TRAVEL BY TRAIN

The United States of America has over 125,000 miles of train tracks. Railroads first connected America’s coasts in the 1800s, making it possible to travel from one side of the country to another in about a week. Did you ever wonder who or what built the railroads across America? Thousands of workers, including steel drivers whose job it was to hammer in spikes for the tracks, spent years creating the network of railways. Legendary tales tell us who was the fastest and strongest steel driver of all time—John Henry. His superhuman strength beat the machine that threatened to take the railroad workers’ jobs.

EXPLORE JOHN HENRY’S TALE

Watch Walt Disney Animation Studios Short Films Collection, John Henry, NR/2015/Ages 5+ Available on Netflix

Listen to a story of the legend of John Henry narrated by Denzel Washington, with music by BB King on YouTube. www.youtube.com/watch?v=wkbKUXgKdYQ

SEE! Edmund L. Davison’s The Junction on view in the gallery at WAM and pictured here.

GUIDE TO LOOKING

➤ Imagine stepping into this scene. Try using your five senses to describe the experience: What do you SEE, HEAR, SMELL, TASTE and TOUCH? Use some descriptive words for each of your five senses.

➤ Railways were built to connect towns and cities across the U.S. Where do you think this railroad goes to?
SNACK TRAINS

Make edible art using food items you find in the kitchen! Food appeals to the senses and is an art form for yourself and others to enjoy. Be sure to appeal to your eyes with the shapes and colors you choose and don’t forget to appeal to your sense of taste too! You are the builder of your own “snack train.”

SNACKS YOU WILL NEED (BUT NOT LIMITED TO)

- Crackers
- Cereal
- Cut veggies
- Sliced or whole fruit
- Pretzels
- Dried fruits or nuts
- Cheese slices
- Spreadable “glue” such as peanut butter, cream cheese, icing, etc.

DIRECTIONS

1. Find a flat surface for building your snack train.
2. Think about the shape and structure of a train. How will you make your train tracks, an engine, railcars, and a caboose? What will your train be transporting?
3. Let your creativity and imagination guide you—this time, you can play with your food!
4. Be sure to snap a picture of your creation and share it on Instagram with WAM at #WAMartcation to be entered to win a special prize!
5. The best part of edible art is that the clean-up is easy—you can eat it when you finish!