

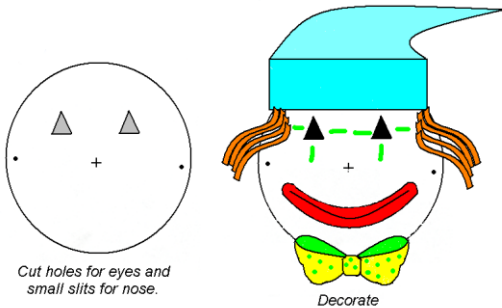
CIRCUS

ART

CLOWN FACES

Give each child a paper plate. Let children glue short pieces of colored yarn or curly gift wrap ribbon around the rims of the plates for hair. Then have children create faces on their clowns by adding red pom pom noses, black button eyes and red construction paper mouths. (Alternate – instead of pom pom noses, cut a hole where nose goes and insert a small, round, red balloon.)

CLOWN MASKS



Cut eye holes and nose slit in paper plate. Let children add mouth, hair, tie, etc. Poke end of inflated red balloon through nose slit. Tie on strings to make mask.



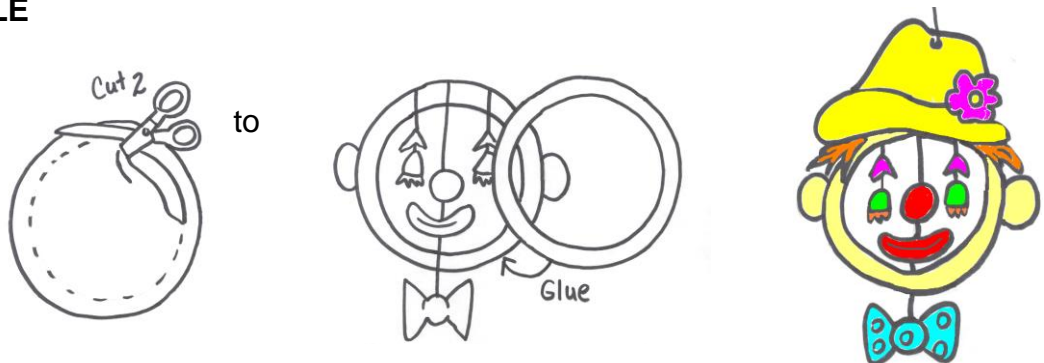
CLOWN RUFFLE COLLAR

Materials: coffee filters, food coloring, water

Have children color several coffee filters by dipping them into colored water. Lay flat to dry. When dry, fold the coffee filters in half and tape them together in a line. Wonderful clown collar for a child to wear.

CLOWN MOBILE

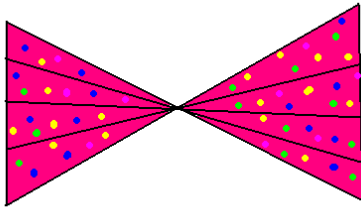
Use two paper plates make clown mobiles. Hang around room.



HATS

Cut a large circle out of construction paper. Cut the circle halfway through and roll it into a cone shape to fit a child's head. Tape the edges in place. Decorate the hat with pom poms and felt-tip marker designs. Attach yarn to the sides of the hat for ties.

CLOWN BOW TIE

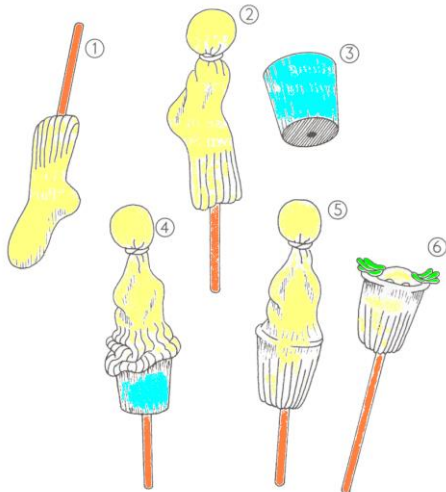


Decorate a 12"x18" piece of construction paper with dots. Accordion fold, staple in the middle, and open up to form a bow. Secure a pipe cleaner around the center of the bow and use this to attach loosely to the child's neck

CLOWN POP-UP PUPPET

MATERIALS

1 sock (toddler size) 8 oz paper cup
1 straw 4 cotton balls
1 rubber band felt scraps
yarn 2 wiggle eyes
pom poms tacky glue
scissors sharp pencil



1. Stuff cotton balls into toe of sock.
2. Insert straw into toe of sock.
3. Tightly wind rubber band around toe of sock, securing straw in place.
4. With pencil, poke hole in bottom of cup at its center.
5. Push end of straw through hole in cup.
6. Slide sock over cup and glue in place.
7. Tie bow around neck of clown with yarn.
8. Glue on fake eyes and pieces of yarn for hair.
9. Glue on pom pom nose.
10. Use felt scraps to make hat, collar, mouth and other details.
11. Push and pull on straw to make puppet pop in and out!

SONGS

PUTTING UP THE BIG TOP (to tune of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star")

Everybody circle round,
Lift the canvas off the ground,
Pull and pull and watch it rise,
Big Top grows before our eyes.
Everybody circle round,
Lift the canvas off the ground.

WE ARE ALL CLOWNS (to tune of "Farmer in the Dell")

We are all clowns today,
We are all clowns today,
Hi ho the circus-o
We are all clowns today.

THE CLOWNS IN THE CIRCUS (to tune of "Wheels on the Bus")

The clowns in the circus go ha ha ha
Ha ha ha, ha ha ha
The clowns in the circus go ha ha ha
All day long!

Additional verses:

The lion in the circus go grr grr grr
The elephants in the circus go errr errr errr
The monkeys in the circus go eek eek eek
The horses in the circus go neigh, neigh, neigh...

CIRCUS SONG (to tune of "Frere Jacques")

Elephants walking, elephants walking
See the clowns, funny clowns
Ponies with their riders, poodles doing tricks,
See the show, circus show

SEND IN THE CLOWNS! (to the tune of "This Old Man ")

The circus clown
Came to town,
Wearing [circles] all around.
There were [circles] on his head
And [circles] on his toes...
He wears [circles] wherever he goes!

I'M A LITTLE CLOWN (to tune of "I'm a Little Teapot")

I'm a little clown, short and fat,
Here is my tummy, here is my hat.
I can do a trick as you will see,
Just turn around and look at me!

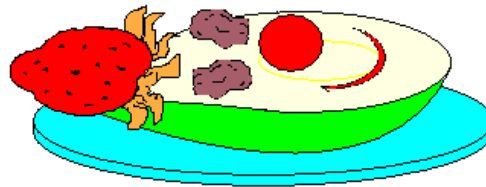
SNACKS

CIRCUS FOOD

Serve peanuts and popcorn as snacks.

PEAR CLOWN

1/2 pear
1 strawberry
grated carrots
1 cherry
2 raisins
1 red licorice whip
cottage cheese or mixture of cream
cheese and pear juice



Put cottage cheese or mixture on flat side of peach. Add strawberry slice near top of pear for hat. Push grated carrots into cottage cheese under hat to form hair. Put 2 raisins under hair for eyes. Put 1 cherry in middle for nose and licorice whip for mouth.

CLOWN CONES

Materials: 1 sugar ice cream cones Ice cream (your choice of flavors), red licorice whip, decorating frosting, chocolate candies

1. Put scoop of ice cream on saucer
2. Pipe clown's collar around bottom of ice cream.
3. Decorate face with candy and licorice.
4. Add cone for hat.
5. Pipe frosting around hat.



CLOWN SMILES

Core and cut apple into 8 slices
Spread peanut butter on top of each slice of apple
Place marshmallow "teeth" on top of 4 of the slices, peanut butter side up. Top with other apple slices, peanut butter side down.



OTHER FUN STUFF

HOOPLA

Cut hoops out of cardboard and throw them over mini bags of sweets laid out on the floor.

JUGGLING

Try juggling with scarves or beanbags.

COTTON CANDY

Start at the top of an empty paper towel roll and glue on pink or blue cotton balls. Cover about 3/4 of the roll. (To color cotton balls place in a baggie with powdered tempera paint and shake.)

CLOWN FACES

Combine 5 teaspoons cornstarch, 1 teaspoon white flour and 2 teaspoons shortening. Add 1 1/2 teaspoons glycerin (available at drug stores) and mix. Use food coloring to dye the face paint the colors you want. Make clown faces on children. Face paint removes easily with cold cream or baby oil...

PIN THE NOSE ON THE CLOWN

Make a giant clown face with no nose. Have kids try to stick red pom pom to face while blindfolded.

TIGHTROPE WALKING

Lay a rope on the floor in a long line. Let the children pretend to be tightrope walkers and walk on the rope. Have them pretend that they are carrying an umbrella for balance. Tell them to be careful not to lose their balance.

CLOWN COLLAR

Cut large donut shape out of white felt. Make hole in middle large enough for a child to slip his head through. Decorate with scraps of felt or other fabric.

RINGMASTER SAYS

Play Ringmaster Says like Simon Says. The Ringmaster could wear a top hat.

COLOR CLOWN

Cut clown face from felt. Cut clown hats in red, yellow, blue, purple, white, green, brown, and black with orange decorations. Put clown face on flannel board and read poem. Add color hat when words indicate.

My name, boys and girls, is Carl the Clown.
I wear my hats all over town.
Each one has its own color name,
Which you can learn if you play my game.

Oh, here's a hat, and it is red.
It fits so nicely on my head.
Now when I wear my hat of yellow,
I'm told I'm quite a dandy fellow

I hope you like my hat of blue.
I'll put it on now, just for you.
My purple hat is just for good.
I'd wear it always if I could.

I wear a white hat on a sunny day.
It looks quite nice, my friends all say.
I put on my green hat to go to the park
But I take it off when it gets dark.

And when it's dark, I put on brown,
This hat is for a sleepy clown
My orange and black hat is for Halloween night
Yes indeed, I'm quite a sight!

FINGERPLAYS

5 LITTLE CLOWNS

Hold up fingers, 1 at a time. Could be done as a flannelboard

This little clown is fat and gay.
This little clown does tricks all day.
This little clown is tall and strong.
This little clown sings a funny song.
This little clown is wee and small,
But he can do anything at all!

MR. CLOWN

Who is it that wears a happy smile? *(pull corners of mouth up)*
That almost stretches half a mile?
Who is it that turns it upside down? *(pull corners of mouth down)*
& changes his smile into a frown?
Who is it that turns his face all around,
Why, who could it be but Mr. Clown!

CIRCUS CLOWN

The circus clown shakes your hand, *(shake hands)*
The circus clown plays a drum *(play drum)*
The circus clown has enormous feet, *(stomp)*
The circus clown loves to eat *(pat tummy)*
The circus clown has a round, red nose, *(point to nose)*
The circus clown has white teeth in rows, *(point to teeth)*
The circus clown has very sad eyes, *(make sad face)*
He laughs, and frowns, and then he cries, *(laugh, frown, rub eyes)*
The circus clown bends way down, *(bend down)*
What would you do if you were a clown?

CIRCUS CLOWN

I wish I were a circus clown, *(point to self)*
With smile so wide and eyes so round *(draw smile and circle eyes)*
With pointed hat and funny nose *(form hat with hands then point to nose)*
And polka dots upon my clothes *(point to clothes)*

ACROBAT

One little acrobat swinging through the air. *(Hold index finger up and swing side to side.)*
He flips and he flops as we stare. *(bend index finger up and down.)*
And suddenly he's caught by another with flare! *(lock both index fingers together.)*
He didn't even know that he gave me a scare *(Shake head and wipe brow.)*
One little acrobat swinging through the air, *(Hold index finger up and swing side to side.)*
He lands and bows with the greatest of care! *(With left palm facing up, place right hand with index finger up on left palm and bend it as to bow.)*

IF I WERE A CIRCUS CLOWN (to tune of “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star”)

If I were a circus clown,
With a nose so big and round, (cover nose with fist)
I'd bring a smile to every face, (smile)
Ride a tall bike (pretend to ride)
Throw balloons every place (pretend to throw)
If I were a circus clown,
With a nose so big and round (cover nose with fist)

THE TIGHTROPE WALKER

While the band is playing,
Back and forth I go, (pretend to walk tightrope)
High above the people,
Sitting far below (cup hand over eye and look down)

While the crowd is cheering,
I sway from side to side (sway back and forth)
Now my act is over,
And down the pole I slide. (Pretend to slide down pole)



NOSE THROW

Blow up the noseless clown pattern and color. Put the picture on the floor. Cut red craft foam circles to make noses. Let children try to toss the nose onto the clown face.

CIRCUS AND CLOWN BOOKS

CALL NUMBER	AUTHOR	TITLE
J 468.1 ELY	Elya	Say Hola To Spanish At The Circus
J 791.3 BUL	Bulloch	I Want To Be A Clown
J 791.3 JOH	Johnson	Big-Top Circus
E ADLER	Adler	Young Cam Jansen And The Circus Mystery
E ADLER	Adler	Bones And The Clown Mixed-Up Mystery
E ANDERSON	Anderson	Adding With Sebastian Pig And Friends At The Circus
E ARGENT	Argent	India, The Showstopper
E ARMSTRONG	Armstrong	Pierre's Dream
E BARTON	Barton	My Bike
E BEMELMANS	Bemelmans	Madeline And The Gypsies
E BOWMAN	Bowman	Amazing Hamweenie Escapes
E BRIDWELL	Bridwell	Clifford At The Circus
E CAMPBELL	Campbell	Lester's Dreadful Sweaters
E CLEMENTS	Clements	Circus Family Dog
E COLE	Cole	Clown-Arounds Have A Party
E DEPAOLA	De Paola	Jingle, The Christmas Clown
E DODDS	Dodds	Where's Pup?
E DOWNS	Downs	You See A Circus, I See ---
E DUNCAN	Duncan	Song Of The Circus
E EDWARDS	Edwards	Painted Circus
E ERNST	Ernst	Ginger Jumps
E ESBAUM	Esbaum	To The Big Top
E FLEISCHMAN	Fleischman	Sidewalk Circus
E FRAZEE	Frazee	Farmer And The Clown
E GAIMAN	Gaiman	Chu's Day
E GANTOS	Gantos	Rotten Ralph
E GOENNEL	Goennel	Circus
E GRAHAM	Graham	Dimity Dumpty – The Story Of Humpty's Little Sister
E GRAVES	Graves	Second Banana
E GRAVETT	Gravett	Wolf Won't Bite
E HARRISON	Harrison	Extraordinary Jane
E HILL	Hill	Spot Goes To The Circus
E HILLERT	Hillert	It's Circus Time Dear Dragon
E HOFF	Hoff	Oliver
E HRUBY	Hruby	ABC Is For Circus
E JOHNSON	Johnson	Harold's Circus
E KERET	Keret	Dad Runs Away With The Circus
E KROSOCZKA	Krosoczka	Ollie The Purple Elephant

E LADEN	Laden	Clowns On Vacation
E LINDGREN	Lindgren	Pippi Goes To The Circus
E LOBEL	Lobel	Animal Antics A To Z
E LOPSHIRE	Lopshire	Put Me In The Zoo
E MAYER	Mayer	Liverwurst Is Missing
E MCCOURT	McCourt	Best Night Out With Dad
E MCDONALD	McDonald	Just Clowing Around
E MEDINA	Medina	ABC Pasta
E MILLMAN	Millman	Moses Goes To The Circus
E MONCURE	Moncure	Word Bird's Circus Surprise
E MONTSERRAT	Montserrat	Ms. Rubinstein's Beauty
E OCONNOR	O'Connor	Fancy Nancy – The Show Must Go On
E PARSLEY	Parsley	If You Ever Want To Bring A Circus To The Library, Don't!
E PAUL	Paul	Little Monkey Says Good Night
E PEET	Peet	Ella
E PEET	Peet	Encore For Eleanor
E PEET	Peet	Pamela Camel
E PEET	Peet	Randy's Dandy Lions
E PHILLIPS	Phillips	Wink: The Ninja Who Wanted To Be Noticed
E REX	Rex	Tree-Ring Circus
E SCHACHNER	Schachner	Skippyjon Jones – Cirque De Ole´
E SEUSS	Seuss	If I Ran The Circus
E SLATE	Slate	Miss Bindergarten Plans A Circus With Kindergarten
E SLOBDKINA	Slobodkina	Circus Caps For Sale
E SMITH	Smith	Circus Train
E STEIG	Steig	Fleas
E STEVENSON	Stevenson	Flying Acorns
E VANDUSEN	Van Dusen	Circus Ship
E WEIS	Weis	When The Cows Got Loose
E WISEMAN	Wiseman	Morris And Boris At The Circus
E WOLFF	Wolff	Catcher
E WRIGHT	Wright	Secret Circus
E YACCARINO	Yaccarino	Deep In The Jungle
E YATES	Yates	Small Surprise
E ZIEFERT	Ziefert	Circus Parade

SOUND RECORDINGS

781.55 CIR	Circus Clown Calliope!
781.55 GRA	Grand Old Circus Band

DVDs

J 791.43 ART	Arthur's Chicken Pox
J 791.43 BIG	Big Comfy Couch V. 3 – Let's Have A Party
J 791.43 BIG	Big Comfy Couch V. 4 – Wiggling And Giggling
J 791.43 HIG	Higglytown Heroes – To The Rescue
J 791.43 MIS	Mister Rogers' Neighborhood – A Day At The Circus
J 791.43 PAW	Paw Patrol (Pups Save The Circus)
J 791.43 POC	Pocoyo's Circus
J 791.43 WIG	Wiggles – Hot Poppin' Popcorn

This list was updated on 8-16-17