



BLOCK 4:1

Theme:
CIRCUS

Strand:
DISCOVER

The Circus theme is the vehicle for the Discover Jellyfish strand and so enables us to safely discover how we see ourselves, relationships with others and the world around us. At the circus you can discover all sorts of weird and wonderful performers, each with their own unique talent.

Initial gathering: brushing off/Jellyfish breathing/Jellyfish wave

Exploring the theme: choose from...

Task	Bodywork
<p>Ask the children to choose a performer from the list of circus performers provided. Once each child has chosen an act, invite them to create a circus flyer from the flyer template to promote their performer. For older children flyers should include three statements about the performer. It is fine for children to choose the same acts/performers as others, as their interpretation of them will still be individual.</p> <p>Invite children to talk about their flyer either by sharing it with the group or in pairs. Ask them to focus on why they have chosen that act.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Ringmaster ★ Strongman ★ Tightrope walker ★ Juggler ★ Unicyclist
Massage	Visualization
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Permission, hug and frame ★ Circus ring ★ Trapeze artist swinging ★ Tightrope walker ★ Juggling balls ★ Round of applause ★ Personal signature and hug 	<p>See Circus visualization</p>



Creative expression: to support children to discover their own talents and qualities, you may like to:

- ★ Provide a circus **tent template**
- ★ Invite the children to create a circus
- ★ Allow free choice

Final gathering: Jellyfish gallery

Questions to support creative chatter:

On the shore

- ★ Who is performing in this circus?
- ★ Which is your favourite act?
- ★ Which is your least favourite act?

Under the sea

- ★ How do the performers feel about their circus acts?
- ★ If you were a circus performer, what act would you like to be?
- ★ How might it feel to perform an act to a circus crowd?



CIRCUS B4:1 CIRCUS PERFORMERS

Acrobat

Animal trainer

Clown

Dancer

Fire artist

Fortune teller



Hula hooper

Human cannon ball

Juggler

Lion tamer

Knife thrower

Mime artist



Magician

Plate spinner

Puppet master

Ringmaster

Stilt walker

Strongman



Tightrope walker

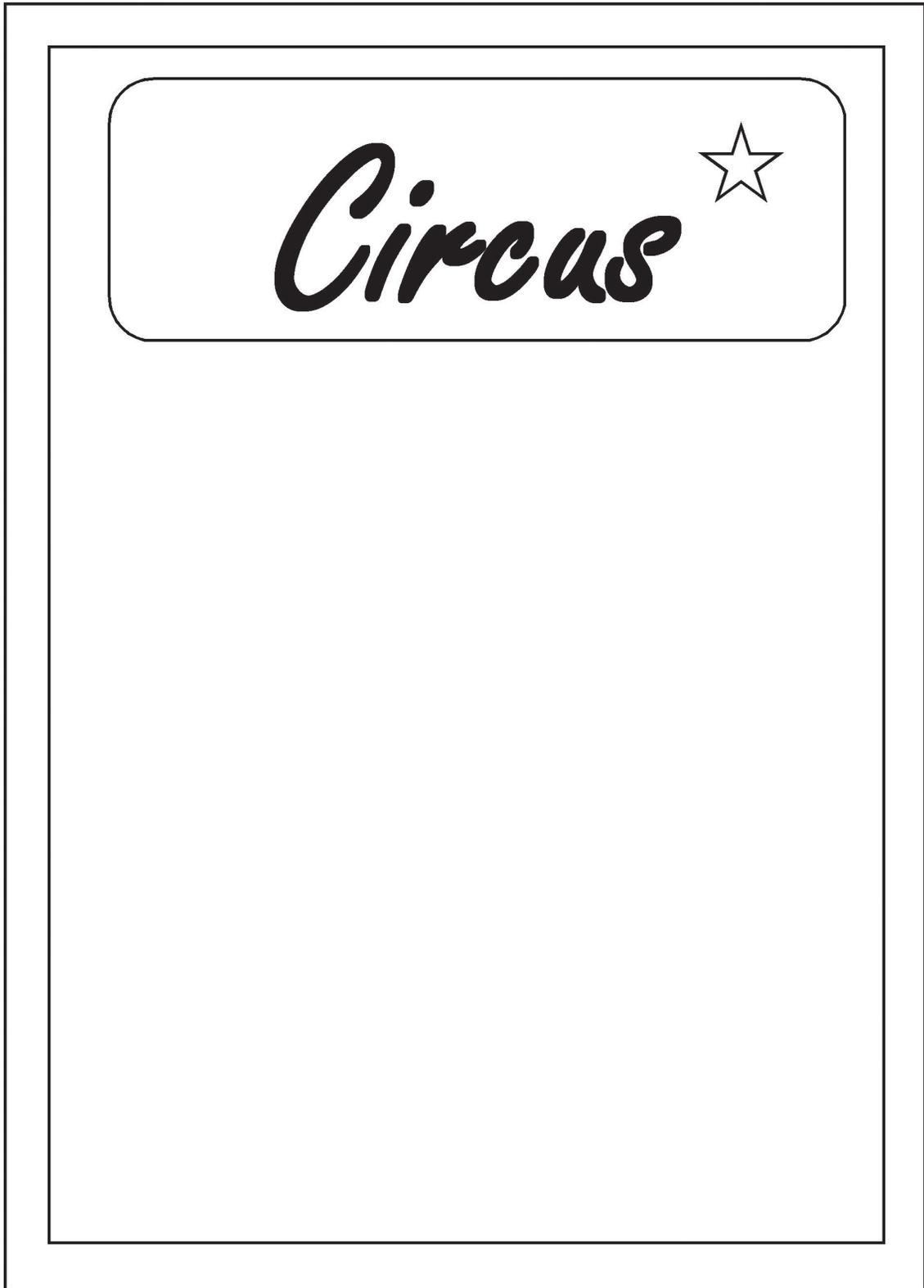
Trapeze artist

Trick rider

Unicyclist



CIRCUS B4:1 FLYER TEMPLATE

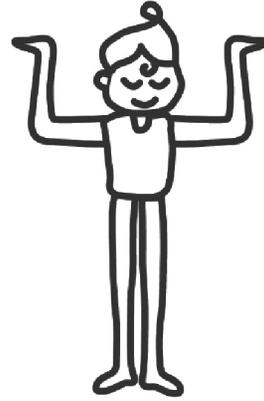




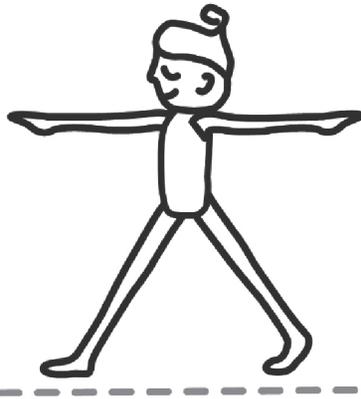
CIRCUS B4:1



Ringmaster



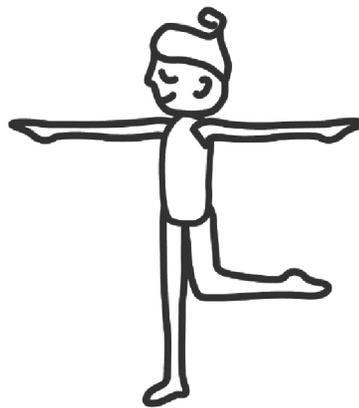
Strongman



Tightrope walker



Juggler



Unicyclist

Look in the mirror; can you read your expression? Are you smiling and relaxed? Or is your reflection showing something different? Whatever you are seeing, try to understand the emotion on your face; this may be difficult, so don't worry if you can't.

Notice that in front of the mirror there are three blank, white masks. In a moment you are going to choose what these faces will look like. What do you want them to be? What emotions will they show?

Now take some time to think of three feelings that come to your mind. Perhaps you felt one today. Perhaps it is something you feel often. Or maybe it is a feeling that you don't like but sometimes feel. Choose the first three that pop into your head, each one appearing on a mask. If you find it difficult to imagine the emotions, you can simply decorate the masks with anything you want.

Starting with your first mask, place it carefully on your face and gaze at yourself in the mirror. Remember you can take your mask off at any time. What do you see staring back at you? Take a moment to absorb the mask. What does it make you feel inside?

When you are ready, switch to your second mask. Again, observe the reflection that you see and take a moment to see what it makes you feel. Does this mask feel different?

Finally, when you are ready, put on your final mask. Does this feel comfortable? Does this feel any different? Which one was your favourite? Or did you not like any?

It is now time to take off the third mask, replacing all three on the mantelpiece. You are pleased to be seeing your own reflection again! When you are ready, turn away from the mirror.

Circus visualization B4:1

Picture yourself at an opening in a striped wall. The wall is flexible to touch and moves as you press your palm against it. This is the wall of a large circus tent; the opening is the entrance. Your ears pick up the sound of fun, laughter and joy from inside the tent. Step inside and discover the circus for yourself.

Travel down the corridor. At the end is a lady who welcomes and gestures you to step through a curtain. You do so happily and, to your excitement, see that you are standing in the circus ring; take a seat and settle down to watch the show.

The ringmaster appears and the crowd grows silent. With a huge round of applause, the acrobats are introduced. They burst into the arena and come cartwheeling in with sequined costumes that glitter and glint under the parade of spotlights. They glide and

swoop so effortlessly on the high trapeze; it amazes you. Silently they swing, back and forth, making fantastical twists, turns and somersaults.

Below them a troop of jugglers appear with bright red noses and playful outfits. Skilfully, they cast brightly coloured balls, flaming torches and fragile china plates into the air. Astonishingly, not one item falls to the ground. The crowd are on the edge of their seats watching the jugglers, willing them to succeed.

Slowly, the atmosphere changes, the show lights dim, the sounds from the crowd die down and one bright spotlight focuses on the centre of the ring. A new, never-before-seen act emerges from the shadows. What do you see? Is it a single performer or a group working together. Notice how the crowd reacts around you and how you feel about what you are seeing. As you continue to watch, is there anything that stands out to you? Are you surprised by what you see or impressed by their talent? Perhaps you were hoping to see something different. For now, you experience this spectacle with your fellow audience.

It is time for the show to end. The lights begin to glow a little brighter and the crowd disperses. You make your way to the exit, passing the smiling lady once more. As you leave, you wonder – what kind of circus act would you be?

Deserts visualization B4:2

Picture yourself at the top of a hill of sand. Above you is a clear, blue sky and a sun that showers you with warmth and comfort. Feel the soft sand beneath your feet and enjoy this feeling of calm.

You are on a sand dune. It is the tallest dune in the desert and from here you can see into the far distance. The desert appears to sweep on forever. You can see no beginning and no end to it. It seems as though the desert is completely empty except for the sand dunes that roll across the landscape. It is as if you are looking at a never-ending sea of soft, sandy waves.

It is so peaceful here. You imagine that you might be the only person in the entire world and that feels ok. You settle yourself down to sit in the sand and notice how it warmly hugs your body in a secure embrace. From here you can watch the desert more closely and, as you do so, you notice that there is more to it than you originally thought.

Look carefully now and pick out all the things that you hadn't noticed before. Perhaps you see a lone rock or twisted tree. Maybe a tiny colourful lizard scurrying by or snake basking in the hot desert sun. You may even see water; a tiny oasis perhaps with a palm tree and a spring. Even the grains of sand are not as they first appeared. You notice that