Welcome to the **Let’s Make a Circus** Project!

There are several circus related activities to choose from. See list below.

The **How to Get Started** page briefly guides you through each activity. For additional information the **Detailed Instructions** provide explanations and in-depth guidance for the various steps for each activity.

The **Brainstorming** packet can be completed *with* your child (or independently for older children) following the steps in the Detailed Instructions packet. Making notes on each Brainstorming page allows you and your child to collaboratively plan how the various activities will be completed.

We suggest that you begin with activities that are most interesting to your child. Activities 1 – 7 can be completed in any order. Activities 8 – 11 are best completed as numbered.

We trust that this will be a wonderful experience for you and your child. Good planning is very helpful but be alert for opportunities to improvise along the way. Focus on making this a FUN experience without stress or pressure.
CIRCUS ACTIVITIES

1. Create a Colorful Circus Program or Poster
   **Overview**  Create a colorful program or poster using appropriate images and essential information.

2. Write a Ringmaster’s Welcome Speech
   **Overview**  Create Ringmaster’s Welcome Speech: appropriate language and effective communication.

3. Make a Clown Costume
   **Overview**  Create colorful clown costume with a unique “character” that fits child personality and circus traditions.

4. Clown Face Painting
   **Overview**  Create a colorful clown face that displays a unique “character” that fits child personality and circus traditions.

5. Make a Rousing Circus Song
   **Overview**  Create or perform Circus Song in line with traditions that energize, engage and entertain audience.

6. Clown Tricks: Juggling & Balloon Twisting
   **Overview**  Two essential clown tricks are juggling and balloon twisting that match circus traditions. Delight your audience!

7. Dear Circus Owner: I should be in Your Circus!
   **Overview**  Write a letter describing why you are best person to hire for a specific circus job.

8. Congratulations: Welcome to Animal Care Team
   **Overview**  Investigate what elephants need to be healthy and happy. Determine if the circus can provide good care. Provide written or oral report of your conclusions and suggestions for the future.

9. What Do We Need for a Family of Elephants?
   **Overview**  Investigate how much and what kind of food, water & care is needed for a family of elephants.

10. My Life as a Circus Elephant
    **Overview**  What is my life like? What are the good and bad things about being an elephant in the circus? How do people feel and think about elephants as circus performers? Are elephants good for the circus business?

11. After My Circus Leaves Town . . .
    **Overview**  Tell someone all about your circus. The highs, the low. The thrills and the chills. Would you do it all over again? What would you do differently the next time?

**Circus Project Tips & Hints**
Did your child do MIDAS questionnaire?

Think about strengths to enhance & skills to build.

What does your child know about the circus now?

Imagine. This is your first Big Night at The Circus. What will you see first? What will you see inside the circus tent?

- How does the circus begin? What happens half-way through? How does it end?
- What do you hear? What people do you see? How are they feeling?
- Name 3 or 4 different circus performers and animals.
- What do you smell at the circus? What will you eat or drink at the circus?
  - As you are leaving the circus, how will you be feeling?

If your child could create their own circus, what would they most like to include?

If you could go “behind the scenes” at the circus, where would you go and do? Is this on the list? If not, can you add it?