

Here Comes the Circus

Setting the Scene

Create a 'big top' tent in the classroom using a coloured parachute or fabric to make a 'big top' shape. Alternatively hang colourful streamers in bold colours of red, blue, yellow and green. Start in the centre of the ceiling, working outward toward the edges of the group circle or room.

Cover the walls or bulletin boards with brightly-coloured paper, balloons, clown and animal images or circus posters. Make loud hailer from card which the learners have been helped to decorate.

What to Do

Organise the learners into a semicircle while playing traditional circus music. Display **Resource 1: The Big Top! (Whiteboard Slides)** on a large screen. Follow the words and actions with the learners.



Areas of Learning

Primary

Language and Literacy
The Arts (Drama, Art and Design)

Post-Primary

English
The Arts (Drama, Art and Design)

Resource 1: The Big Top! (Whiteboard Slides)

- Traditional circus music available online
- Parachute
- Coloured material scarves
- Clown props such as:
 - wigs
 - funny hats
 - whoopee cushions
- Juggling objects such as:
 - balls
 - beanbags
 - sponges
- Mirrors
- Bells
- Fur
- Switch devices with recorded animal sounds
- Popcorn
- Candyfloss
- Loud hailer (made from card)
- Water squirter/Sprays
- Colourful Streamers
- Clown/Animal images or circus posters
- Balloons
- Brightly-coloured paper
- Light-up balls, bell balls and sponges