Barnum’s Circus Trains – Look Closely!

Let’s use our imagination and our senses. Pretend you are one of the children in this picture:

- What sounds do you hear?
- What can you smell?
- What are people saying?
- Are you standing still or moving?
- Why are there so many people here?
- Is something special happening?

How did the artist show what people were feeling?

Look at the clothes people are wearing. How are they different from today?

This poster was made in the 1800’s. Can you find the exact date written in the poster? Hint: look for it on the train on the next page ________________.

Behind the train there are two poles with wires on them. They look like telephone poles but this poster was made before telephones were in use. Do you know what the poles were used for? Hint: the word starts with the same first letters: 

te l e _ _ _ _ _

Answers: 1876, Telegraph
Unscramble the Circus Train

Do you know all the different parts of a steam train, including who operates it? This steam train picture from the center of the Four Special Trains Poster can help you learn the parts. Just unscramble the words and see where the arrow is pointing to learn the name of that part.