

September Cub Scout Roundtable "It's a Circus of Stars"



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Gathering Game: Balloon Stampede

A pack leader dressed as a clown gives a balloon and long string to each arriving participant, who blow up their balloon and tie it to their ankle. They then try to burst the other players’ balloons with their feet while keeping theirs intact.

C-I-R-C-U-S Opening Ceremony

Cub Scouts dressed as clowns come into the ring after the ringmaster introduces them. They are holding balloon-shaped signs.

RINGMASTER: Ladies and Gentleman, you are about to see the Stars of the Circus! (Boys enter and read their lines as they hold up their signs.)

C- Come and watch what we have in store.

I- Including fantastic acts never seen before.

R- Roaring tigers may fill you with fright.

C- Clowns will be making you laugh with delight.

U- Using the Pledge of Allegiance for our show to begin.

S- Stand no together as our flags are brought in.

(Color guard brings the flags into the circus ring.

One Cub Scout steps forward to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.)

Prayer: Thanks for the Beauty of Children

We give thank for the beauty of children and their joy in all things. For their mirth and laughter, for their compassion and enjoyment of life, and for the joy and light they bring into the world. Amen.

Ice Breaker:

Take turns shouting out the following:

“Magnificent,” and “Colossal,” “Unparalleled,”

“Fantastic,” “Courageous,” and Super-Spectacular”

Finish with, “This is the Circus of Stars!”

Song: “It’s a Good Time to Get Acquainted”

Tune: “It’s a Long Road to Tipperary”

It’s a good time to get acquainted,

It’s a good time to know,

Who is sitting close beside you,

And to smile and say “Hello.”

Goodbye, glassy stare.

If we all join hands and pull together,

We’re sure to get there.

Game: Pin the Trunk on the Elephant

Materials: Large cutout of an elephant’s head.

Designate a spot where the trunk should be. For the trunk use a dryer vent hose.

A pack leader dressed as a circus trainer explains that pinning the trunk on the elephant is like the game “Pin the Tail on the Donkey.” Blindfolded players are twirled around and then try pin the trunk in the right place.

Audience Participation: A Circus Trip

Divide the audience into four groups and assign each a part. Each time their part is mentioned they stand, pantomime their part, and make the following sound effects:

TIGERS: “G-r-r-r-r-r-r”

ELEPHANTS: “Swing and sway”

CLOWNS: “Ha-ha-ha”

CIRCUS: All make noise.

I went to the CIRCUS to see the TIGERS on a bright sunny day. What fun to watch the trainer, as with them he did play! The ELEPHANTS were really great, as each one swayed her trunk, while CLOWNS were dancing all around in a silly kind of state! The CIRCUS is full of many thrills, as the TIGERS roar so loud that even ELEPHANTS shiver and shake, while the CLOWNS soothe the crowd. There are many acts for you to see when to the CIRCUS you go, acrobats and trapeze artists gee, what a fantastic show! Oh sure, true, but the biggest thrill is the TIGERS roar for you and you and you! So when the CIRCUS comes to town, go

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and see all the shows, as all the CLOWNS and ELEPHANTS do memorable as the TIGERS’ noisy roar, sending shivers down your spine as you look for the nearest door. Yes, TIGERS, ELEPHANTS, and CLOWNS galore, all make the CIRCUS a team. Teamwork is what makes the world go ‘round, helping others fulfill a dream. We’re all a part of some kind of group, though TIGERS, ELEPHANTS, or CLOWNS we’re not, we are working together toward a common goal, and the happiness of a CIRCUS we’ve got!

Theme-Related Activity:

Ideas for a Pack Circus. Have an open discussion sharing ideas for preparing for the circus theme—such as making huge posters announcing that the circus is coming to the pack, decorating the meeting room with balloons and den pennants, playing circus music, and having a parade around the room after asking all family members to dress up as circus performers. A barker at the door can direct arriving families to go to the sideshows, peep shows, and display tables or any other special features at the meeting. Have a concession stand with popcorn and pretzels. Dens can draw posters of circus acts.

CIRCUS ADVANCEMENT CEREMONY:

Clowns escort boys and parents/guardians and help with the presentation of awards.

RINGMASTER (Cubmaster): Ladies and gentleman, you are about to see our Circus of Stars! The first act in the ring is our Tiger Cubs with their adult partners. They have just begun their training but have accomplished much in a short time. (Tiger Cub teams come forward, share requirements for the Tiger Cub belt totem as they are presented.) Let’s hear a roar of applause for these new Tiger Cubs!

For our second act tonight we have highly trained Bobcats and their trainers (parent/guardian). They will be in the center ring sharing with us the feats they have mastered. (Bobcats come forward with their parent/guardian and go through the Bobcat requirements with Cubmaster. Present badges.)

Notice how well these Bobcats have been trained. Let’s have a fine round of applause for this wonderful act performed before our very eyes! And now, ladies and gentleman, for our next colossal act of achievement, we have an astounding trained Wolf act. The Wolves’ names are (read names). Their trainers (parents/guardians) will accompany them into the center ring. (Use the same kind of circus talk to cover the Wolf requirements. Continue with Bear badges and Arrow Points in the same manner.)

Our next stupendous act takes much skill and requires work and patience, as these young men have climbed to great and patience, as these young men have climbed to great heights—in fact, to the very top of Cub Scouting achievements, Watch breathlessly as we give special honors in a ceremony that will demonstrate to you what heights these boys have climbed with the help of their trainers. It is my privilege to introduce to you (name boys, parents/guardians, and Webelos den leader and have them come forward. Once again, use exaggerated circus talk to present activity badges, ie., “Skilled athletes showing their strength and agility in physical feats, or aquanauts who dared to defy the depths of water an whose remarkable agility in water is unequaled,” etc) I’m sure you will agree, ladies and gentleman, that tonight’s highlight event has given you one of the most exciting extravaganzas extraordinaire, one of the greatest shows—The Circus of Stars!

Separate Meetings:

Tiger Cub Den Leaders and Cub Scout Den Leaders- Paper Sack Masks:

Make simple paper sack mask in keeping with the circus theme (clowns, animals). Use the Wolf Handbook and Bear Handbook as guides.

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How to Write a Skit

Sometimes it’s hard to find a skit that fits the monthly theme and your den of boys. If that’s the case, help the boys write their own skit or adapt

one. Start by considering these four basic premises as an outline for a skit:

- Boy wants something—friendship, a gold mine, a prize, etc.
- Boy starts to get it—by canoe, plane, horseback, foot, etc;
- Obstacles stop boy—crocodile, enemy, false friend, weather, etc.
- Boy achieves goal—through kindness, bravery, wisdom, magic, etc.

On a sheet of paper, outline a possible skit, including the monthly theme; the title, the types of characters in the skit (puppets, or boys in costumes); how long the skit will be; the skit’s staging, including lighting, special effects, scenery, the location or setting for the skit; the problems and/or obstacles that the characters need to overcome; and how the skit will end.

Webelos Den Leaders:

Look-Around Puppet

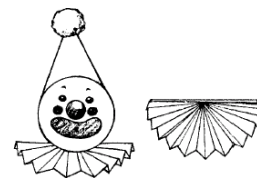


Materials: 12-oz. Plastic cup, 2-inch solid foam ball, craft sticks pipe cleaners, scrap yarn, materials for decorating.

Use the plastic cup for the clown body. Rub one side of the foam ball on sandpaper to make a flat surface. Spread glue on one end of a craft stick and then push the stick into the foam ball at the center of the flat area. Let it dry. Turn the cup upside down and poke a small hole in the bottom. Make the hole large enough to push the other end of the craft stick through. Put the stick in the hole and turn the cup over. Decorate the cup with felt and colors, etc., and decorate the ball to look like a clown face. Put your hand inside the cup and move the stick around, making the clown’s head move.

Pack Committee:

Project: Circus
Neckerchief Slides



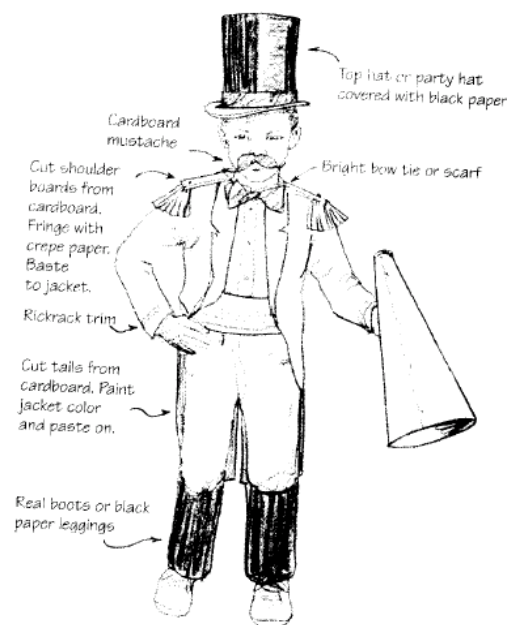
Materials: Table tennis ball, wooden bead for nose, scrap piece of construction paper, cotton, paint or markers, toothpicks, 1/2 -inch PVC pipe.

Paint a clown face on the table tennis ball and glue on the wooden bead for a nose. Make a cone-shaped hat from construction paper and glue it to the ball. Add a puff of cotton to the top of the hat. Fan-fold a contrasting color of 11/2-by-6-inch construction paper, making about 1/4 inch pleats. Form it in a semicircle and glue a toothpick across the back to stiffen the collar. Glue the collar to the clown’s neck. Glue the PVC pipe onto the back for the neckerchief to slide through.

Cubmaster’s

Activity: Ringmaster Costume

Cover a top hat or party hat with black paper. Include a bright bow tie or scarf. Cut shoulder pads from cardboard and make fringe with yarn or crepe paper; baste to a jacket. Cut coattails from cardboard, paint the same color as the jacket, and baste on. Wear real boots or black paper leggings. The megaphone may be rolled and taped



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construction paper or poster board with a handle taped on.

Elephant Ears

Ingredients: 1C butter, ½ t. baking powder, 6 T. sugar, 1C all-purpose flour, 1 t. ground cinnamon, ½ t. salt, ½ c. milk.

Heat oven to 425° F. Grease a cookie sheet. Heat butter until melted, set aside. Stir flour and 2 T. sugar, baking powder, and salt in a medium bowl. Stir in milk and 3 T. melted butter until dough forms. Turn dough onto a lightly floured surface. Knead 10 times. Pat with hands into a 9- by 5-inch rectangle. Brush with remaining melted butter. Mix cinnamon with 3 T. sugar and sprinkle on dough. Roll dough up tightly, pinch end to seal. Cut into four equal pieces with sharp knife. Place cut sides up on cookie sheet, pat each into 6-inch circle. Sprinkle with remaining sugar and bake 8-10 minutes. Makes four elephant ears.

Closing Ceremony:

We are happy to have seen you, but we must leave you now, and so we bid you all farewell and take our final bow. Tonight’s Circus of the Stars has come to its final end, But through Cub Scouting we can make many a new friend. So as our circus lights are dimming and the animals are at rest, Remember the Cub Scout motto and always DO YOUR BEST.