



A Day at the Circus Sensory Story

Chloe was excited for her trip to the circus. She looked around, deciding where to go first. As she was looking, a huge grey elephant walked past.

'Hello, you look lost, let me help.' said the elephant.

Chloe climbed on the elephant, and he showed her around the circus. The elephant walked slowly, bumping Chloe up and down. Bump, bump, bump!

'Let's look here first.' suggested the elephant as he opened the door of the tent with his trunk. Chloe climbed off the elephant and sat next to him.

In the tent, trapeze artists were flying through the air, swinging from one place to the next!

Clowns were juggling and making people laugh. One clown threw a custard pie at another clown! Splat!

Chloe and the elephant were giggling at the clowns, when... splash! A clown threw water into the crowd! Chloe and the elephant were soaked!

'Come on, let's get out of here.' said the elephant. Chloe followed the elephant out of the tent.

'Let's have a snack.' suggested Chloe. Chloe bought some candy floss for herself and a sticky toffee apple for the elephant. They sat and ate in the sun watching another clown making huge bubbles. The bubbles floated around them, glistening in the sun.

'Thanks for such a lovely day.' said Chloe as she waved goodbye to the elephant.

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Story	Suggested Resources / Activity
Chloe (repeated throughout the story)	<p>A small doll can be used to represent 'Chloe'. This can be passed around the group for them to feel. Support the children to feel the doll and share around the group.</p> <p>Alternatively: Trace the letter 'c' in the air and support the children to do the same.</p>
Elephant (repeated throughout the story)	<p>This can be represented with a piece of large corrugated card. The card can be shaken to represent the walking of the elephant. Support the children to listen and watch the movement of the card.</p> <p>Allow the children to feel the bumps on the card, or brush the card gently on the child's arm/legs.</p> <p>Alternatively: A party blower can be used to represent the elephant. Support the children to listen to the noise and watch the movement.</p>
Bump	<p>Demonstrate bumping on your chair (i.e. lift yourself up a little and 'bump' back down). If appropriate, support the children to bump on their chairs/floor.</p> <p>Alternative: Use a gym ball and bounce on the floor. Support the children to listen and watch the movements. Allow the children to feel the gym ball as it bounces.</p>
Tent	<p>A large piece of cloth can be used to represent the tent. If appropriate, cover the children with the cloth and slowly remove it. Alternatively, gently raise and lower the cloth and support the children to watch the movements and feel the cloth.</p>
Trapeze artists were...	<p>Move a ribbon stick to create swirls. Support the children to watch the ribbons moving and if able, to feel the movement of the ribbons on their legs/arms.</p>
Clowns were juggling...	<p>Drop some soft balls from a height onto the floor and support the children to watch the movement. Alternatively, use ping-pong balls and drop them into a bucket. Support the children to watch the movement and listen to the sounds as they fall.</p>

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Story

Suggested Resources / Activity

...and making people laugh.

Record a laughing sound on a recording device. Press the button to hear the sound. Take turns/support the children in pressing the button.

Alternatively: Tickle the children's hands/feet with feathers.

Custard pie... splat!

Squirt shaving foam into a pile on to paper and then splat, either with your hands or feet. Support the children to look and feel.

Alternatively: Squirt shaving foam onto your hands and clap. Support the children to look at and feel the shaving foam.

Splash!

Fill a tray with water and, if appropriate, gently splash the children with the water or gently sprinkle water on the children. Support the children to feel the water.

Candy floss

Cotton wool can be used to represent the candy floss. A few drops of vanilla essence (or a candy floss scent) can be added to the cotton wool to create the smell. Support the children to feel and smell the cotton wool/brush the cotton wool on the children's arms.

Alternatively: Use some candy floss or sweets to smell, taste and touch.

Alternatively: Spread PVA glue on your hands and clap a few times. This should create wisps of glue to represent the candy

Toffee apple

Apple pieces or a toffee apple can be used. Support the children to smell, touch and taste (if appropriate).

Alternatively: Fill an empty tissue box with sweet wrappers. The box can be shaken and the children can explore the box and feel the wrappers (they might be able to put their hands through the opening in the top).

Bubbles

Use bubbles and support the children to watch the bubbles. Blow bubbles on the children's hands and arms. If possible, support the children to take turns blowing and popping the bubbles.