

Johnson County Library's

# BOOKS TO GROW

Kit Theme: **Circus B**

- Book titles included:
  1. **CIRCUS** by Lois Ehlert
  2. **GINGER JUMPS** by Lisa Campbell Ernst
  3. **BARNYARD BIGTOP** by Jill Kastner
  4. **CIRCUS SHAPES** by Stuart J. Murphy
  5. **PAMELA CAMEL** by Bill Peet
- Video: **KIDSONGS: A DAY AT THE CIRCUS**
- Audio: **CLIFFORD AT THE CIRCUS**

Additional titles available at the Johnson County Library:

**PIERRE'S DREAM** by Jennifer Armstrong  
**TWELVE CIRCUS RINGS** by Chwast  
**PIGGEST SHOW ON EARTH** by Arlene Dubanevich  
**CIRCUS GIRL** by Michael Garland  
**CIRCUS** by Mabel Harmer  
**THIS IS MY TRUNK** by Steven Michael Harris  
**SPOT GOES TO THE CIRCUS** by Eric Hill  
**HARRIET GOES TO THE CIRCUS** by Betsy Maestro  
**ENGELBERT JOINS THE CIRCUS** by Tom Paxton  
**CLARA JOINS THE CIRCUS** by Michael Pellowski  
**THUMBPRINT CIRCUS** by Rodney Peppe  
**CIRCUS BABY** by Maud Fuller Petersham  
**GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH** by John Prater  
**EMELINE AT THE CIRCUS** by Marjorie Priceman  
**IF I RAN THE CIRCUS** by Dr. Seuss  
**PETER SPIER'S CIRCUS** by Peter Spier



# Activity Ideas – Circus B

- Let the children pretend they are tightrope walkers. Place a long piece of tape or rope on the ground and have children walk one foot in front of the other across the tape, extending arms for balance.
- Practice cartwheels, somersaults, skipping, hopping, galloping and trotting. Ask them to stop and hold the position when you say FREEZE.
- Use water soluble paint (available at costume shops) or makeup to paint clown faces on the children.

## I WISH I WERE A CIRCUS CLOWN

I wish I were a circus clown, *(Point to self.)*

With smile so wide and eyes so round, *(Make wide smile with hands and place around mouth.)*

With pointed hat and funny nose, *(Make a tent of hands and place on head.)*

And polka dots upon my clothes. *(Point to clothes.)*

To hospitals and homes I'd go

Where children cried when they felt low, *(Rub eyes with clenched fist.)*

I'd make them dry their salty tears *(Dry eyes with hands.)*

By wiggling my floppy ears. *(Place hands on ears and wiggle them.)*

*(From Ring A Ring O'Roses)*

## TEN CIRCUS WAGONS

Ten circus wagons, painted oh so gay,

Came into town with the circus today! *(Hold up ten fingers.)*

This one holds a lion

That gives a big, loud roar! *(Point to thumb.)*

This one holds a tiger

Fast asleep upon the floor. *(Pointer finger.)*

This one holds a funny seal

That nods to left and right. *(Middle finger.)*

This one holds a zebra

That is striped all black and white. *(Ring finger.)*

This one holds a camel

With two humps upon his back. *(Little finger.)*

This one holds a panther

With his coat of fur so black. *(Other thumb.)*

This one holds an elephant

That is drinking from a pail. *(Pointer finger.)*

This one holds a monkey

That is swinging by his tail. *(Middle finger.)*

This one holds a hippo

With a grin so very wide. *(Ring finger.)*

This one holds a leopard

With a gaily spotted hide. *(Little finger.)*

Ten circus wagons, painted oh so gay,

Came into town with the circus today! *(Ten fingers.)*

*(From Finger Frolics)*

## CIRCUS CLOWN

I'd like to be a circus clown,

And make a funny face

And have all the people laugh at me  
as I jump around the place.

*(From Finger Frolics)*



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**Library**

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