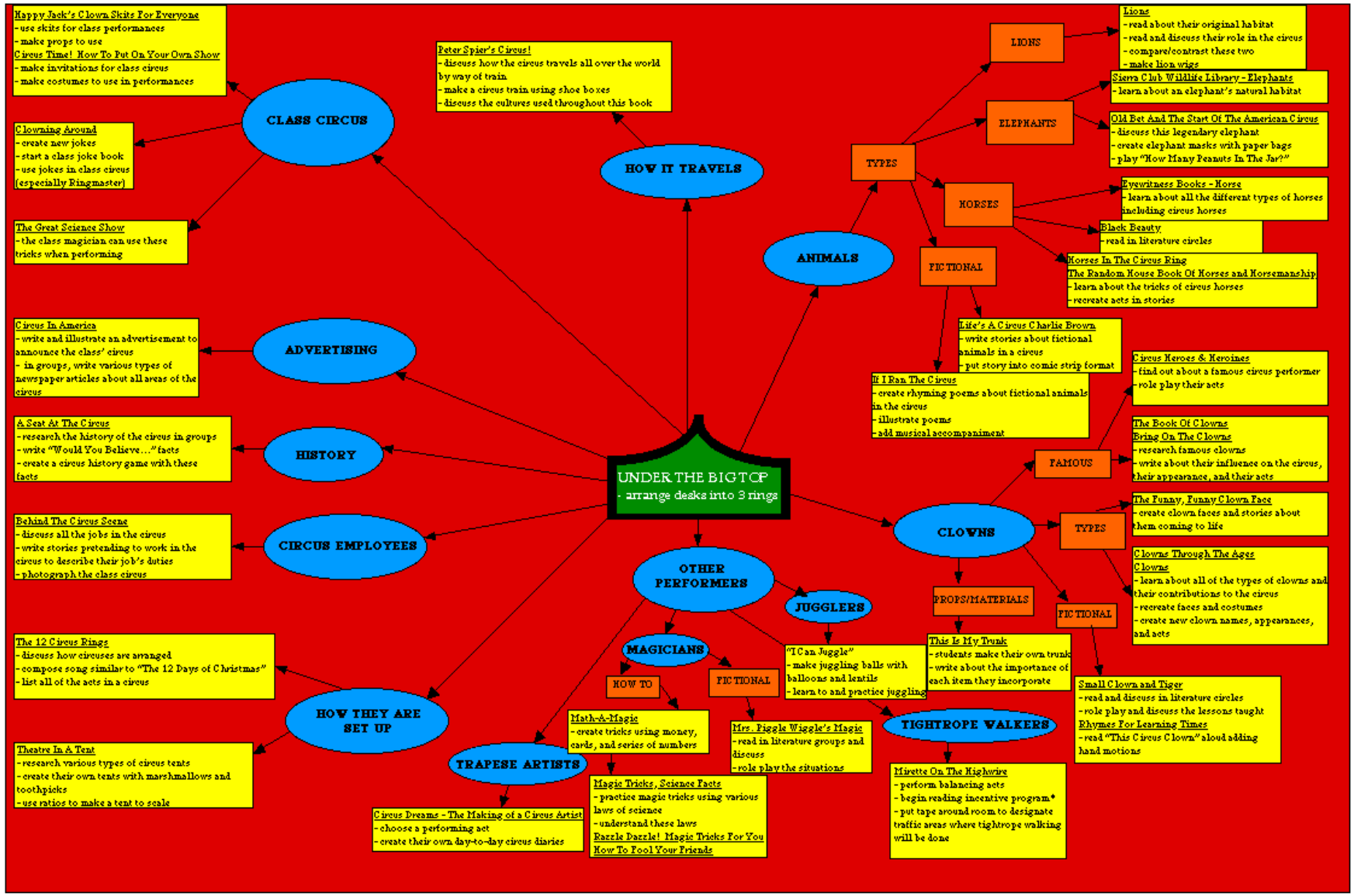
UNDER THE BIG TOP
- arrange desks into 3 rings
CLASS CIRCUS
Happy Jack's Clown Skits For Everyone
- use skits for class performances
- make props to use
Circus Time! How To Put On Your Own Show
- make invitations for class circus
- make costumes to use in performances
Clowning Around
- create new jokes
- start a class joke book
- use jokes in class circus
(especially Ringmaster)
The Great Science Show
- the class magician can use these
tricks when performing
HOW IT TRAVELS
Peter Spier's Circus!
- discuss how the circus travels all over the world
by way of train
- make a circus train using shoe boxes
- discuss the cultures used throughout this book
ANIMALS
TYPES
LIONS
Lions
- read about their original habitat
- read and discuss their role in the circus
- compare/contrast these two
- make lion wigs
ELEPHANTS
Sierra Club Wildlife Library - Elephants
- learn about an elephant's natural habitat
Old Bet And The Start Of The American Circus
- discuss this legendary elephant
- create elephant masks with paper bags
- play "How Many Peanuts In The Jar?"
HORSES
Eyewitness Books - Horse
- learn about all the different types of horses
including circus horses
Black Beauty
- read in literature circles
Horses In The Circus Ring
The Random House Book Of Horses and Horsemanship
- learn about the tricks of circus horses
- recreate acts in stories
FICTIONAL
Life's A Circus Charlie Brown
- write stories about fictional
animals in a circus
- put story into comic strip format
If I Ran The Circus
- create rhyming poems about fictional animals
in the circus
- illustrate poems
- add musical accompaniment
ADVERTISING
Circus In America
- write and illustrate an advertisement to
announce the class' circus
- in groups, write various types of
newspaper articles about all areas of the
circus
HISTORY
A Seat At The Circus
- research the history of the circus in groups
- write "Would You Believe..." facts
- create a circus history game with these
facts
CIRCUS EMPLOYEES
Behind The Circus Scene
- discuss all the jobs in the circus
- write stories pretending to work in the
circus to describe their job's duties
- photograph the class circus
HOW THEY ARE SET UP
The 12 Circus Rings
- discuss how circuses are arranged
- compose song similar to "The 12 Days of Christmas"
- list all of the acts in a circus
Theatre In A Tent
- research various types of circus tents
- create their own tents with marshmallows and
toothpicks
- use ratios to make a tent to scale
OTHER PERFORMERS
MAGICIANS
HOW TO
Math-A-Magic
- create tricks using money,
cards, and series of numbers
FICTIONAL
Mrs. Piggle Wiggle's Magic
- read in literature groups and
discuss
- role play the situations
Magic Tricks, Science Facts
- practice magic tricks using various
laws of science
- understand these laws
Razzle Dazzle! Magic Tricks For You
How To Fool Your Friends
JUGGLERS
"I Can Juggle"
- make juggling balls with
balloons and lentils
- learn to and practice juggling
TIGHTROPE WALKERS
Mirette On The Highwire
- perform balancing acts
- begin reading incentive program*
- put tape around room to designate
traffic areas where tightrope walking
will be done
TRAPESE ARTISTS
Circus Dreams - The Making of a Circus Artist
- choose a performing act
- create their own day-to-day circus diaries
CLOWNS
FAMOUS
Circus Heroes & Heroines
- find out about a famous circus performer
- role play their acts
The Book Of Clowns
Bring On The Clowns
- research famous clowns
- write about their influence on the circus,
their appearance, and their acts
TYPES
The Funny, Funny Clown Face
- create clown faces and stories about
them coming to life
Clowns Through The Ages
Clowns
- learn about all of the types of clowns and
their contributions to the circus
- recreate faces and costumes
- create new clown names, appearances,
and acts
PROPS/MATERIALS
This Is My Trunk
- students make their own trunk
- write about the importance of
each item they incorporate
FICTIONAL
Small Clown and Tiger
- read and discuss in literature circles
- role play and discuss the lessons taught
Rhymes For Learning Times
- read "This Circus Clown" aloud adding
hand motions