

# Theme: Circus!

## Week 1

This document contains all of the activities for the theme “for the age group “Big Littles.”

Have fun!

Questions or comments? Please email us at

[playconnecttoday@gmail.com!](mailto:playconnecttoday@gmail.com)

All activities require adult supervision!

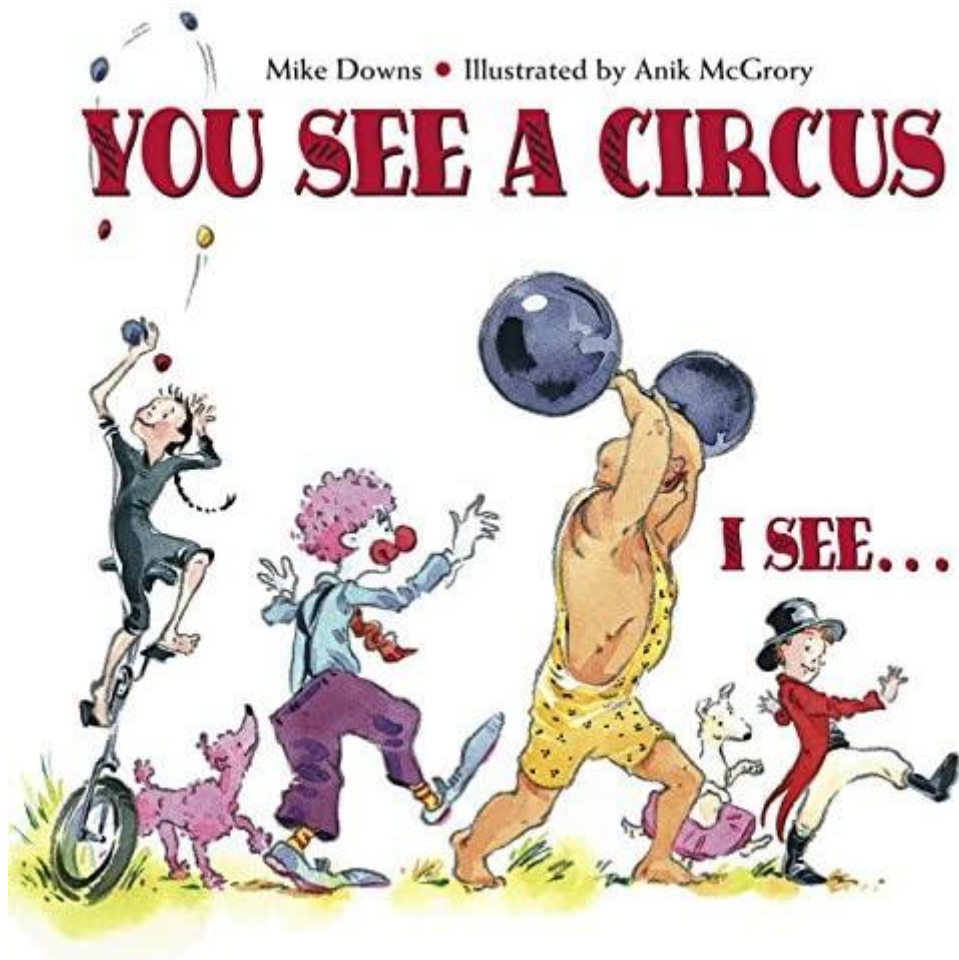
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\*Clip art images taken from: <https://publicdomainvectors.org> and <https://clipartsearch.freebusinessapps.net/>

\*Images used from: unspash.com

# Book Suggestion

(We highly recommend checking your local library for this book, however if you cannot find it-please see link on our “Theme extras” web page to purchase if desired or find another book that showcases Circus)! -We suggest using the same book for two weeks as this really helps children gain reading comprehension of the book!



# Song Suggestion

## **Take Me Out To The Circus**

*Author: Unknown*

Take me out to the circus  
Take me out to the show  
Buy me some peanuts and crackerjacks  
I don't care if I ever get back

Cause it's clap, clap, clap for the jugglers  
and laugh, laugh, laugh for the clowns

For it's one, two, three rings of fun at the old big top.



## Simple Vocabulary Words

These are optional vocabulary cards to show your child before reading the story to help with understanding. It is also a great idea to point out the words while reading the book!



**CLOWN**



**JUGGLER**



ACROBAT



COTTON CANDY



POPCORN



CIRCUS TENT

# Art Project:

## Handprint Clown

### What you need for this activity:

- \*Piece of blank construction paper
- \*White, orange paint
- \*Red, green construction paper
- \*Optional: red pom pom
- \*Black, red marker

### Directions:

Paint the palm of your child(ren)'s hand white (for the clown's face) and their fingers orange (for the clown's hair). Have them press their hand firmly down onto the construction paper.

Cut a red circle for the nose. And paste it in the middle of the white hand print.

\*Once the paint is dry, add on the eyes using the black marker and mouth using the red marker.

\*Create a bow-tie for the clown by cutting out two equal size triangles green paper and one red circle.

Paste the red circle directly below the white handprint and the two triangles with tips facing each other on either side of the circle!



# Handprint Clown Example



# Fine Motor Activity

## Scissor Skills: Juggler

### What you need for this activity:

- \*Construction paper
- \*Child-safe Scissors
- \*Camera (optional)
- \*Non-toxic glue stick
- \*Writing Utensil

### Directions:

To begin choose either option 1 or 2

Option 1: Take a picture of your child(ren) with their hands up in the air. Glue this image on the bottom of the blank paper.

Option 2: Ask your child(ren) to draw an image of themselves with hands up in the air on the bottom of the blank page.

Then:

\*Have your child(ren) draw circles on the colored construction paper (try and have them be around the same size.

\*Ask them to cut the circles out and paste them above their hands to form the balls for the juggler!



# Math Activity:

## Positional Words at the Circus

What you need for this activity:

\*Positional Words Game

\*Child-safe Scissors

\*

Directions:

\*Follow directions on Game

# Positional Words

## At the circus

### Directions:

Give each child who is playing the game a “circus scene, circus characters, and the blank page.”

The first child describes where each circus character is located on their page for example “The juggler is at the bottom; the clown is next to the juggler.” Until each aspect of the page is described. Hint-do not glue the images down in case they need to be moved! After the child is finished describing each child shows the scene, they created on their blank page to see if they did it correctly. Whoever’s scene is the closest gets a point. Whoever has the most points at the end wins.

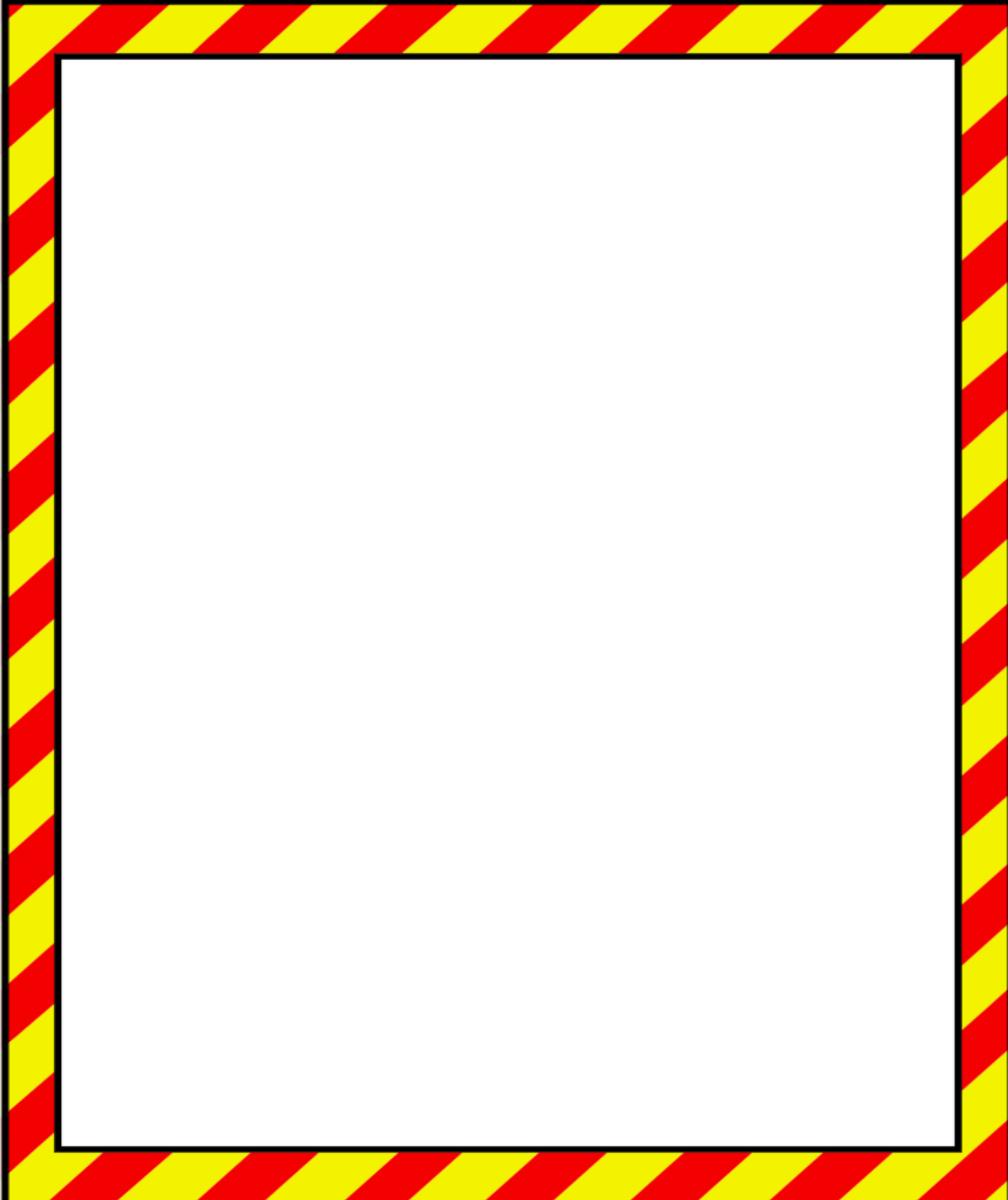


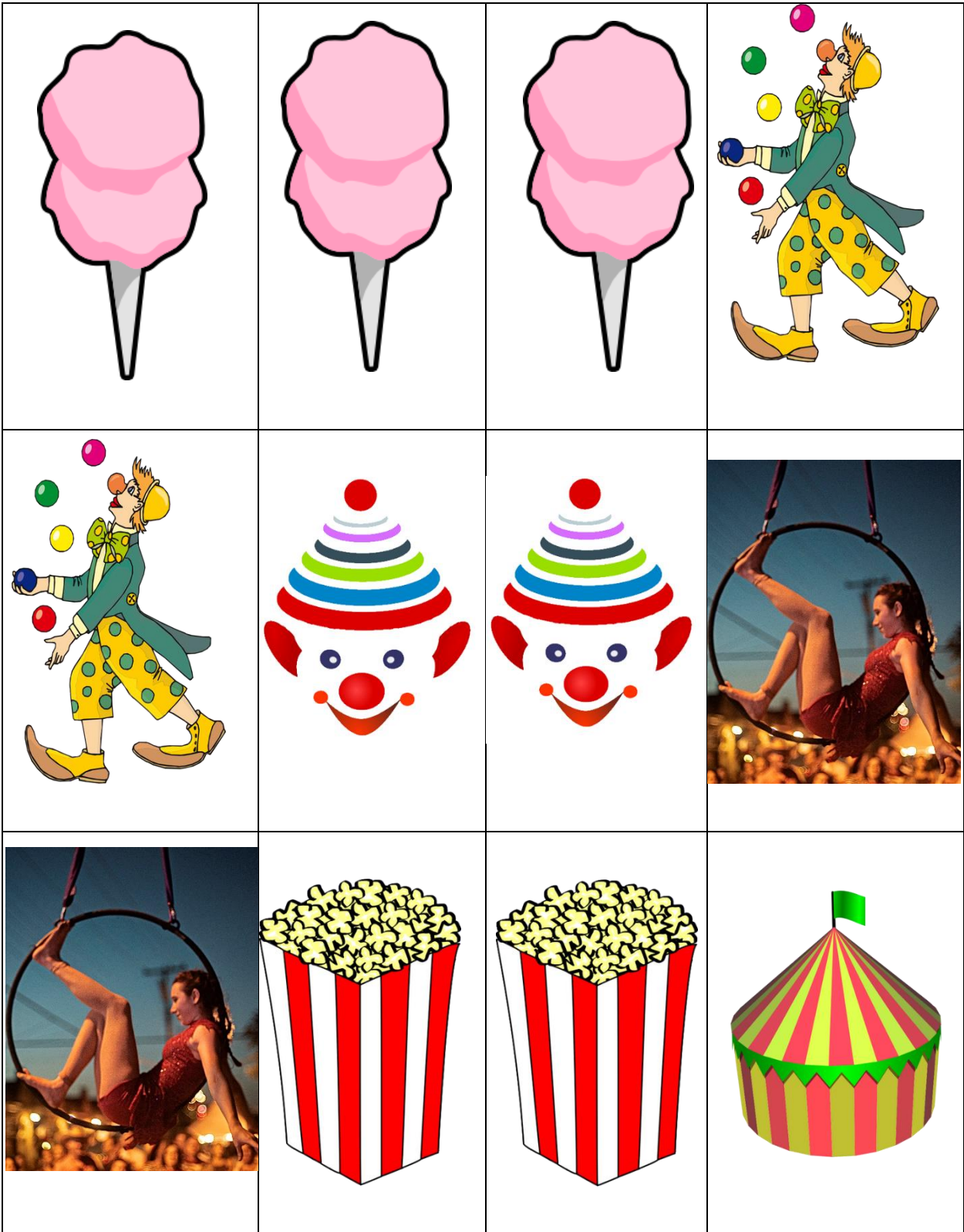




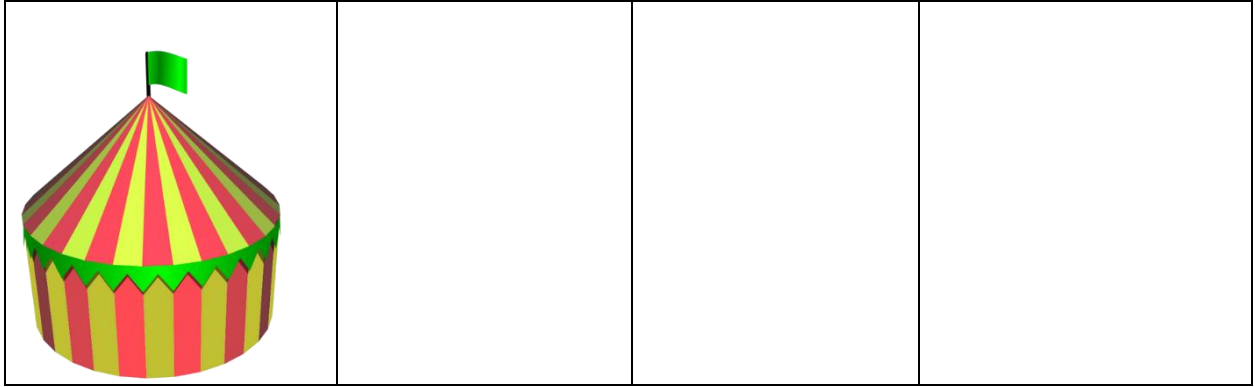
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# Language Activity

## Character Descriptors

### What you need for this activity:

\*Book you are reading

### Directions:

\*For this activity, your child(ren) will work on describing characters in a story – an important skill for developing reading comprehension skills!

\*Once you have read the book a few times –

- Write the names of each character on a piece of paper (add an image if possible)
- Let children draw a name out of a hat (or empty tissue box)
- Have each child describe their character WITHOUT saying the actual name. Other children should guess who their character is!

# Science Activity

## Corn Dance

### What you need for this activity:

- \*Glass Jar
- \*Water
- \*Vinegar
- \*Baking Soda
- \*Popping corn (un-popped)

### Directions:

- \*Fill the jar halfway with water
  - \*Add a couple tablespoons of baking soda, mixing well
  - \*Ask child(ren) what they think will happen when they add corn
  - \*Add a few kernels of corn
  - \*Ask children what they think will happen when they add vinegar (perhaps they will recall from previous experiments)
  - \*Pour in some vinegar and watch the corn dance!
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- \*Explain that the baking soda and vinegar combine to make gas bubbles (carbon dioxide) which causes the popcorn to rise and fall!