Friends* adventures.