

# BE A CLOWN

## CHALLENGE KIT



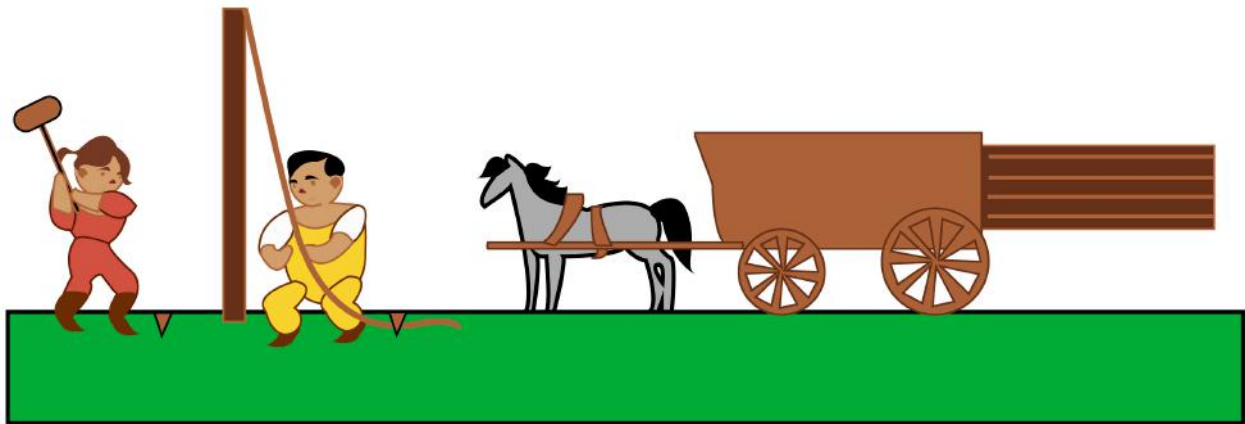
**E-Patches & Crests**  
A Division of 1497202 Alberta Ltd.

## Teachings

### SETTING UP THE BIG TOP

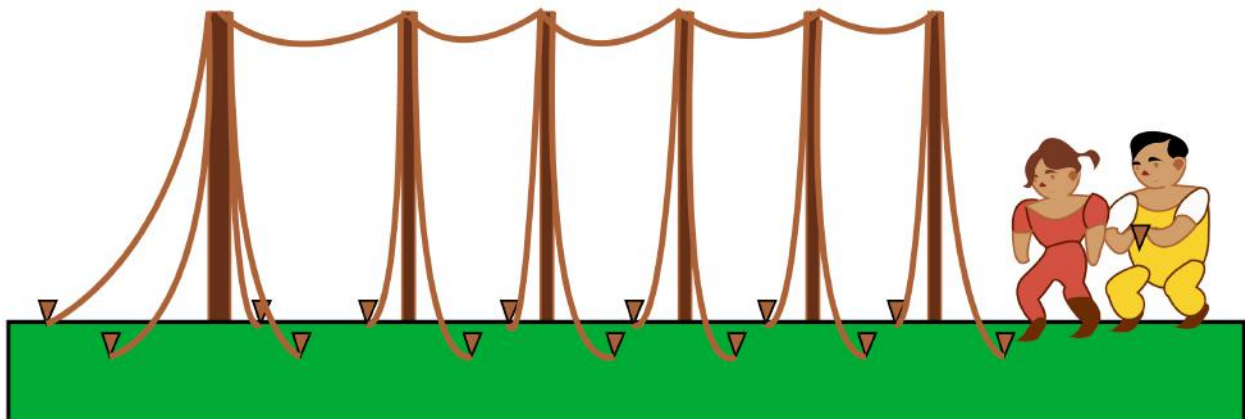
A circus often has multiple tents set up on the site, but the Big Top is where all the action takes place. **The Big Top** is the biggest tent, wherein the main circus performances take place. In the early 1900s, setting up a circus required a lot of men, a lot of strength and physical labour, and some efficient teamwork. Circus troupes did not use big trucks and machines; instead, they used horses and ropes to assemble the enormous Big Top.

The Ringling Bros., Barnum & Bailey Circus was one of the world's most famous circus shows. This is how they set up their Big Top.



DRIVING STAKES AND SETTING UP THE CENTER POLE OF THE TENT.

The circus troupe arrived at the location by train. The materials were unloaded by men and carried by horse-drawn wagons to the circus grounds. It takes 60 trained men to raise the centre pole, or king pole, into the air by hand. They secure the king pole into a foundation.



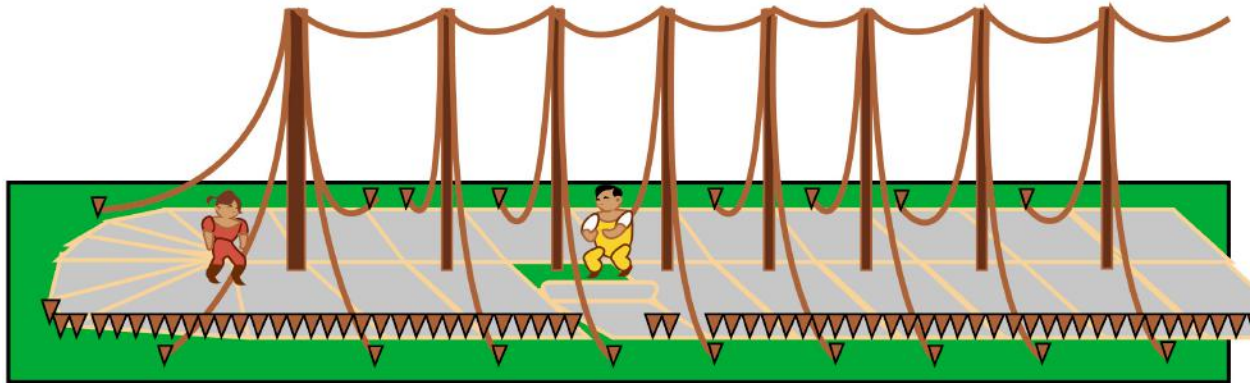
CENTER POLE IN PLACE, REMAINING POLES ARE HOISTED INTO PLACE.

The men use the king pole as a lever, and use horsepower to hoist up the other poles.

## Teachings

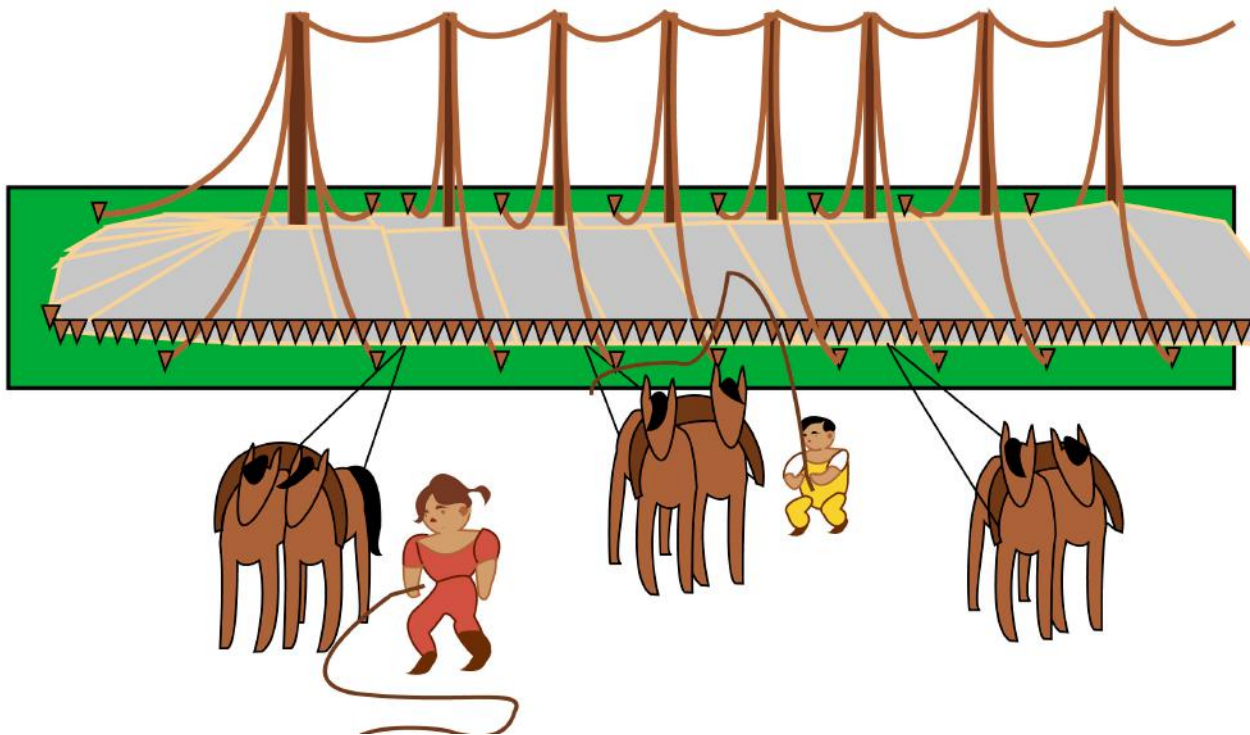
### SETTING UP THE BIG TOP

The men drive 1500 stakes into the ground to prevent the tent canvas from blowing away. Meanwhile, another group of men unroll the big bundles of canvas and lace them together so that they connect to become a tent that spans 3 acres—that's about 12140 square meters!



**SECTIONS OF CANVAS ARE UNROLLED, LACED TOGETHER AND POLES SECURED TO STAKES.**

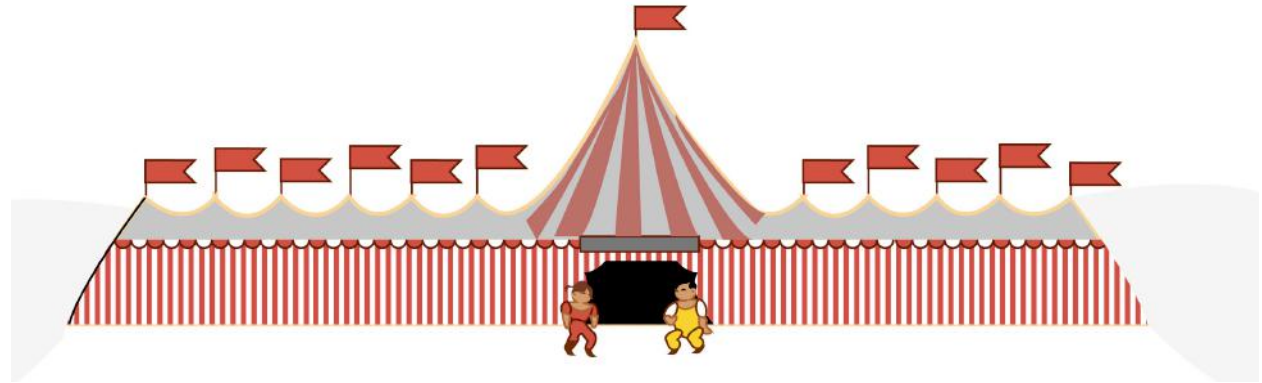
The groups of men all work together to complete the final step. The ropes from the canvas run over the top of the tent and are attached to 20 powerful horses. When the chief gives the signal, the horses move forward and tug the canvas up to the tops of the poles.



**THE ENORMOUS PIECE OF CANVAS RISES TO THE TOP OF THE POLES**

## Teachings

### SETTING UP THE BIG TOP



#### THE TENT IS COMPLETE

Finally, the tent is standing—and all in an expert 11 minutes! That’s how well trained the Barnum & Bailey Circus was!

#### QUICK FACT

#### INTERNATIONAL CLOWN WEEK

The first week of August is International Clown Week! President Richard Nixon made the proclamation on August 2, 1971 to honour the joy, entertainment, and charity that clowns give people. Nowadays, people celebrate International Clown Week all over the world by putting on shows and honouring famous clowns.

## Crafts: At The Circus

### ALL ABOARD THE CIRCUS TRAIN

#### MATERIALS

- Coloured paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Pencil
- Craft foam shapes, stickers,glitter, and other decoration materials
- Popsicle sticks

#### INSTRUCTIONS

**1** To begin, draw your favourite circus performers or animals, or use the templates provided on the next page. Colour and decorate your circus performers any way you'd like!

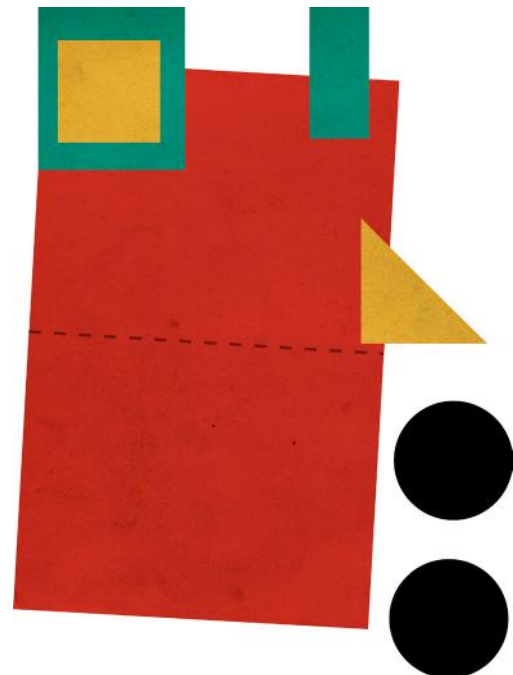
**2** Making the circus train is very easy! To make the train cars, take coloured paper and fold it to create a pouch for an animal or circus performer to sit in.

**3** Then, draw the rectangular outline of the car. Use your biggest animal or performer to estimate how big your train cars should be (you can also make your train cars different sizes if you would like).

**4** Make sure that the cars have enough room for the circus troupe to slip easily in and out. Cut out the cars from the paper, making sure that the bottom of the car is the folded side of the paper. Cut out circles from black construction paper to make wheels and glue them to the bottom of the train cars.

**5** To make the train engine, fold another piece of coloured paper in half. Then, using different coloured pieces of construction paper, cut out 2 rectangles, 2 circles, 1 triangle, and 1 square. Open the folded paper and glue all the other shapes except the circles onto the inside. Then, close the folded paper and glue the circles to the bottom to make wheels.

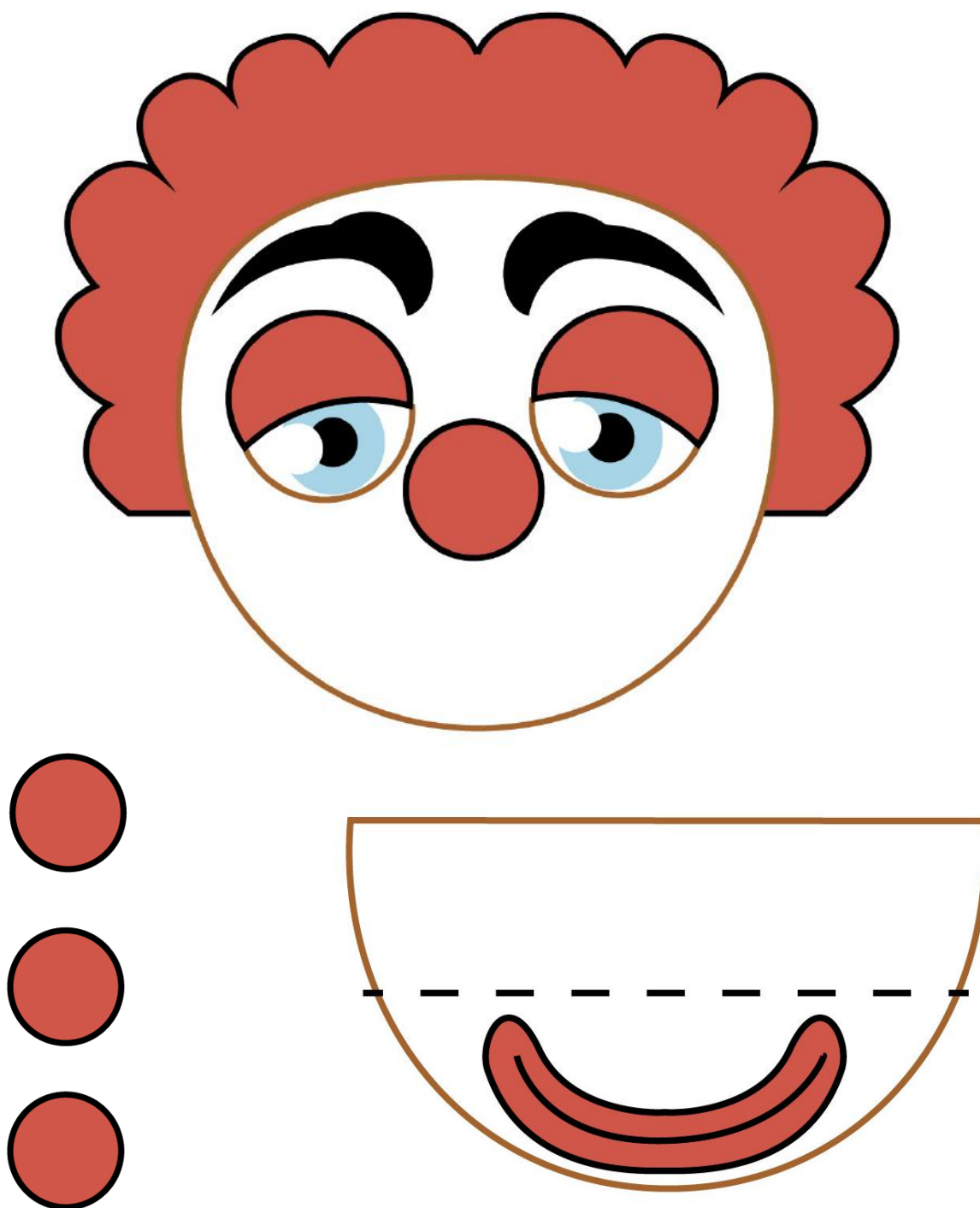
**6** To connect the train cars, glue Popsicle sticks along the inside of the paper folds. You can then use stickers, glitter, decorating foam, or any other decorating material you would like to make your circus train look as whimsical and exciting as you want!





## Crafts: At The Circus

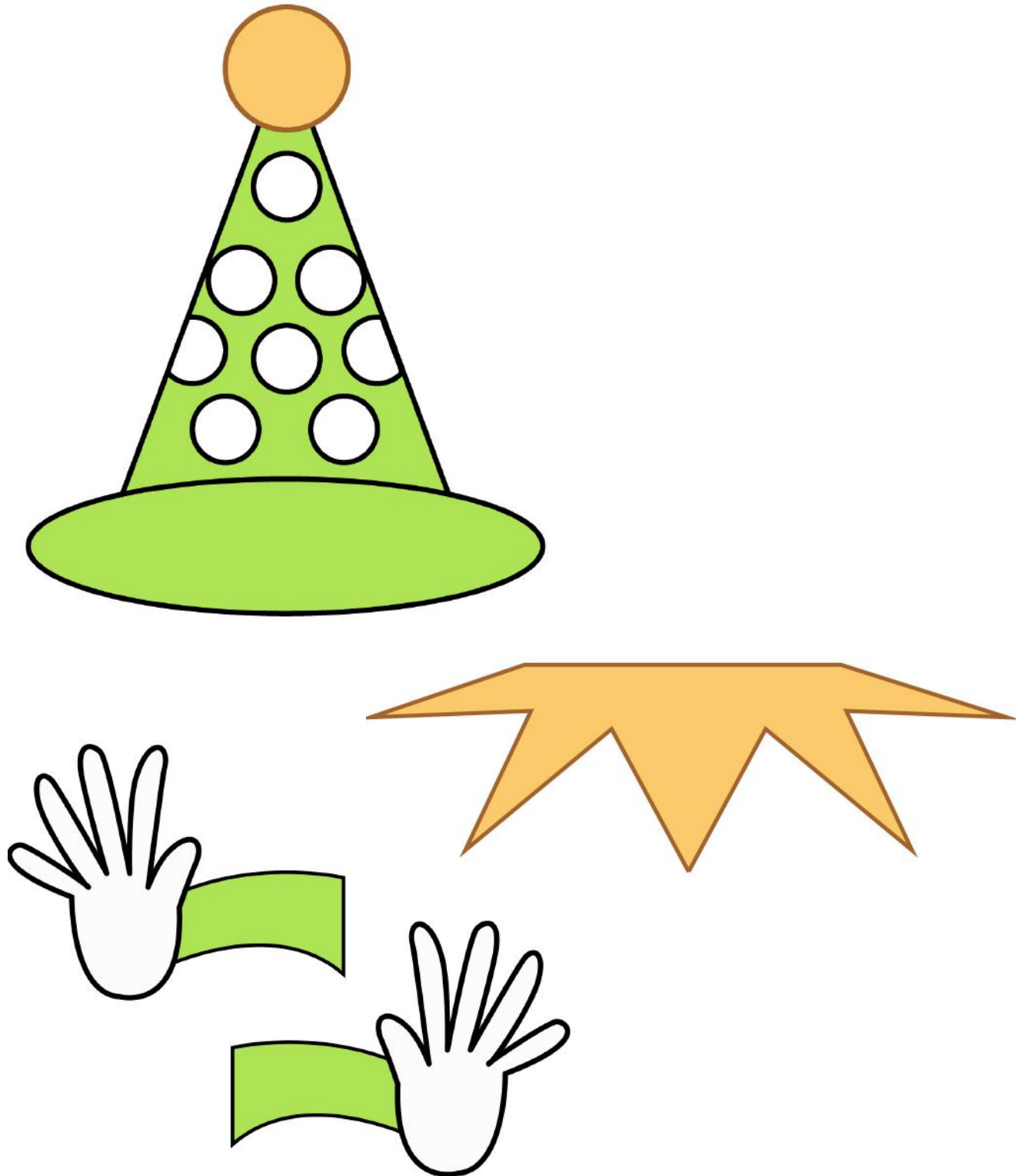
### CLOWN PAPER BAG PUPPET TEMPLATE



GLUE MOUTH UNDER TAB OF BAG (SO THAT  
EVERYTHING BENEATH THE DASHED LINE  
SHOWS WHEN THE TAB IS CLOSED.)

## Crafts: At The Circus

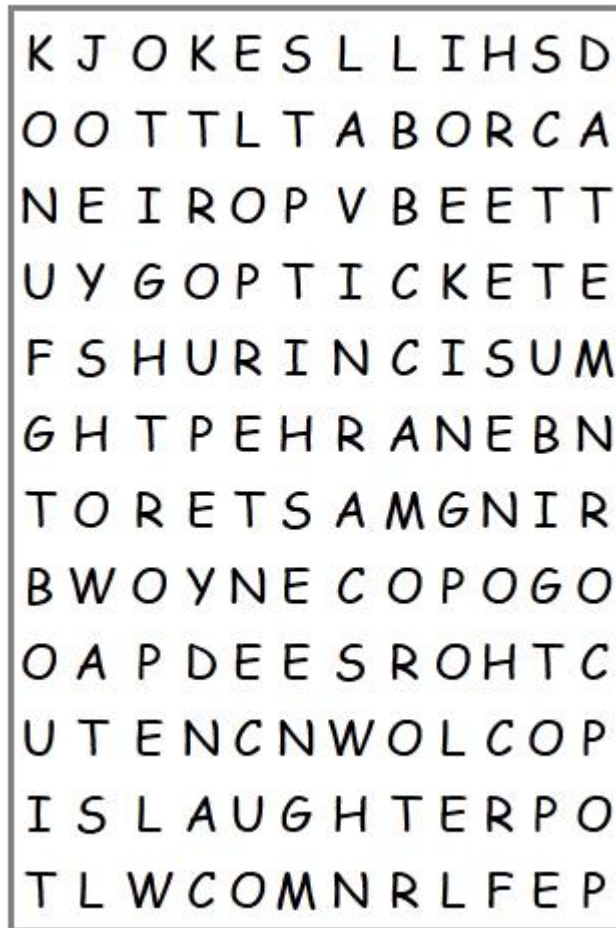
### CLOWN PAPER BAG PUPPET TEMPLATE



## Puzzles

### AT THE CIRCUS WORD SEARCH

Can you find the circus words hidden in the letters?



Acrobat  
Ticket  
Carnival  
Date  
Joey  
Laughter  
Ring Master

Troupe  
Candy  
Center Pole  
Fun  
Jokes  
Music  
Shill

Big Top  
Tight Rope  
Clown  
Horse  
King Pole  
Popcorn  
Show



## Puzzles

### BE A CLOWN WORD SEARCH

Can you find the clown features hidden in the letters?



Auguste  
White Face  
Prop  
Silly  
Improvise  
Smile

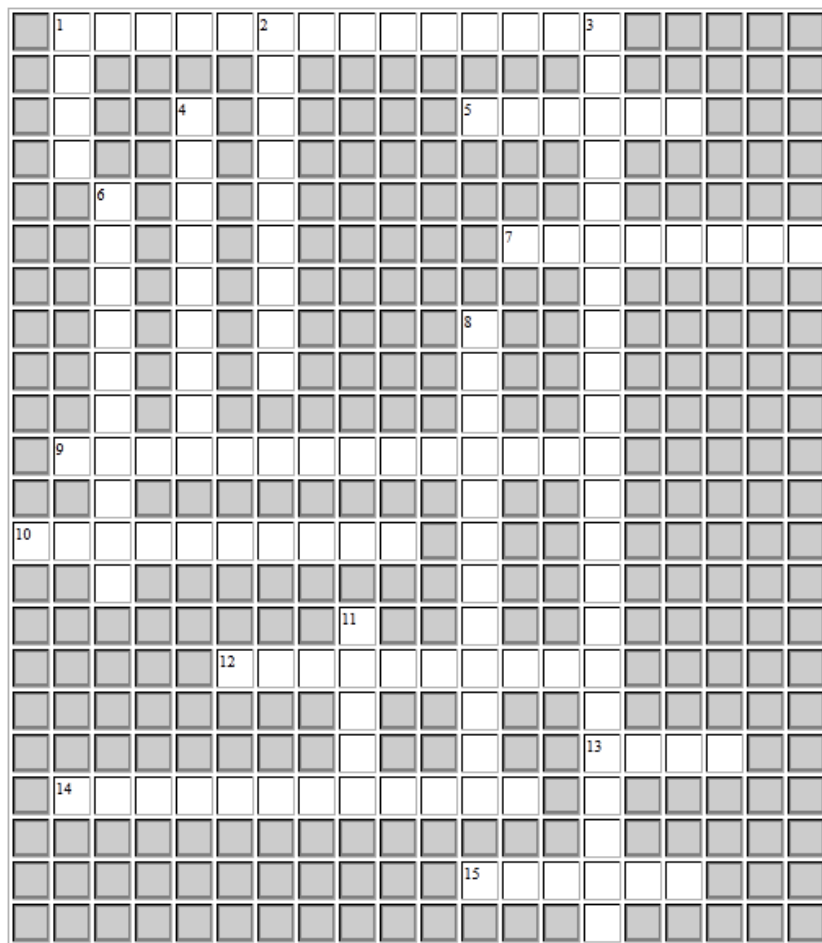
Red Nose  
Happy Hobo  
Suit  
Joke  
Dance  
Face Paint

Big Shoes  
Mime  
Hat  
Skit  
Hop  
Mask

## Puzzles

### CIRCUS AND CLOWN CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Can you solve the clues to figure out the clown and circus words? Write the answers in the squares with the corresponding numbers.



#### ACROSS

1. The father of modern clowning. (2 Words)
5. The biggest tent in a circus troupe. (2 Words)
7. The name of the centre pole in a circus tent. (2 Words)
9. A type of clown that is characterized by their white face paint. (3 Words)
10. The person in charge of the circus show. (2 Words)
12. Commedia Dell'Arte character: a bragging soldier who is afraid of everything. (2 Words)
13. Clowns often wear a big red this.
14. Provided entertainment for kings and emperors in their palaces. (2 Words)
15. The only Commedia Dell'Arte characters who didn't wear masks.

#### DOWN

1. A famous nickname for clowns.
2. A type of clown that is down on their luck, but that may also have an optimistic attitude. (2 Words)
3. The first week of August. (3 Words)
4. The urge that a circus performer feels to get back on the road. (2 Words)
6. Commedia Dell'Arte character: a good natured prankster.
8. The first female clown. (2 Words)
11. Commedia Dell'Arte actors usually wore these.

## Puzzles

### CAN YOU SPOT THE DIFFERENCES?

Find 14 differences between the two pictures.

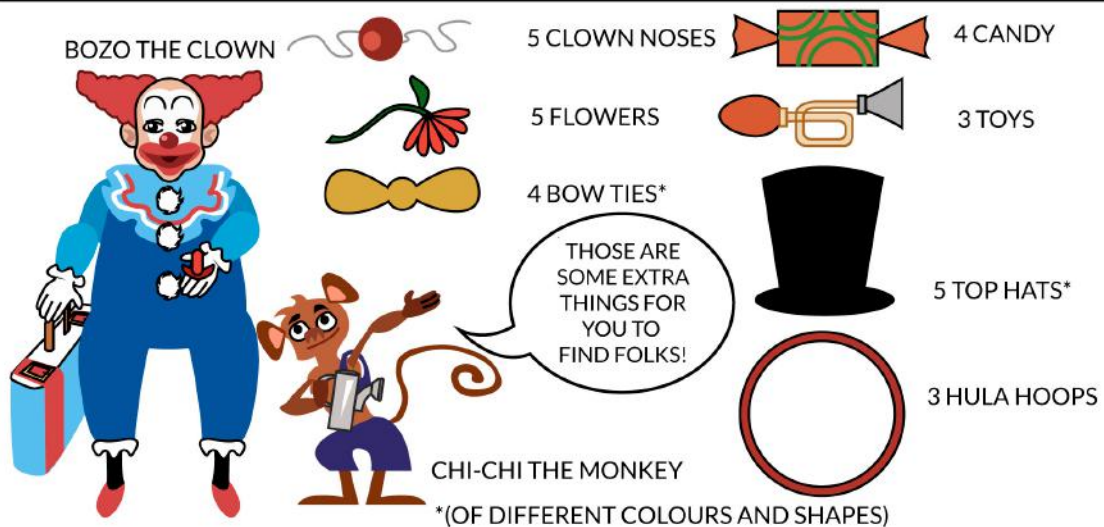
THE CIRCUS TROUPE LIKES TO ADD SOME  
VARIATION TO EACH OF THEIR PERFORMANCES.  
FIGURE OUT WHAT THEY CHANGED TO  
RAZZLE-DAZZLE THEIR AUDIENCE!



## Puzzles

WHERE'S BOZO?

QUICKLY! HELP US FIND BOZO THE CLOWN!!!

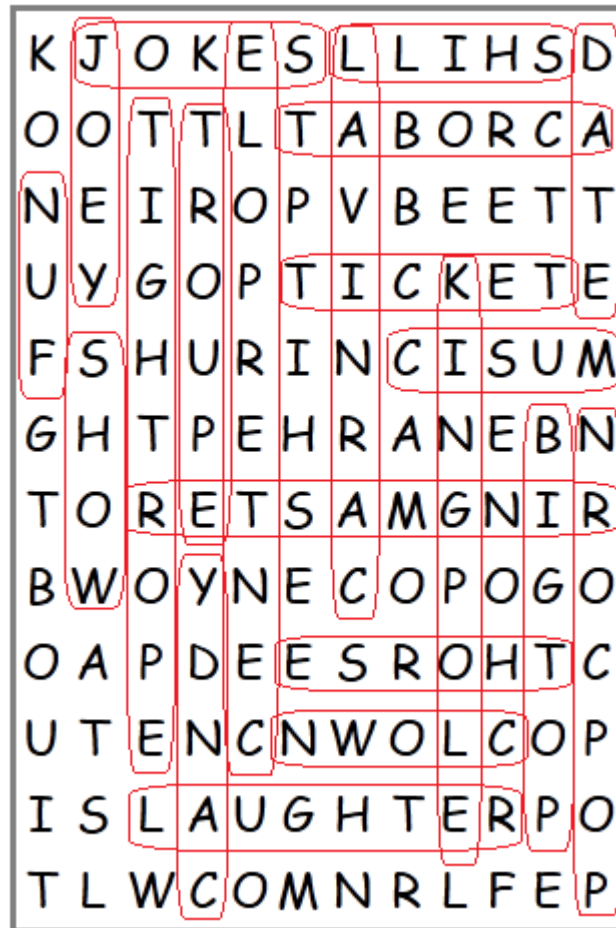




## Puzzles

### AT THE CIRCUS WORD SEARCH ANSWER KEY

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Joey  
Laughter  
Ring Master

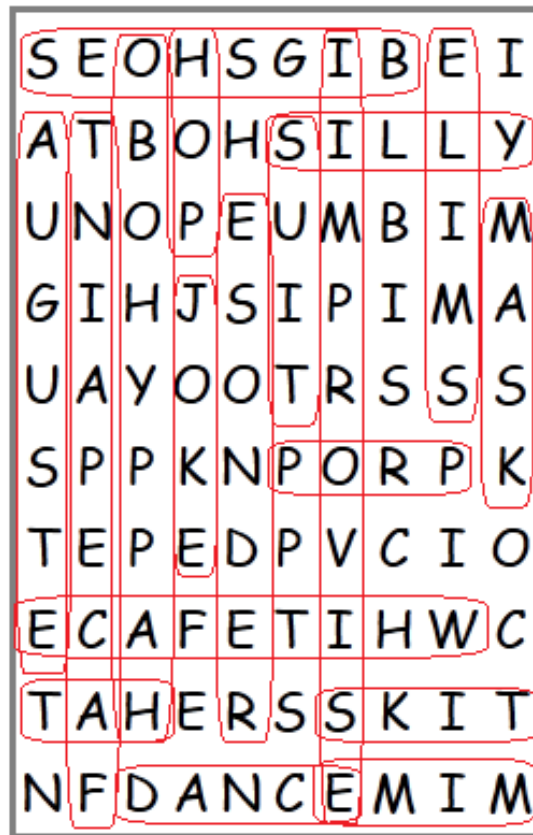
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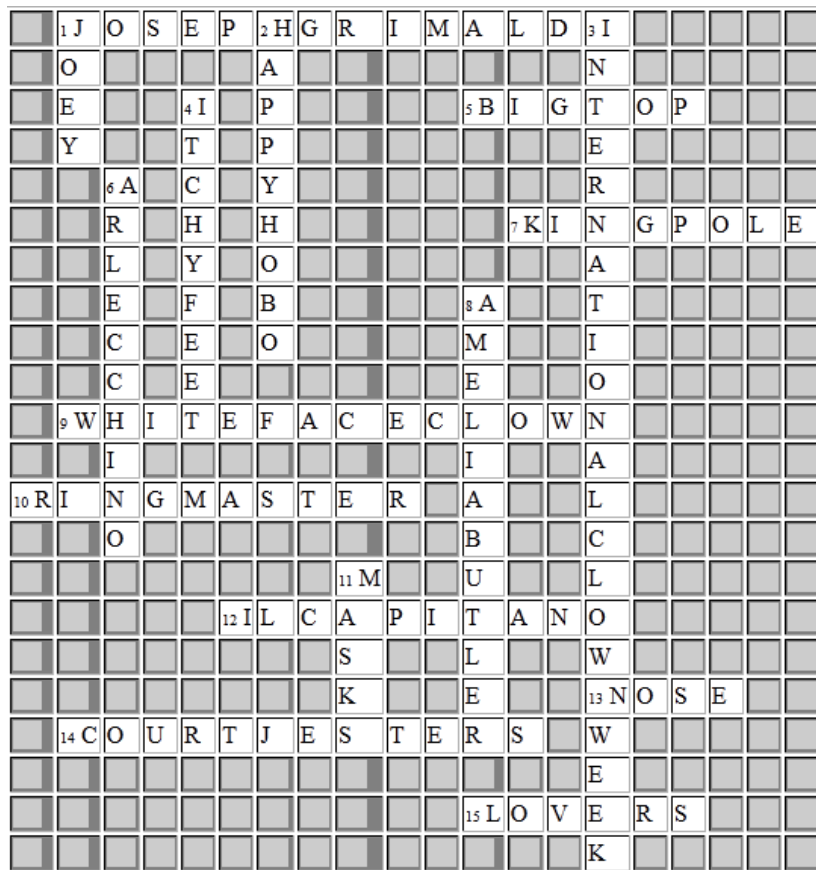
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# Puzzles

## WHERE'S BOZO ANSWER KEY

