



Circus Lingo – Word Search

Grade Levels 4-6

This classroom activity is based on The “Big Top” Show Goes On: An Oral History of Occupations Inside and Outside the Canvas Circus Tent. It is provided courtesy of the Oklahoma Oral History Research Program (OOHRP) at the Oklahoma State University Library.

Formally established in 2007, the OOHRP has collected and preserved firsthand accounts from individuals who have witnessed historic moments. The program explores the lives and contributions of Oklahomans from all walks of life.

The “Big Top” Show Goes On is one of many projects undertaken by the OOHRP. This oral history project aims to preserve the voices and experiences of those involved with the work culture associated with Hugo, Oklahoma’s tent circus tradition. Many circuses have called Hugo home through the years, but only three currently remain. As the number of traditional tent circuses dwindles, their continued existence in Oklahoma is a testament to the dedication this circus community has for providing a magical experience to be shared by people of all ages. Made possible by a 2011 Archie Green Fellowship from the American Folklife Center, oral history transcripts, recordings, and images from this project are available not only at the OSU Library in Stillwater but also the Library of Congress in Washington, DC.

The OOHRP invites you to explore the website (www.library.okstate.edu/oralhistory/circus) and learn more about Hugo, Oklahoma’s connection to the circus.

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W J L D S R D S M Z S F R O N T Y A R D
E Z P V I P Q A I Q U E F M N P S K N G
B D X Y G O E X D J T O F A Y Z D T S P
L F H Q Q U T C W S F O H Z I F Y K E N
X D N A T S D N A R G P U O J U Y A R I
N W O L C J A M Y X E M A N V F N A O S
L A C G T L G G B L S I N Y V U J C Y O
V D P U T N B L E B U A Q O T N G W C R
U Z G T I Z B Y R K C G X P I E C A R Q
D B M R W K I I E J R P I E X E U J H Z
N S U I T G U H K G I T X U K S H W Y X
I X F T N U D R I Q C X A G U G T S E E
W I P C C G M F N H A B S K E R O L D S
X C T Z W H P Z N C U K X Q D X W T I X
G M K E C O E Z O K Z O J J V F N D O Q
L G Q Z T R R R D N E P U O R T E W J I
S C L G O H Y G M Z W Z D F T S R I I J
C W I U L D C B G T O U X S H M J K M D
E B T W P U I I Q Z W J G O S V X M C T
R E W B A R E B A C K B W I M E A G Z N

BIGTOP
FRONTYARD
CIRCUS
CLOWN
ELEPHANT
DONNIKER
MIDWAY
GRANDSTAND
BAREBACK
PIECAR

BUTCHER
TOWNER
RINGMASTER
SIDESHOW
SPEC
ROUTE
ROSIN
PEANUTPITCH
TROUPE