



The Ringling Museum takes you back to the days of the big top celebrating the history of the American circus.



Did Ya KNOW?

These larger than life characters were made of **papier-mache**. Worn by performers, they were popular with the crowds as they walked around the huge tent between circus acts.

Circus Day in any town in the early 20th Century was a huge event. In many communities, schools and factories were closed to allow everyone time to enjoy the circus while it was in town.



This **rare steam calliope** took an entire year to build. The steam-whistle organ could be heard from miles away to attract more people. It was the star of countless street parades across the country.

Xtra Fun, Xtra Credit!

For adventurers 7+

Make your very own Clown Hat! Clowns were a very important part of the circus, full of fun and mischief.

Materials Needed:

- 14" x 20" Construction paper or lightweight poster board
- Stapler
- String
- Tape
- Glue
- Mini pompoms
- Star stickers
- Shower Pouf
- Hole Punch



Step 1 Make a paper cone by twisting to a point at one end of paper. Secure with tape along seam.

Step 2 Decorate with stickers, pompoms, buttons, glitter, anything you have in your craft drawer. You can even just paint or use markers. **Have fun!**

Step 3 Glue the shower pouf to the top and let dry.

Step 4 Punch 2 holes at bottom rim of hat and attach strings.

Now you are ready to put on your new clown hat and have some fun!

For more fun facts and information about Museum Access, go to www.museumaccess.com Or contact us at info@museumaccess.com

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