

JUNIOR CONDUCTOR PACKET

PENNSYLVANIA TROLLEY MUSEUM

3rd-6th



Welcome to the Pennsylvania Trolley Museum!



What is the Pennsylvania Trolley Museum?

The Pennsylvania Trolley Museum (PTM) tells the story of the Trolley Era to visitors of all ages. Trolleys were an important invention that helped people get from here to there and everywhere. PTM is committed to preserving trolleys, important artifacts, and historic documents for future generations.

What is a Junior Conductor?

As a junior conductor, you will learn about one of the most electrifying periods in American history. You can help the Pennsylvania Trolley Museum keep this history alive by sharing your knowledge with your friends, neighbors, and community.

Complete the activities in this booklet while you explore the Museum and exhibits.

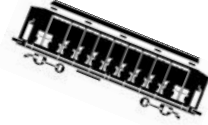
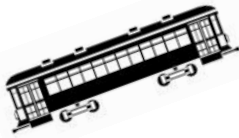
Along the way, if you need help, feel free to ask our volunteers, trolley operations crew, or staff if you have questions. We are happy to help you discover the history of the Trolley Era!

Hidden in this puzzle are key words from the Trolley Era, underlined in the paragraph below. Find them all!

A C B D N O
 I N T E R U R B A N T N
 E Z E G M O I C G H X S J A
 E P E N N S Y L V A N I A U P I
 N O A F R E I G H T Y S U S I F R V
 A H S C O M M U T E Y U V H T T R I M R
 U N T D B B C G I Z B Y R T A C O M I Q
 T A J O U I O F K U H Q S W Y O S R R G
 G O A S X T N L E R O A B P N G T X M Y F P
 M M O I Y B V N B R M U Y S C R E M X S S R
 N O O V R B N S S G R U P X E H H P R F I V
 B B G K E Y O E M G I R S E B S X O O D A Z
 J I Y B W R S N H L A Y T E G D U L E V U N
 C L R O V J H H A G E C I G U T O X T X Y L
 E O U M M U E U W A K P V E M J V U Q Z
 D G L T T N E A R L O R S W T P P B C W
 Q Z Q N Y C H S D L O E C H Y O Y R U S
 H T Y S N S G Y W G S C S W L D U T
 T T J H S L P D I E A R K E Z P
 T R O L L E Y E R A C T H J
 M G C A Y I Y V E F L R
 B P L V E J

Early streetcars were powered by horses. In the 1880s, Frank J. Sprague invented a way to use electricity to power a trolley. The trolley pole collects current from the overhead wire. Trolleys played a vital role in the growth of the American city. People could live farther away from the city and commute to work. Cities expanded along streetcar routes creating suburbs. Interurban lines connected population centers. In Pittsburgh, people could ride the trolley to school, to see friends, to go shopping, and even to visit Kennywood! Some trolleys carried freight. The Trolley Era declined with the rise of the automobile. Some groups formed to help save the trolleys to preserve their history for future generations. The Pennsylvania Trolley Museum opened in 1963 and has been helping visitors experience history ever since!

Streetcar Scavenger Hunt



Read the clues below and search the Museum for the answers.

What am I?

1. Choo choo! I'm not always red.
At the end of THIS train you'll see green instead!



2. I'm two on the ground so the trolley can roll.
Sometimes I'm three instead of a pole!



3. The trolley stops here at a sign you can see.
You'll stay dry in the rain, so wait here with me!



4. Look up above – I'm touching the wire
Collecting the current that trolleys require.



5. After you board but before you can ride
You must pay me a token – drop it inside!



6. Once you're aboard, you'll want to sit down.
I hope you're comfy on me as you ride around town!



7. My uniform lets all my passengers know
I'm in control at the front. Ready to go?



8. At over a hundred years old, I've seen many people come in
to wait for their interurban trip to begin.
No longer a post office or a sandwich shop, I'm restored to
my first job as the place where trolleys stop.
Once north of Pittsburgh, I'm by the Trolley Display
Building; boarding Trolley Street passengers is sure to be
thrilling!



9. Before we can leave, you'll give me a ring.
You'll know we're ready when you hear a 'Ding Ding!'



10. I follow the tracks but not on the ground.
Transmitting electricity overhead's where I'm found.
Without me, the streetcars could not get around!



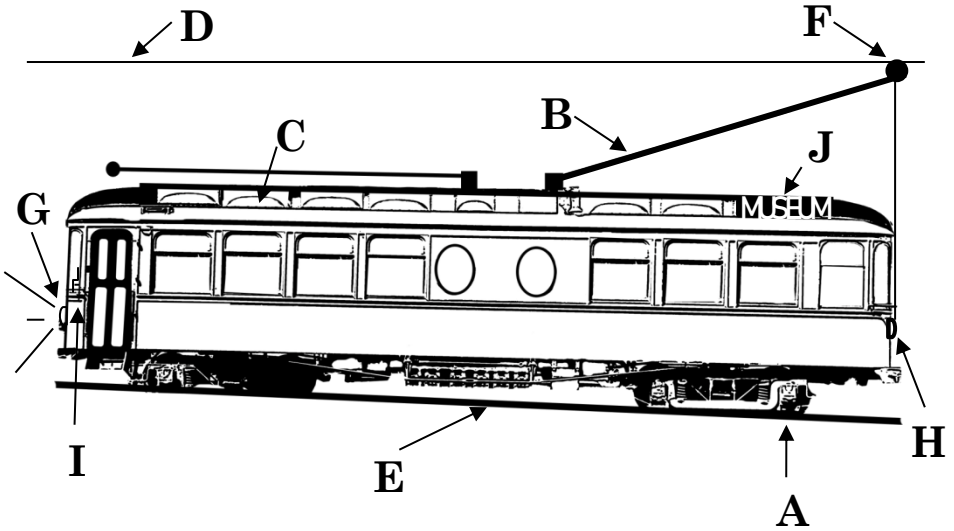
11. I show slogans and artwork inside of the car
To make you want to go shopping, near and far!



1) Green caboose 2) Rails 3) Richfol trolley shelter 4) Trolley pole
5) Fare box 6) Seats 7) Operator/motorman 8) Wexford Trolley Station
9) Bell 10) Trolley wire 11) Advertisement cards

Trolley Parts

Can you match the letters to the trolley part names? If you don't know a word, see trolley terms on page 11!



___ Trolley Pole

___ Trolley Wheel

___ Wheels (Trucks)

___ Overhead Wire

___ Tracks

___ Controller

___ Retriever

___ Headlight

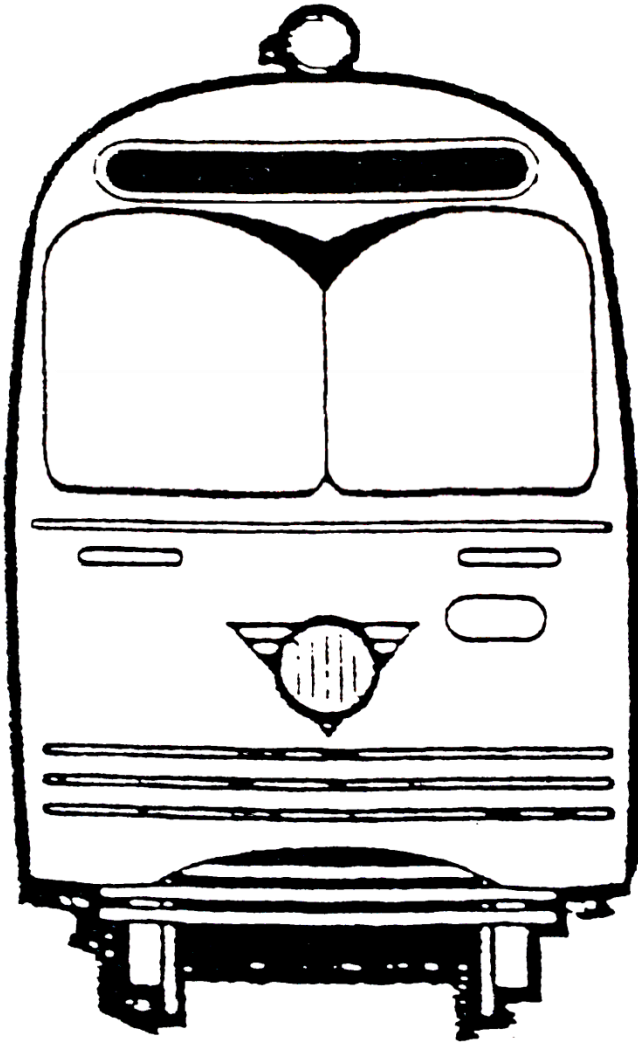
___ Destination Sign

___ Clerestory Windows

What did the destination sign say on the trolley you rode today?

(B) Trolley Pole (F) Trolley Wheel (A) Wheels (D) Overhead Wire
 (E) Tracks (I) Controller (H) Retriever (G) Headlight
 (J) Destination Sign (C) Clerestory Windows

Be the Operator!



The conductor works with the operator on the trolley. While the conductor collects fares and keeps passengers safe, the operator “drives” the trolley. Draw yourself inside the trolley as the operator and color in the trolley. You can even add landmarks or places you travel to in the background!

Pennsylvania Trolley Gauge

The distance between the two rails is called the gauge. Match each rail vehicle with its gauge.

Hint: Trolleys from Pittsburgh and Philadelphia cannot travel on railroad tracks because they are too wide!



.65 inches
(HO-scale models)

1.25 inches
(O-scale models)

3 feet
(Narrow gauge)

4 feet 8 ½ inches
(Standard Gauge)

5 feet 2 ½ inches
(Broad gauge and Pennsylvania
Trolley Gauge)



Fun fact: The gauge used at PTM is 5 feet 2 ½ inches and is nicknamed Pennsylvania Trolley Gauge. Some cities in PA use this gauge, like Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, but so does New Orleans! The railroad line next to PTM's tracks uses standard gauge, or 4 feet 8 ½ inches.

Sights and Sounds of the Streetcar

What was the color and number of the trolley you rode?



What city was it used in? Did it travel within the city or between cities?



Did you see any other trolleys during your visit? How did they look different from the trolley you rode? Describe any you saw that were not designed to carry people. What do you think they are used for?



Was your trolley double-ended? Could it operate in both directions?



What did the trolley sound like? Underline the sounds you heard:

Bell horn ticket punch wheels conductor motors

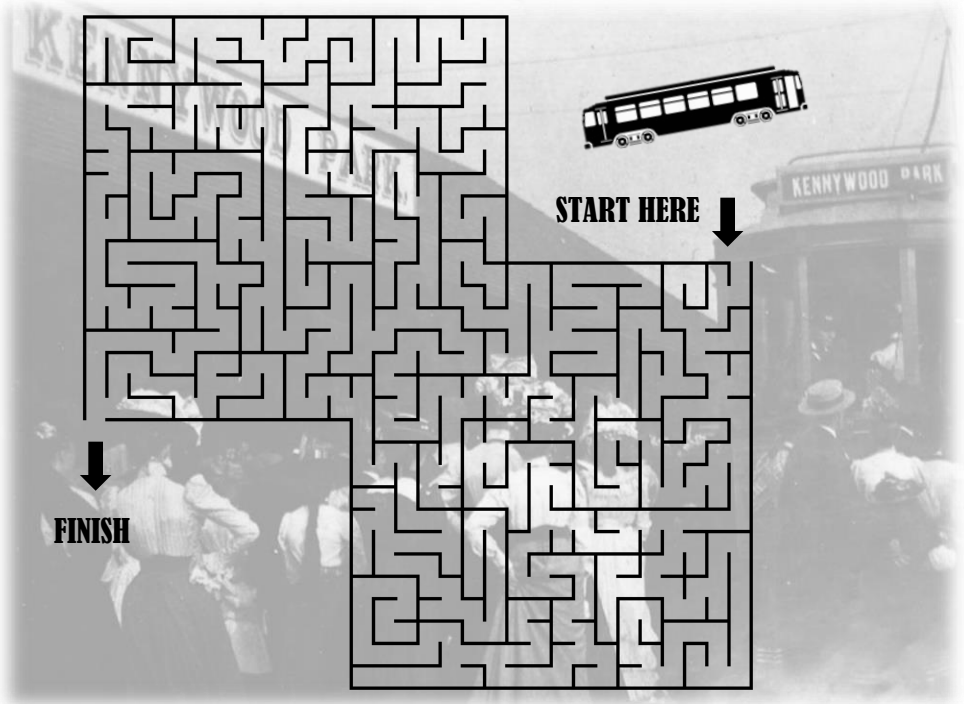
What else did you hear?



How is riding in a trolley different than riding in your car? How is it the same?



Help the trolley find its way through Pittsburgh to Kennywood!



Did you know: People could take the trolley anywhere they wanted – even to Kennywood! You could visit your friends and family, go to school, shop in the city... all by taking the trolley.

Does Pittsburgh still have trolleys? _____

If you answered yes OR no, you're right! Pittsburgh does not have trolleys today like you see at the museum, but Pittsburghers CAN travel on the T – a modern light rail system that runs along former trolley routes!

Trolley terminology

Clerestory windows – small windows along the roof of a streetcar

Conductor – the person who collects fares and keeps passengers safe on the trolley

Controller – handle and switch used by the operator to start and speed up a trolley

Destination Sign – sign on a trolley that tells riders what route it follows or where the trolley is headed

Double-ended Car – trolley that has controls at both ends and can in operate either direction

Electricity – form of energy that can make trolleys move

Fare – the money it costs to ride a trolley or bus

Gauge – the distance between the tracks. (Standard gauge is 4 feet 8 ½ inches. Pennsylvania trolley gauge is 5 feet 2 ½ inches.)

Interurban – type of streetcar that travels longer distances and is usually bigger and faster than a streetcar inside a city

Maintenance of Way (MOW) Car – trolley devoted to upkeep and repair, does not carry passengers

Museum – a place that cares for a collection of important objects and stories to share with visitors

Operator – the person who drives or operates the trolley

Overhead Wire – wire suspended above the track which carries electricity

Retriever – round device containing a spiral of rope used to help pull a trolley pole downward if it should come off the wire

Shelter – a small, covered building where passengers can wait for the trolley

Streetcar – a vehicle that travels on rails in the streets

Trolley – a vehicle that travels on rails in the streets powered by electricity

Trolley Pole – transfers electricity from the wire overhead to the trolley

Truck – the assembly or frame that holds the sets of trolley wheels and axles, motors, and brakes

Thanks for visiting PTM!



We hope you enjoyed your day at the Pennsylvania Trolley Museum! We would love to see your finished packets so please connect with PTM on social media.

Follow us @PATrolleyMuseum on Twitter and Pennsylvania Trolley Museum on Facebook. Share images using #PATrolleyMuseum on Instagram.

Your name

Date