

Clowns and Circus

BOOKS TO READ

Olivia saves the circus by Ian Falconer
Circus by Lois Ehlert
Harriet goes to the circus by Betsy Maestro
Circus family dog by Andrew Clements
Circus Days by Roger Pare
Parade by Donald Crews
Circus numbers by Rodney Pappé

MUSICAL ACTIVITY

Form a Band - **Have a parade** - Have every child pick an instrument there are extra shakers and bells (*take turns with drums and tambourines*)
How shall we march when we march in a band
March in a band, march in a band?
How shall we march when we march in a band,
When we all march in a band?
(*We can march very quietly loudly...slowly....quickly*
We can march back home again)
The parade came marching (# 6 *Great Big Fun* by Tom Chapin)
Old MacDonald had a band *Sing naming instruments - old MacDonald has a band - EI EI O And in this band he has a drum EI EI O with a bang bang here and a bang bang there, here a bang there a bang, everywhere a bang, bang etc. Ask children who have the instrument that is named to play and the others to listen. Have everyone play in the band every third time so they don't get impatient waiting.*

FELT BOARD or APRON

Five little funny clowns with magic galore (*see rhymes below*)
Five little clowns all in a row (*see rhymes below*)
Clown face (*give children pieces to put on the clown*)

RHYMES and FINGERPLAYS

Right foot left foot see me go (*can do it with the elephant puppet*)
Who is it ? Mr. Clown
This little clown is fat and gay

Right foot, left foot, see me go
I am gray and big and slow
I come walking down the street
With my trunk and four big feet

Five little funny clowns with magic galore
One disappeared and then there were four
Four little funny clowns doing flips for me
One fell down and then there were three
Three little funny clowns with big enormous shoes
One ran away and then there were two
Two little funny clowns were having such fun
One fell off the tightrope, and then there was one
One little funny clown performing like a hero
He fell off and then there were zero

2.

Five little clowns all in a row (*hold up five fingers*) **Also flannel board**

Wearing funny hats (*pat head*)

And polka-dotted bows (*hands make motion like fixing a bow tie*)

One little clown hopped away (*hop in place*)

Back to the circus to laugh and play (*wave goodbye*)

Repeat with *Four**danced away*

Three.....*somersaulted* (*turn around*)

Two.....*Zoomed* (*shoot hand quickly in front of body*)

One.....*Tiptoed* (*tiptoe in place*)

Who is it that wears a happy smile?

That almost stretches a half-a-mile

Who is it that turns it upside down?

And changes his smile into a frown

Who is it that turns his face all around?

Why who could it be but Mr. Clown.

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 tiny and small

But he can do anything at all

CIRCLE TIME

The circus is in town (*Tune of Farmer in the Dell- form a circle all the children*

The circus is in town *join hands and go in the middle when picked*)

Hi ho the Derry -O

The circus is in town

The trainer takes a lion

The trainer takes a lion

Hi ho the Derry-O

The trainer takes a lion

The lion takes a monkey

The monkey takes a tiger

The tiger takes an elephant

The elephant takes a clown

The clown turns around

3.

CRAFT

Make clown faces _____

Make a clown on a stick

Make an elephant place mat - decorate and then laminate

MORE
MUSIC

Old MacDonald's Band (# 21 Hap Palmer - Rhythms on Parade)

The parade came marching (# 6 Tom Chapin Great Big Fun)

Be a clown (# 12 Musical Scarves & Activities)