

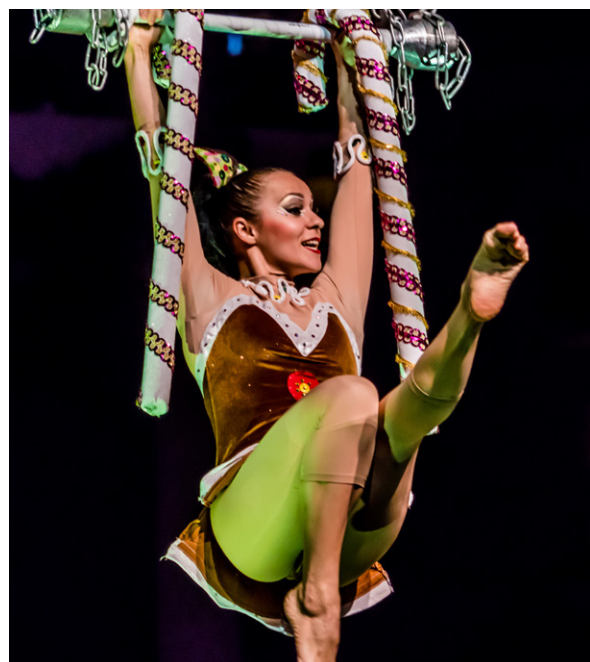
The Circus

Discovery Sack Fact Cards



The Circus

A circus is a special type of show. In a circus show, many different acts perform stunts and tricks for the audience. Some acts make you laugh and some make you gasp in wonder.



The Circus

Sometimes, circus shows are held inside large, colourful tents. The largest tent is known as a 'big top'. Some circuses move around, travelling from place to place to put on shows. At the end of the shows, the tents are packed away and then everything is moved to a new place.



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Acrobats often perform at circuses. These performers are very good at gymnastics. They are very strong and can balance and move very carefully. They sometimes use things to help them, such as hoops, ropes and trampolines.



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Ringmasters are the people who introduce the acts in a circus. They welcome people to the show, talk to the audience and tell the audience about the different performers. They are called ringmasters because they usually stand in the middle of the performance area, which is called the ring.



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The Circus

Clowns are performers who make people laugh. They usually wear brightly-coloured clothes and often have colourful hair and makeup too. Sometimes they wear red noses! Clowns usually perform funny tricks as part of a group. They often rush around, bumping into each other and falling over.



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Tightrope walkers are performers who walk very carefully along a wire or rope. The rope is stretched between two towers and makes a thin path for the tightrope walker to slowly walk along. They need to balance very carefully so that they do not fall. Sometimes they use a long stick to help them balance.



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Jugglers are performers who throw and catch lots of objects at the same time. They throw the objects, such as balls or hoops, into the air with one hand and then catch them with their other hand.



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Stilt walkers look very tall! These performers are walking on stilts. Stilts are long, strong sticks with little rests to put your feet on. Stilt walkers need to balance carefully on the stilts and hold on to the top of the stilts to walk along.



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Some performers use a trapeze, which is a bit like a swing. A trapeze is a thin bar of wood or metal held up by two long ropes or chains. Acrobats often sit on a trapeze high up in a circus tent. They swing from trapezes and sometimes hold on to the trapeze using their hands or legs.



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The Circus

There are often lots of sweet treats to buy when you visit the circus. Foods such as popcorn, candy floss and sweets are very popular. Sometimes flags and small toys are available to buy too.

