



For most, the NeverEnuf Excursion will be a "first" thus prompting several queries. This leaflet briefly touches upon the salient aspects of the hobby, the venue, and helps to clarify the purpose of the field trip; establish appropriate atmosphere and expectations for the day; and also to orient the students to this new environment.

Railmodelling is often called the world's greatest hobby. It offers a variety of activities for all ages and interests and tends to grow into a lifetime hobby that teaches patience and delivers the joys of creating something with your own hands. NeverEnuf is an **Outdoor Garden Train Layout** built by a hobbyist.

So who are Model Railroaders?

They come from all walks of life and enjoy the hobby in different ways. There are model railroaders who rarely, if ever, build a model. They enjoy reading about the hobby and dream about the model railroad they're going to build "someday." These enthusiasts are called "armchair modelers." Other hobbyists build detailed models of locomotives or cars. Some focus on building structures and scenery. For them, model railroading is a form of sculpture. They may even look upon the trains as a secondary consideration—providing movement in an otherwise static world. Then there are those who focus on mechanical and electrical things to the point that they never build scenery. The majority of model railroaders find the greatest enjoyment in combining all these approaches, tailoring the hobby to suit their interests.

Understanding Scale and Gauge

Model trains come in different sizes. Model trains are differentiated according to their scale and their gauge. "Scale" relates to the comparative ratio of measurements between a model and its full-size prototype. "Gauge," the second aspect of a model's size, refers to the space between the rails of the track. Because of their strong heritage, today's model trains remain compatible with those manufactured 50, 60, and even 70 years ago. Track sizes and basic electrical functions have not changed, so it is a common sight to visit a layout and see a locomotive manufactured in 1953 running side-by-side with one manufactured a half-century later.

The largest of them all

NeverEnuf showcases two sizes of model trains. The larger, garden trains, operate on Gauge 1 track which has 45 mm distance between the rails. The track and the equipment is ruggedly built to withstand harsh outdoor conditions, all year through.

Small and popular

The smaller size trains conform to the scale of HO. This implies a relationship of 1:87 to their full-size compatriots, and the track gauge measures 16.5 mm. HO railroading is the most popular of the scales, with more than two-thirds of modelers making it their top choice. At NeverEnuf, the HO layout travels both indoors and outdoors.

Scenery and Structures

Building a complete model railroad that evokes a sense of time and place is the heart of this hobby.

The layouts at NeverEnuf are "freelanced" – implying that they don't bear resemblance to any specific place or period. The buildings are scale models built from ready made kits, or totally scratch-built using "sunboard", "Polyfoam" and "Styrene". Bridges have been cast in cement or engineered from metal and wood. While the G scale trains move around real elements like rocks, water and dwarf trees, the HO trains have their small world simulated with artificial materials- trees made from ropes, grass from saw dust, water from gels – *different strokes for different scales!*

What drives the trains?

Presently all motive power on NeverEnuf's roster is track powered. A DC supply of 18-24Volts is fed to the tracks made of very high quality brass or nickel alloy. The wheels of the locomotive pick up the current which then reaches the motor/s housed within. The models feature state-of-the-art electronics, including realistic sound systems.

Motive Power & Rolling Stock

The locomotives (steam, diesel, electric) are all scale replicas of

their real life counterparts. Famous locos like the Flying Scotsman (*the first steam loco to cross 100km/hr*), the Pendolino Virgin Trains (*which bank on curves in order to maintain high speed*), the Taurus (*the fastest electric loco*) and many more, enthrall visitors.

NeverEnuf Excursion, Entertaining, Educating.

Learning at NeverEnuf is aimed at being osmotic. The miniature displays with operating trains don't just entertain, they set your imagination on fire, prompting you to ask questions about Model Trains (*Scale, gauge, controls, automation of train movement and accessories*); about Structures: (*Kit and scratch building*). Visitors are handed out observation sheets which invite attention to detail; interesting posters impart knowledge in a friendly manner, and for advanced groups (*Photography, Robotics, Electricals and Electronics*) NeverEnuf has special DIY sessions. Visitors can also try their hands at RC boats, activate animations and get really close up with farm birds and animals.

An evolving canvas

No matter how big or small, no train-layout is ever really finished. There's always some new technique to try and something to improve or change. A model railroad is a form of evolutionary art that changes and grows with its creator. Though NeverEnuf Excursion can only offer a glimpse into the exciting world of model trains, we hope it inspires the children to begin and enjoy this wonderful, lifetime hobby.

Post Visit Activities

A visit to NeverEnuf can be easily related to the student's learning in the classroom, what ever be the age-group. Post visit activities can cover creative writing (*write a story/poem about the daily life in NeverEnuf*), memory tests, discussions on the evolution of technology (*from steam to electric - its pros and cons*), the role of a hobby in one's life... the senior age groups can be encouraged to relate the DC/DCC, DPDT relay, Reed relay and other automation to their curriculum learning. Whilst the core of the display is railmodelling, there is a treasure of peripheral knowledge for the seeker.

Glossary

Free-lance: Modeling that doesn't closely follow an actual railroad.

Kitbashing: Taking one or more model railroad kits and changing the construction process or combining parts from different kits to create a unique model.

Motive power: Another word for locomotives, the pieces of rolling stock that do the work of moving trains down the road.

Operation: Running trains on a layout in a way that simulates real railroad activity.

Power pack: Electrical device used to supply current to a model train and control its speed and direction.

Rolling stock: Any piece of railroad equipment that rides on the rails.

Scratchbuilding: Making a model from raw materials and parts, not using kits.

Weathering: Making new models look more realistic by simulating age and exposure to the elements.

Scale: The size of things on a model railroad relative to things on a real railroad. For example, in the most popular scale, HO, models are 1/87th full size. Other popular scales are Z (1/220), n (1/160), S (1/64), and O (1/48).

Gauge: The distance between the inside of the heads of track rails. Standard gauge on real railroads is 4'-8 1/2". Narrow gauge means rails with a width less than standard gauge.

Gauge 1: 45 mm (just over 1 3/4") between the rails. Although a garden railroad can be built to run on any gauge of track, gauge 1 is most commonly used.

Large scale: A generic term that includes all trains running on gauge 1 track.

Live steam: Miniature locomotives that run on steam, just like real locomotives. They have fire in their fireboxes and boil water in their boilers.

Couplers: are the devices by which cars and locomotives are hooked together.

Grade: refers to the level of the ground or the ground surface upon which track is laid

Passing siding: a track that parallels the main line and joins it at both ends.

Point-to-point: a type of track plan whereby the train begins its journey at a dead end and ends it at another.

Railjoinder: the device that holds rail ends together and in alignment.

Turnout: A piece of track that allows a train to go from one track to another - called a switch on a real railroad.

