

**GAME BOY ADVANCE**

AGB-BPXE-USA

# THE POLAR EXPRESS



**INSTRUCTION BOOKLET**



**PLEASE CAREFULLY READ THE SEPARATE HEALTH AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS BOOKLET INCLUDED WITH THIS PRODUCT BEFORE USING YOUR NINTENDO® HARDWARE SYSTEM, GAME PAK OR ACCESSORY. THIS BOOKLET CONTAINS IMPORTANT HEALTH AND SAFETY INFORMATION.**

**IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION: READ THE FOLLOWING WARNINGS BEFORE YOU OR YOUR CHILD PLAY VIDEO GAMES**

 **WARNING - Seizures**

- Some people (about 1 in 4000) may have seizures or blackouts triggered by light flashes or patterns, such as while watching TV or playing video games, even if they have never had a seizure before.
- Anyone who has had a seizure, loss of awareness, or other symptom linked to an epileptic condition should consult a doctor before playing a video game.
- Parents should watch when their children play video games. Stop playing and consult a doctor if you or your child have any of the following symptoms:

**Convulsions**  
**Altered vision**

**Eye or muscle twitching**  
**Involuntary movements**

**Loss of awareness**  
**Disorientation**

To reduce the likelihood of a seizure when playing video games:

1. Sit or stand as far from the screen as possible.
2. Play video games on the smallest available television screen.
3. Do not play if you are tired or need sleep.
4. Play in a well-lit room.
5. Take a 10 to 15 minute break every hour.

## **WARNING - Repetitive Motion Injuries and Eyestrain**

Playing video games can make your muscles, joints, skin or eyes hurt after a few hours. Follow these instructions to avoid problems such as tendinitis, carpal tunnel syndrome, skin irritation or eyestrain:

- Avoid excessive play. It is recommended that parents monitor their children for appropriate play.
- Take a 10 to 15 minute break every hour, even if you don't think you need it.
- If your hands, wrists or arms or eyes become tired or sore while playing, stop and rest them for several hours before playing again.
- If you continue to have sore hands, wrists or arms or eyes during or after play, stop playing and see a doctor.

## **WARNING - Battery Leakage**

Leakage of battery acid can cause personal injury as well as damage to your Game Boy. If battery leakage occurs, thoroughly wash the affected skin and clothes. Keep battery acid away from your eyes and mouth. Leaking batteries may make popping sounds.

To avoid battery leakage:

- Do not mix used and new batteries (replace all batteries at the same time).
- Do not mix alkaline and carbon zinc batteries.
- Do not mix different brands of batteries.
- Do not use nickel cadmium batteries.
- Do not leave used batteries in the Game Boy. When the batteries are losing their charge, the power light may become dim, the game sounds may become weak, or the display screen may be blank. When this happens, promptly replace all used batteries with new batteries.
- Do not leave batteries in the Game Boy or accessory for long periods of non-use.
- Do not leave the power switch on after the batteries have lost their charge. When you finish using the Game Boy, always slide the power switch OFF.
- Do not recharge the batteries.
- Do not put the batteries in backwards. Make sure that the positive (+) and negative (-) ends are facing in the correct directions. Insert the negative end first. When removing batteries, remove the positive end first.
- Do not dispose of batteries in a fire.

**THIS GAME PAK WILL WORK ONLY WITH THE  
GAME BOY® ADVANCE VIDEO GAME SYSTEM.**

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# THE MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS

Every Christmas, as the holiday spirit sweeps across the world, a magical train sets out to gather a handful of lucky boys and girls. Together, they travel to the North Pole to visit Santa and receive the First Gift of Christmas.

This year, a young boy on the verge of disbelieving will embark on an adventure unlike anything he's ever experienced. From racing across train tops to runaway rail cars to trips through mountains of presents, it's guaranteed to be a ride no one will ever forget.

# SETUP

1. Turn OFF the power switch on your Nintendo® Game Boy® Advance. Never insert or remove a Game Pak when the power is on.



2. Insert the Game Pak of *The Polar Express* into the slot on the Game Boy® Advance. To lock the Game Pak in place, press firmly.
3. Turn ON the POWER switch. The credit screens will appear (if you don't see them, begin again at step 1).

# GETTING STARTED

Once the game is on, choose the language on the Language Select screen. The title screen will then appear. Press **START** to go to the Main Menu.

On the Main Menu are slots for saving your game. By scrolling with the Control Pad, and using the A Button to select, you can choose the slot for your game.

A new game can be started in an empty slot. Starting a new game will take you to a Name Select screen. Enter in your name using the Control Pad to scroll through letters and the A Button to select the letters you want. Then select **OK** to start the game.

When returning to a saved game, highlight the game you'd like to continue and press the A Button.

### **Options**

The last selection on the Main Menu opens the Options Menu. By scrolling with the Control Pad and using the A Button to select, you can access the following options:

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>Music:</b>       | Adjusts the Music volume               |
| <b>SFX:</b>         | Adjusts the Sound FX volume            |
| <b>File Delete:</b> | Allows you to delete a Saved Game file |
| <b>Credits:</b>     | Shows the game's credits               |

# GAME CONTROLS

## Control

Control Pad Left/Right

Control Pad Up

Control Pad Down

Control Pad Down + Left/Right

A Button

A Button + Control Pad Left/Right

B Button

## Action

Walk

Climb ladder, open door,  
open toy chest

Crouch, duck, climb down  
ladder

Crawl

Jump, Action items, next page  
(for dialogue screens)

Grab onto ledges

Operate paddle, return to  
previous screen (on menu screens)

B Button + Left/Right

L Button

R Button + Control Pad Left/Right

START

SELECT

Push or pull boxes

Discard toy

Run

Pause

At specified areas, displays  
Help text

## Vehicle Controls

### Control

Control Pad Left/Right

Control Pad Up

Control Pad Down

Control Pad Left/Right

A Button

R Button

START

### Action

Steer

Speed up

Slow down

Switch tracks (Train, Tube System)

Gain altitude (on the Zeppelin)

Blow whistle (on the Train)

Pause

## **Pause Menu**

Access the Pause menu while playing the game by pushing START.

**Resume:** Continue the game

**Restart:** Restart the current level

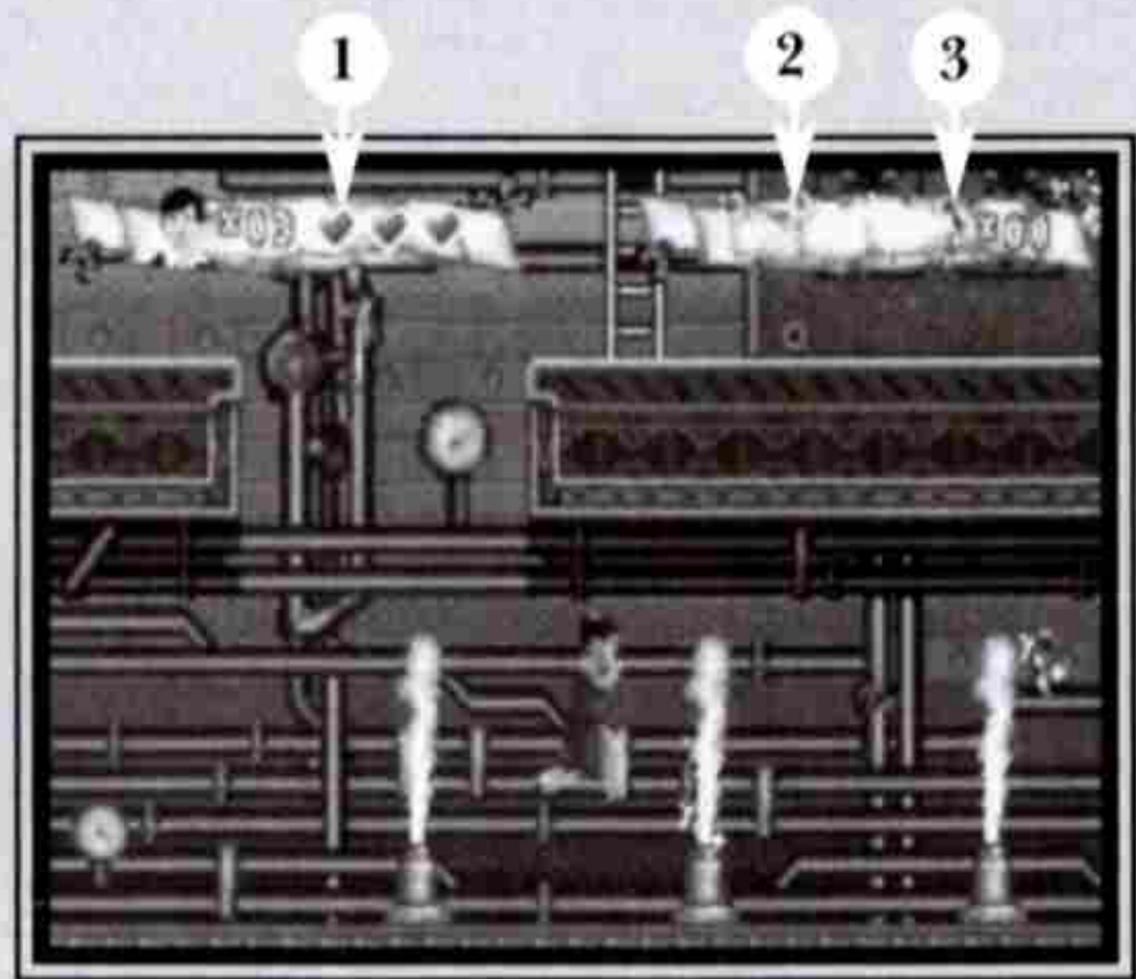
**Quit:** Quit the game and return to the Main Menu

# RIDING THE POLAR EXPRESS

1. This health indicator shows that the Hero Boy has the heart to keep going.

2. Sleigh bells must be collected to complete certain levels in the game.

3. Yummy candy canes are found throughout the Polar Express. If you collect all of them, you will end up visiting every part of the Polar Express.



## **Once Upon a Christmas Eve...**

*A few tips on adventuring on the Polar Express*

Here are some helpful hints for your journey:

- When you see “SELECT” flashing at the top of your screen, this means that there is help text available. Press SELECT to display the text.
- You will need to collect three sleigh bells in addition to completing any other objectives in order to finish most levels.
- Keep a sharp eye out for hot chocolate. This delicious beverage will give the Hero Boy the heart to continue.

- Open as many toy chests as you can – they contain special toys that can aid the Hero Boy in his journey. To open a toy chest, press the Control Pad Up when you are positioned in front of it.
- When driving the Polar Express or the runaway observation car, switch tracks to avoid hazards and dead-ends. Choose wisely, as some tracks have more candy canes than others.
- The tube system transports elves – and the Hero Boy – all over the North Pole. To get to your destination successfully, avoid as many hazards and dead-ends as you can.

# MEET THE PASSENGERS



Hero Boy is a typical 8-year-old presented with a very unusual opportunity at a point when he has begun to doubt his faith in the magic of the holiday. His extraordinary journey aboard The Polar Express restores his belief in that which he cannot see.



Hero Girl is a strong and intelligent companion for the Hero Boy and together they experience many adventures on their journey to the North Pole. Like him, she also has a problem with faith although, in her case, it's faith in herself that she lacks.



The Lonely Boy is somewhat mysterious, reluctant to communicate with the other children, or to share in their adventures. He believes that Christmas “isn’t for him” and that he can’t trust or rely on anyone else but himself. He must learn that he can lean on others and that he can and should reach out to them.



The Know-It-All, a kid who lacks humility, shadows Hero Boy and Hero Girl throughout the story, hindering as often as he helps. His journey is to discover that however much he thinks he already knows, there’s always plenty more to be learned.

# ITEMS & COLLECTIBLES

You'll meet a lot of new friends and pick up a few items to help make your journey to the North Pole a success.



Collecting sleigh bells on the train allows you to open the next level.



Candy canes are scattered throughout the levels. See how many you can collect! Collecting candy canes is not required for completing levels.



If you find one of these, you can use it to gain an extra try at completing the current level.



Yum! Hot chocolate! Finding one of these replenishes one of Hero Boy's heart counters. If Hero Boy already has full health, drinking hot chocolate has no effect.



When the Christmas Tree lights up, you'll restart back here, rather than at the start of the level, if something goes wrong.



A magic wand! Now you're completely safe from harm, but only for a short period of time.



A paddle and ball! Press the B Button as the ball hits the paddle to make it bounce even further. Try knocking down the toy robots with the ball, or use it to activate a switch that's hard to reach!



What a find! Hold on tight as you float upwards. Use Left and Right on the Control Pad to control your ascent. Press the L Button to release. If the balloon floats into a wall, ceiling or other obstacle, you will automatically let go.



A pogo stick! Press the A Button as you hit the ground to bounce even higher! Try using the pogo stick to break through ice, too! After a few bounces, you will automatically drop the pogo stick, but press the L Button to drop it earlier.



Ah well. Not every Christmas present is a fun one. At least the socks are warm!

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Calabasas Hills, CA 91301

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