

## Schedule for Book 2: **Andi Under the Big Top**

\*Indicates an optional activity found in the *Andi Under the Big Top* lapbook.  
(Lapbook activities **can be skipped** or purchased at [CircleCSteppingstones.com](http://CircleCSteppingstones.com).)

<i>Under the Big Top</i>	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
Book	New Words & Chapter 1	Chapter 2	_____	Chapter 3
Activities	Page 29 # 1-6	Page 29 # 7-11	* <i>Lapbook activity for chapters 1-2</i>	Page 29 # 12-16
<i>Under the Big Top</i>	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8
Book	_____	_____	Chapter 4	_____
Activities	Pages 30-31	Pages 33-34	Page 35 # 1-7	* <i>Lapbook activity for chapters 3-4</i>
<i>Under the Big Top</i>	Day 9	Day 10	Day 11	Day 12
Book	Chapter 5	Chapter 6	_____	_____
Activities	Page 35 # 8-13	Page 35 # 14-18	* <i>Lapbook activity for chapters 5-6</i>	Pages 36-37
<i>Under the Big Top</i>	Day 13	Day 14	Day 15	Day 16
Book	_____	Chapter 7	Chapter 8	_____
Activities	Pages 38-39	Page 40 # 1-5	Page 40 # 6-8	* <i>Lapbook activity for chapters 7-8</i>
<i>Under the Big Top</i>	Day 17	Day 18	Day 19	Day 20
Book	Chapter 9	_____	_____	Chapter 10
Activities	Page 40 # 9-15	Pages 41-42	Pages 43-44	Page 45 # 1-6
<i>Under the Big Top</i>	Day 21	Day 22	Day 23	Day 24
Book	_____	Chapter 11	Chapter 12	_____
Activities	* <i>Lapbook activity for chapters 9-10</i>	Page 45 # 7-11	Page 45 # 12-19	* <i>Lapbook activity for chapters 11-12</i>
<i>Under the Big Top</i>	Day 25	Day 26	Day 27	Day 28
Book	_____	_____	History Fun	_____
Activities	Pages 46-47	Pages 48-49	Page 51	* <i>Lapbook activity for History Fun</i>

# Andi Under the Big Top Chapters 1-3

Answer the questions about what you have read.

## Chapter 1: Here Comes the Circus

1. Where is Andi when *Under the Big Top* opens? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Cory Blake is Andi's friend. What color are his eyes? \_\_\_\_\_ What color is his hair? \_\_\_\_\_ What is he wearing? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What does Cory want to show Andi? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Circle what Cory thinks is the best act. Put a box around Andi's idea of the best act.  
the acrobats • the lion and lion tamer • the jugglers • the tigers • the bareback rider
5. Who is Melinda? \_\_\_\_\_ How old is she? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Which of Andi's brothers almost ran away to join the circus? \_\_\_\_\_

## Chapter 2: Ready, Set, Go

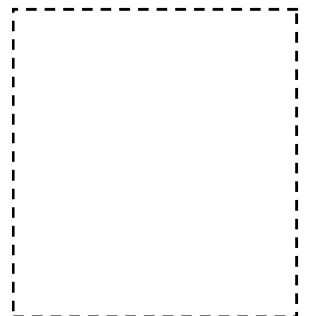
7. Name the three circus acts Andi played on the ranch. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Who offers to take Andi and Melinda to watch the street parade? \_\_\_\_\_
9. What is the name of Andi's horse? \_\_\_\_\_ What is the name of Melinda's horse? \_\_\_\_\_ What is the name of Mitch's horse? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Mitch dreamed of being a clown, walking around on \_\_\_\_\_.
11. True or false? Andi wiggles her way to the front of the crowd for a good view.

## Chapter 3: Circus Parade

12. Where does Andi end up sitting for the best view of the parade? (Circle one.)  
on Mitch's shoulder • on a horse-hitching railing • on Taffy
13. Why is Cory so excited? \_\_\_\_\_
14. What is the name of the little boy Cory meets? \_\_\_\_\_
15. Name six different animals Andi saw at the street parade.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

16. What is your favorite circus animal? \_\_\_\_\_

Draw a picture of your favorite circus animal in the box. →



## Vocabulary Words for Chapters 1-3

**Part 1:** Draw a line between the words and their meanings. (See pages 7-8 in the book.)

**acrobat**

**callope**

**gelding**

**jack-in-the-box**

**stilts**

**surrey**

**trapeze**

**Uncle Sam**

- a toy box containing a figure (like a clown) on a spring that pops up when the lid is opened by turning a crank
- a male horse that cannot father a foal
- a person who performs gymnastic acts like tumbling, tightrope walking, and swinging on a trapeze
- a musical instrument that produces sounds by pushing steam through large whistles of differing lengths
- a symbol of the United States, pictured as a man dressed in red, white, and blue
- a very high swing that circus performers use for doing tricks
- upright poles with supports for the feet that allow a person to walk high above the ground
- a horse-drawn carriage with two wide bench seats and a canopy top



**Part 2:** Each underlined word below comes from chapters 1-3 and is used in a sentence from the story. Circle the best meaning for each underlined word.

1. The brave lion tamer, dressed in his African safari clothes, held only a whip.

*Safari* means . . . the jungle • a trip or expedition • something expensive

2. "The circus left town before I could get the knack of using [stilts]," Mitch said.

*Knack* means . . . the skill • the experience • the opportunity

3. The bystanders made way for the palomino.

*Bystanders* means . . . troublemakers • adults • onlookers

4. "You have a splendid-looking horse," Miss Minnie called over the commotion.

*Commotion* means . . . crowd • loud noise • argument

## Bible Verse Bookmarks

In chapter 1, Melinda reminds Andi that she was scared of the clowns the last time the circus came to town. Andi can't remember that long ago, so she doesn't believe her sister. Andi likes to think she's not afraid of anything. She can ride a galloping horse and climb to the top of the highest tree on the ranch. However, when Mitch, Melinda, and Andi watch the circus parade the next Saturday, Andi realizes she really is afraid of clowns—especially the ten-foot-tall Uncle Sam clown.

Maybe if Andi had a Bible verse written down on a bookmark, she could read the verse whenever she got scared and remember that God is always there to take care of her. Maybe clowns would not frighten her so much.

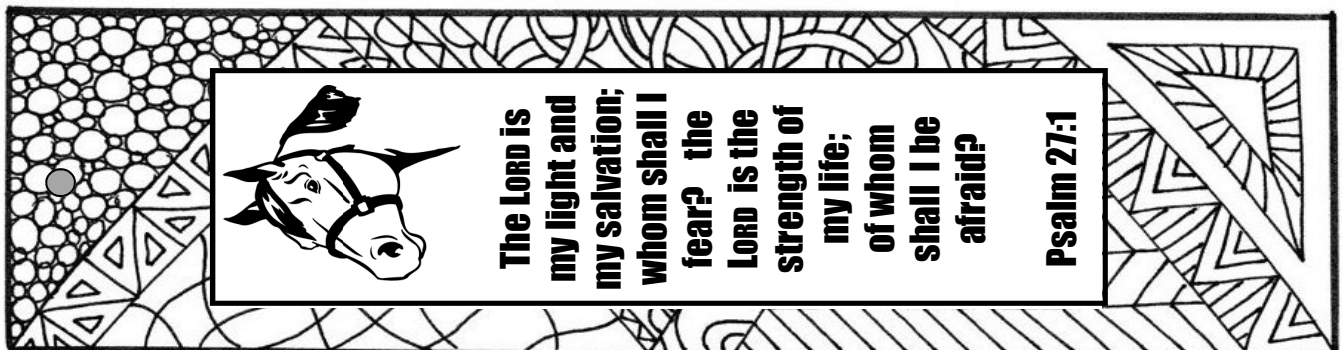
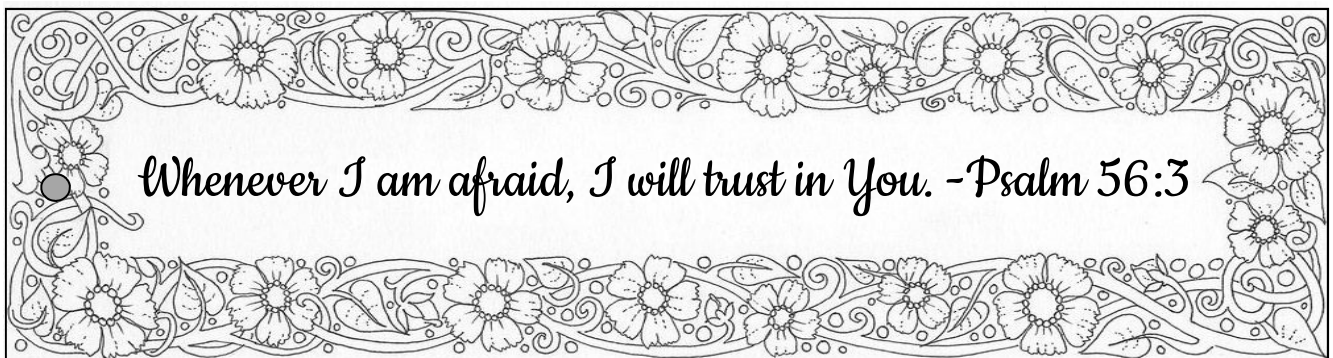
What about you? Do you have fears that seem silly to other people but are scary to you? Write them down. Then pray and give your fears to God.

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Follow these steps to make the bookmarks. (You may copy this page first if you like.)

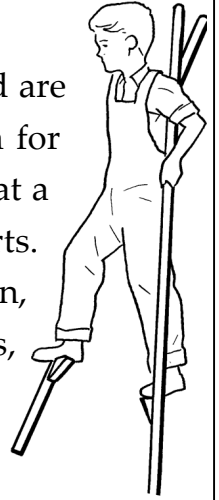
1. Tear out this page from the activity guide.
2. Carefully color the bookmarks with brightly colored pencils.
3. Cover each bookmark with a strip of heavy-duty, clear packing tape or clear laminate.
4. Turn the page over and cover the backsides of the bookmarks with the packing tape.
5. Cut out the bookmarks. Punch a hole at the top and tie a narrow ribbon. Learn the verse.





## Stilts

Stilts are tall poles a person uses to stand above the ground. The simplest kind are handheld stilts. These stilts are made from two poles and include a platform for the feet. The stilt-walker holds the upper part of the poles and lifts them one at a time as they walk forward or backward. Their feet rest on the foot supports. Stilts can also be made from two large tin cans. Holes are punched in the can, and twine is threaded through the holes. The walker climbs up on the cans, grabs the string loops, and walks around while lifting the cans by the strings.



Circus performers like the Uncle Sam clown at the parade in chapter 3 do not use handheld stilts. They use something called peg stilts. These stilts strap around the walker's foot, ankle, and below the knee, leaving their hands free. Peg stilts are usually made of wood, but nowadays they can also be made from aluminum. These kinds of stilts are so lightweight that the stilt-walker can walk quickly, turn around, and even jump rope! They must keep moving to keep their balance and not fall.



*Houses on stilts*

Stilts are not only for people. Big posts and pillars are used to keep buildings off the ground. Why would a building need stilts? Some houses are built on beaches. It is safer if the house stands above any chance of a high tide. The stilts keep the house from washing away in a flood.

Stilts have been around for a long time. Ancient books talk about people using stilts in Greece as long ago as the sixth century before Christ. People in Belgium practiced fighting while wearing stilts back in the year 1411.

Other people used stilts for more than fun or fighting. Stilts were important for everyday life in some places. People who lived in marshy areas used their stilts to work in the swamps or to cross a flooded river. Shepherds in southern France watched over their flocks while they stood on stilts. Standing high above the pasture helped the shepherds see any approaching dangers to their sheep. Village people also used stilts to walk over soggy ground during their daily activities.



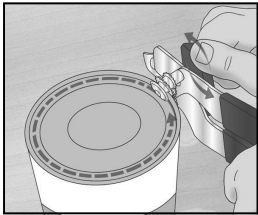
*French shepherds and their flock*

People love to try to be the best at something. Stilt-walkers like to show off their skills too. In 1891, Sylvain Dornon, a stilt-walker from France, walked from Paris, France, to Moscow, Russia, on his stilts. It took him fifty-eight days. I think he was a little crazy.

# Make Your Own Stilts

Stilts are fun to make and use. There are two kinds that can be easily made. One is the tall wooden poles with foot rests. You will need a parent's or older sibling's help for the wooden stilts. The other kind are made from tin cans, which you can make yourself.

## Easy Tin Can Stilts



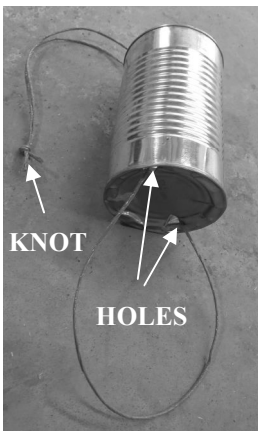
STEP 1

You will need:

- two large tin cans (coffee cans or tomato juice cans)
- a can opener to remove the lids
- a punching can opener, or a hammer and large nail to punch holes
- two pieces of heavy twine about as tall as you are



STEP 2



STEP 3

1. Wash the cans and remove the top lid from each can (if necessary).
2. Use a punching can opener (or a hammer and nail) to punch two holes into the remaining lid of each can. Punch the holes so they are directly across from each other.
3. Poke one end of the twine through one hole, and the other end through the other hole. Pull through and tie a strong knot. Now pull the loop up to keep the knot tight against the inside of the lid. Repeat with the other piece of twine and the other can.
4. Stand up on your stilts and pull the twine loop tight. It should reach to a little above your hands. If it is too long, cut the knot and retie.

5. To walk, pull up on the loop and lift your foot. Keep the string tight.

## Wooden Stilts

If you have an older sibling or a parent who can help, wooden stilts are even more fun. Go to [www.thisoldhouse.com/how-to/how-to-build-stilts](http://www.thisoldhouse.com/how-to/how-to-build-stilts) to watch the folks at *This Old House* build a nice pair of stilts.



*A boy standing on his finished stilts*

## **Andi Under the Big Top Chapters 4-6**

Answer the questions about what you have read.

### **Chapter 4: Circus Boy**

1. How does the Carter family dress to attend the circus? The girls wear \_\_\_\_\_.  
Andi's brothers wear \_\_\_\_\_.
2. How much does it cost to get into the animal menagerie tent? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What happens to Andi when she gets too close to the sea lions? (Circle one.)  
She falls into the tank.     •     She gets splashed.     •     A circus worker yells at her.
4. Which are Andi's favorite circus animals so far? \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
5. What does Andi lose in the chimpanzee cage? (Circle one.) a ring • a ribbon • a nickel
6. Andi crashes into a circus boy. What is his name? \_\_\_\_\_
7. True or false? The circus boy is one of the performers under the big top.

### **Chapter 5: Under the Big Top**

8. What does Henry sell at the circus? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Andi sees two big rings inside the large circus tent. Name what is in each ring.  
Ring #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Ring #2: \_\_\_\_\_
10. True or false? Andi figures out that the clowns are not scary at all.
11. Who is the person in charge of announcing the circus acts? \_\_\_\_\_
12. Every circus has its own special name. What is the name of the circus that has come to  
Andi's town? \_\_\_\_\_
13. What snacks does Andi buy? \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

### **Chapter 6: Ten Cents' Worth of Trouble**

14. Why has Henry climbed up into the seating stands? (Circle one.)  
to get a better view of the acts     •     to sell candy to a customer     •     to get his money back
15. True or false? The man returns Henry's dime and apologizes for cheating him.
16. Andi recognizes the lead coin in Henry's hand. Where has she seen bad money before?  
in the church offering plate     •     at the general store     •     in the cowboys' bunkhouse
17. What does Justin give Henry for doing a good job? \_\_\_\_\_
18. Andi is about to tell Mother something about Henry, but her words get cut off when  
the elephants arrive. What was she going to say? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## Vocabulary Words for Chapters 4-6

**Part 1:** Look back on pages 7-8 of *Andi Under the Big Top* to find these new words. Write what each word means.

1. **big top** \_\_\_\_\_

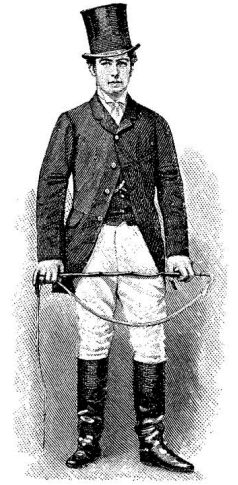
\_\_\_\_\_

2. **menagerie** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. **ringmaster** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Part 2:** Each word below comes from chapters 4-6. Match the words with their definitions. Look back on the book page numbers if you need help.

1.   C   performance (p. 35)

2. \_\_\_\_\_ scurry (p. 43)

3. \_\_\_\_\_ transformed (p. 37)

4. \_\_\_\_\_ barricade (p. 44)

5. \_\_\_\_\_ exhibition (p. 46)

6. \_\_\_\_\_ encircled (p. 47)

7. \_\_\_\_\_ dazed (p. 54)

8. \_\_\_\_\_ commotion (p. 56)



A. changed

B. a display; a presentation

~~C. the act; the show~~

D. went completely around

E. a lot of loud noise

F. a wall or barrier

G. confused; stunned

H. to run quickly

### Fun Facts About the Circus Boy

Answer these questions about Andi's new friend. See page 41 in the book for help.

1. What is the boy's first and last name? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Where is the young circus boy from? \_\_\_\_\_

3. How old does he seem to be? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What is the name of the circus boy's mean boss? \_\_\_\_\_

## Circus Snacks



"Peanuts, candy, lemonade!" Henry makes his way through the audience selling circus snacks. Today these kinds of snacks are called concessions. They are sold at circuses, baseball and football games, and other performances. You can watch the whales perform at Sea World while someone walks up and down the stands selling ice cream, soda, water, and even souvenirs like caps and fans. The sellers wear trays just like Henry's. Some things haven't changed, but one thing has: the price. Concessions are very expensive now. Here is a price list for Henry's circus snacks. Figure out how much each person spends for his or her snacks. Then figure out how much change Henry needs to give them.

<b>LEMONDADE</b>	<b>5 cents</b>	<b>LICORICE</b>	<b>7 cents</b>
<b>CHEWING GUM</b>	<b>5 cents</b>	<b>TAFFY CANDY</b>	<b>9 cents</b>
<b>PEPPERMINTS</b>	<b>5 cents</b>	<b>POPCORN</b>	<b>10 cents</b>
<b>PEANUTS</b>	<b>5 cents</b>	<b>CANDY APPLE</b>	<b>12 cents</b>

1. Andi buys lemonade and peanuts. She buys taffy too. She gives Henry two dimes.  
Andi spends \_\_\_\_\_. How much change? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Justin buys popcorn and a glass of lemonade. He gives Henry a quarter.  
Justin spends \_\_\_\_\_. How much change? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Melinda buys a candy apple and lemonade. She gives Henry a quarter.  
Melinda spends \_\_\_\_\_. How much change? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Mother buys a glass of lemonade. She gives Henry a nickel.  
Mother spends \_\_\_\_\_. How much change? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Mitch buys chewing gum, popcorn, and licorice. He gives Henry a quarter.  
Mitch spends \_\_\_\_\_. How much change? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Chad is very hungry! He buys peanuts, popcorn, a candy apple, and licorice. He also buys a glass of lemonade to wash it all down. He gives Henry two quarters.  
Chad spends \_\_\_\_\_. How much change? \_\_\_\_\_

## Wild Animal Menagerie

Andi, Melinda, Cory, and Mitch go inside a circus tent to see a menagerie—a collection of wild and unusual animals (pronounced men-Ä-jur-ee). Menageries were popular before zoos. European kings and queens kept menageries in parks on their royal courtyards.

A sailor brought the first lion to America in 1710. He showed it off in Boston. Traveling menageries were popular in Europe, and America got in on it too. One menagerie toured up and down the eastern states in 1834. The two men displayed an elephant, a rhinoceros, a camel, a zebra, two tigers, a polar bear, and several monkeys and parrots. How exciting it must have been to see these strange animals! It was like a traveling zoo.






Later, traveling menageries joined up with traveling circuses. The picture below shows an old-time menagerie many times larger than the one Andi visited. People could walk right among the animals. Imagine being up close to the largest camel in the world, elephants, ostriches, giraffes, and bison (buffalo). Dangerous animals like lions, tigers, and bears were kept in cages, but other animals roamed freely. Monkey aren't dangerous, but they were kept in cages too. *Think carefully:* Why do you think monkeys were kept caged up?



## The Five Senses

It's fun to read a story and imagine what it's like being there. You feel right there when the author uses the five senses to describe what is going on. On pages 38-39 in the book, Andi uses all but one of her five senses to explore the wild animal menagerie. Read those two pages again. Then do these things: 1) Write the name of the sense above each picture clue. 2) Read the words in the chart that show Andi using her five senses. 3) Name which sense Andi does *not* use during her visit to the menagerie. \_\_\_\_\_

### Andi Uses Her Five Senses

				
perfume-scented hankies	two rows of caged wagons	"It's louder than a calliope in here."	"It's so hot!"	
Ladies hold hankies to their noses.	lions, tigers, boa constrictor	animal noises: squealing, growling	Baby chimp yanks Andi's braid.	
"It stinks too."	Sea lions swim in a tub of water.	Elephants chomp hay. Sea lions bark.	Andi presses close to the ape cage.	
	giraffes, monkeys, apes	Chimp screeches. People laugh.	Water splashes Andi's face.	

Now it's your turn. Study the picture of the wild animal menagerie on the previous page. Using your five senses, list words you could use to describe this scene. Be creative.




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## **Andi Under the Big Top Chapters 7-9**

Answer the questions about what you have read.

### **Chapter 7: Henry's Invitation**

1. Justin asks, "What was your favorite act?" Name each person's favorite act.  
Justin: \_\_\_\_\_  
Melinda: \_\_\_\_\_  
Andi: \_\_\_\_\_
2. What is Andi afraid Melinda might do? (Circle one.)  
become ill from too many snacks • run away to join the circus • ask to go home early
3. How much does the sideshow cost? \_\_\_\_\_ List four things Cory saw there.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. True or false? Melinda wants to take Andi inside the tent to see the sideshow.
5. What does Henry invite Andi's family to do? (Circle two.)  
ride the elephants • see behind the scenes • meet the performers • pet the lions

### **Chapter 8: Behind the Scenes**

6. Justin tells his sisters to meet the rest of the family at what time? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Which question does Andi want to ask Miss Minnie Mae?  
A. Can two people go through the ring of fire at the same time?  
B. What happened to the other palomino?  
C. How long does it take to learn to be a bareback rider?
8. Circle what Henry liked about joining the circus. Cross out what he did not like.  
the chance to earn money • watering the elephants • not being able to leave  
being hit • feeding the monkeys • riding on the wagons • not being paid

### **Chapter 9: Taffy's Twin**

9. Name Miss Mae's trick horses. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Which horse looks just like Taffy? \_\_\_\_\_
11. True or false? Taffy is a filly, and the other palomino is a gelding.
12. Miss Mae used to perform on matched palominos. Why can't she any longer?  
\_\_\_\_\_
13. How much is the circus willing to pay to buy Taffy? \_\_\_\_\_
14. Andi wants her brother \_\_\_\_\_ to do something to help Henry.
15. Who stayed in town with the wagon? \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

## Vocabulary Words for Chapters 7-9

**Part 1:** Fill in the correct word from the New Words on pages 7-8. Clues are given.

1. When Andi whistled, Taffy trotted inside from her \_\_\_\_\_  
behind the barn. (a small, fenced pasture where horses are kept or exercised)
2. "I've just been to a \_\_\_\_\_," Cory said. "Pa gave me a nickel,  
and you won't believe what I saw!" (a small show at a circus or fair that often displays  
odd twists of nature like a two-headed calf)
3. "I don't think they're looking for a \_\_\_\_\_ horse,"  
Melinda said. "They haven't time to train him from scratch." (describes a horse that  
knows the basics and has carried a rider but is not completely trained)

**Part 2:** Use the clues to fill out the crossword puzzle with words from chapters 7-9.

### WORD BOX

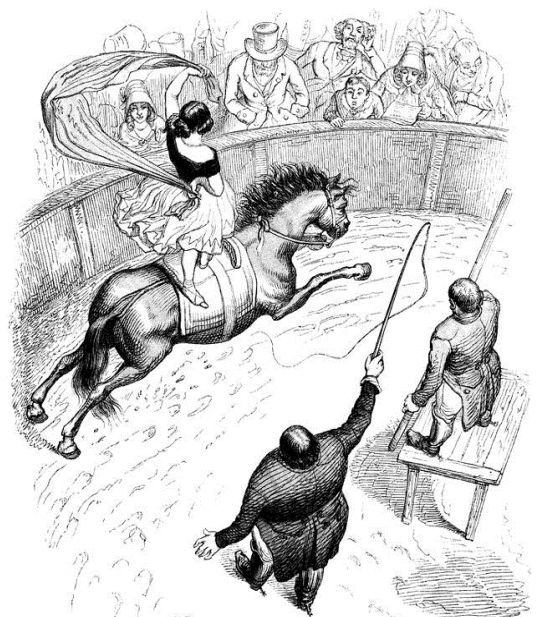
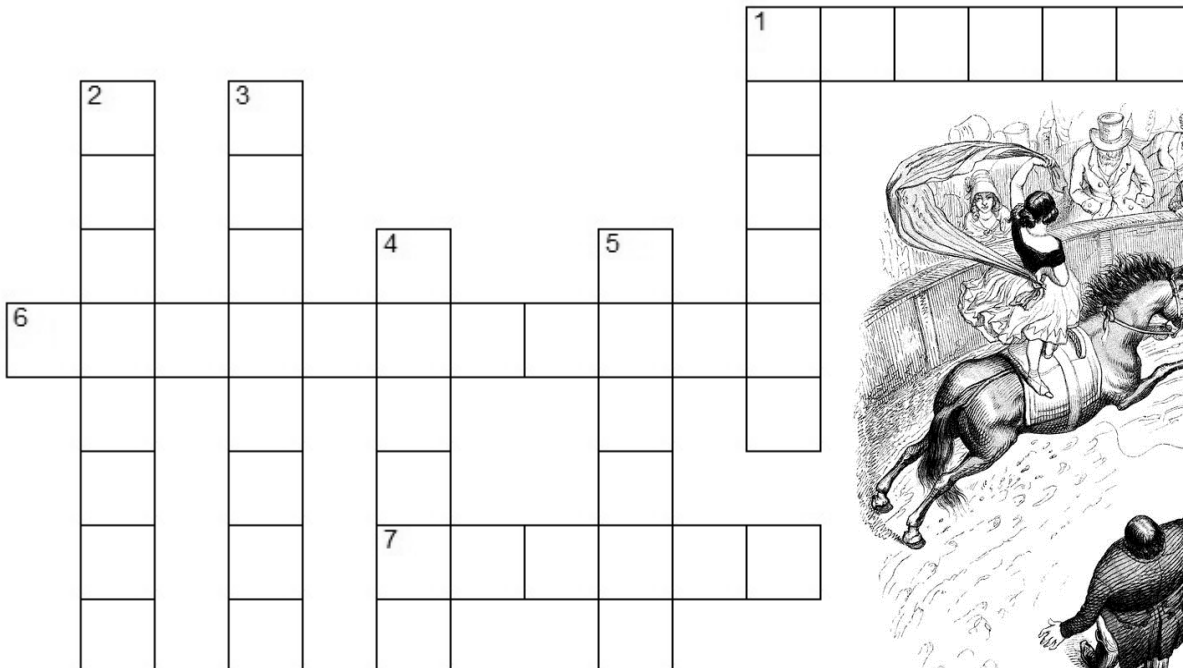
midget canvas indecent savage bellyaching scorch appeal enclosed

#### ACROSS:

1. to burn
6. whining and complaining
7. something's charm or attraction

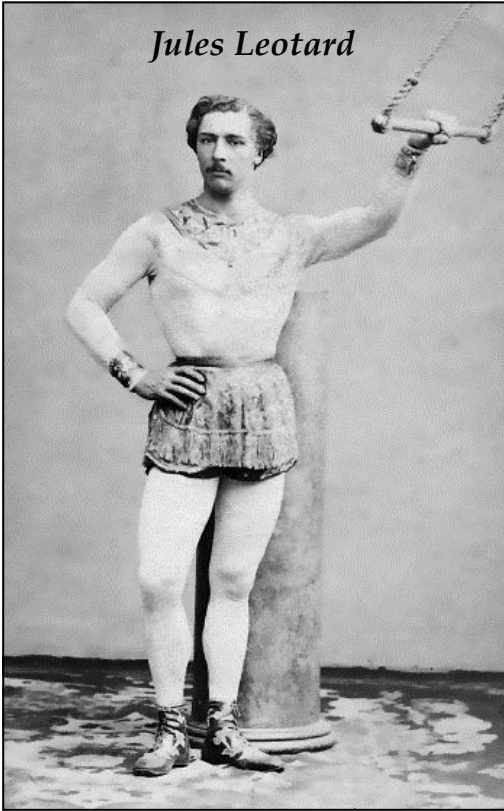
#### DOWN:

1. wild and fierce
2. shocking or improper
3. surrounded or encircled
4. a strong cloth used to  
make sails and tents
5. a very small person



## The Man on the Flying Trapeze

Jules Leotard



At the beginning of chapter 7, Melinda clasps her hands, takes a few dance steps, and sings this song after seeing the Robinson family's trapeze act.

*"He'd fly through the air with the greatest of ease,  
That daring young man on the flying trapeze.  
His movements were graceful, all girls he could please,  
And my love he has stolen away."*

This song was written especially for a young man named Jules Leotard. He was a French acrobat who invented the flying trapeze act. He also made the one-piece gym suit popular. The outfit became known as the leotard and was named after him.

Jules was the son of a gymnastics teacher. His father was also in charge of a swimming pool. Early on in life, Jules studied to become a lawyer (like Andi's brother Justin). However, at the age of eighteen Jules decided he liked trapeze bars, ropes, and rings better than being a lawyer. He hung the equipment over his father's swimming pool and practiced flying through the air. If he missed, the water caught him. He became the first trapeze artist in the world.

The costume he wore was a tight-fitting knitted garment. He came up with the idea himself. There were no flapping capes or loose clothing to catch on his trapeze bar or get tangled up in the ropes. This way Jules could avoid serious injury. His leotard also showed off his muscled body, which was a huge hit with the ladies. Nobody wore such tight-fitting garments in the 1800s!

Jules joined the French circus—the *Cirque Napoleon*. He also traveled to London, England. There he performed on five trapezes, turning somersaults in the air between the bars. He was such a sight to see that a man named George Leybourne wrote a song about Jules in 1867. "The Flying Trapeze" had a catchy tune, and soon everybody was singing it.

Sadly, Jules Leotard did not live long enough to become really famous. He died at the young age of twenty-eight from an infection. Some people think it might have been small pox, a horrible disease (and nothing like chicken pox).

## Under the Big Top: "The Flying Trapeze"

"The Flying Trapeze" on the next page is a ballad. A ballad is a song that tells a story and has many verses. This ballad tells the story of a young man and his sweetheart who go to the circus. The young lady watches a trapeze artist and instantly falls in love. The poor man sitting with his sweetheart is worried. He's afraid his love will run away with this daring young man on the flying trapeze.

Andi is worried too. She knows this song well. It might be one of the reasons she suddenly says, "Mother, don't let Melinda run away on account of a trapeze artist."

In the song, the trapeze artist steals the young man's sweetheart. They run off together and get married. The young man is left behind to sing his sad tale. The song ends with him going to the fair one summer day. He sees his former sweetheart and the trapeze artist. They are flying through the air together performing somersaults.

The original 1867 song had more verses than what is shown on the next page. The words have changed over the years too. The song here is only one version. It is a classic circus song. Read the words and listen to the song (the link is on the next page). Some of the song's words may be new to you. They are underlined. After you have read and listened to the song, come back to this page and match the new words with their meanings.

### "The Flying Trapeze" Word Match

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Once I was happy, but now I'm <u>forlorn</u> .                      | A. to wail and cry  |
| 2. Like an old coat that is <u>tattered</u> and torn.                  | B. ran away to be married   |
| 3. Left in this wide world to weep and to <u>mourn</u> .               | C. misery and gloom   |
| 4. This girl that I loved she was <u>winsome</u> .                     | D. male; boyish   |
| 5. She packed up her bags and <u>eloped</u> in the night.              | E. to live without worry; to relax                                    |
| 6. And there on the <u>midway</u> . . .                                | F. sad and lonely   |
| 7. . . . I saw with <u>despair</u> .                                   | G. charming and sweet   |
| 8. To help him to live <u>at his ease</u> .                            | H. an ape or monkey   |
| 9. He'd made her <u>assume</u> . . .                                   | I. the bad guy  |
| 10. . . . a <u>masculine</u> name.                                     | J. ragged and shabby  |
| 11. My love and that <u>villain</u> upon the trapeze.                  | K. to accept; to take on  |
| 12. That big-muscled <u>primate</u> should swing<br>through the trees. | L. the place at the fair where you<br>can find games and thrill shows |



## “The Flying Trapeze”

This is one version. There are many others. Use the link to listen to this fun song. Sing along!

[www.CircleCSteppingStones.com/theflyingtrapeze.mp3](http://www.CircleCSteppingStones.com/theflyingtrapeze.mp3)

Once I was happy, but now I'm forlorn,  
Like an old coat that is tattered and torn;  
Left in this wide world to weep and to mourn,  
Betrayed by a maid in her teens.  
This girl that I loved she was winsome,  
And I tried all I knew her to please;  
But apparently I couldn't please her as well  
As the man on the flying trapeze.

**He floats thro' the air with the greatest of ease,  
The daring young man on the flying trapeze.  
His movements are graceful, all the girls he does please,  
And my love he has stolen away.**

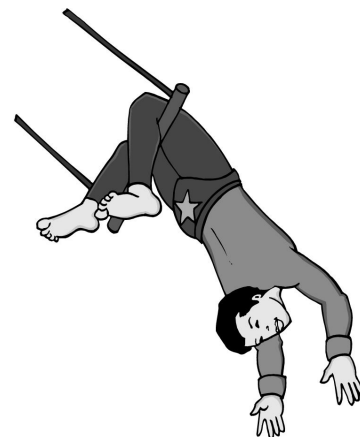
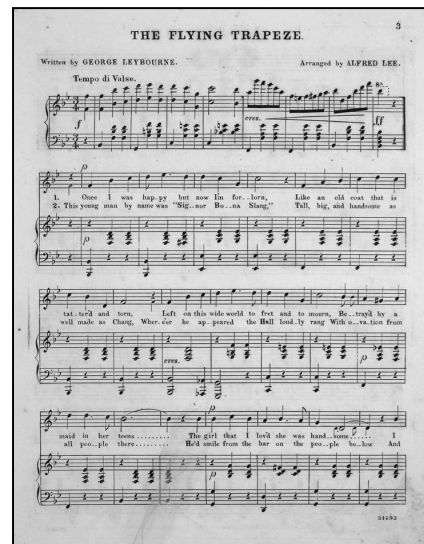


He smiled from the bar on my love down below,  
Then he did somersaults—three in a row!  
My love was excited and shouted “bravo!”  
When he winked at her from up above.  
She packed up her bags and eloped in the night  
With him with the greatest of ease.  
From two stories high he had lowered her down  
To the ground on his flying trapeze.

**He floats thro' the air with the greatest of ease,  
The daring young man on the flying trapeze.  
His movements are graceful, all the girls he does please,  
And my love he has stolen away.**

One summer day I went out to the fair,  
And there on the midway I saw with despair  
My love turning somersaults high in the air  
With him who had stole her away.  
He'd taught her gymnastics and dressed her in tights  
To help him to live at his ease.  
He'd made her assume a masculine name  
And set her up on the trapeze.

**They float thro' the air with the greatest of ease,  
My love and that villain upon the trapeze.  
That big-muscled primate should swing through the trees,  
But my love . . . but my love . . . but my love . . . he has stolen away.**



## **Andi Under the Big Top Chapters 10-12**

Answer the questions about what you have read.

### **Chapter 10: Andi's Great Idea**

1. What is Andi's least favorite breakfast food? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What is your least favorite breakfast food? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What is going on at the circus grounds when Andi and her family drive by?
  - A. The circus is packing up to leave.
  - B. An elephant has escaped and is tearing the place apart.
  - C. The circus is putting on one final performance.
4. Andi has a great idea to help Henry. What is it? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Where does Andi find Henry? (Circle one.)  
in the churchyard • at the circus grounds • across the street • sitting in the surrey
6. True or false? Henry thinks Andi's idea is the best one he's ever heard.

### **Chapter 11: Henry's Secret**

7. What surprise greets Andi when she goes in the barn to ride Taffy? (Circle one.)  
Taffy is sick. • Chad says she can't ride today. • Taffy is not in her stall.
8. What promise does Chad give Andi? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Who does Sid, the Circle C foreman, find sleeping next to the barn? \_\_\_\_\_
10. What has Henry done? \_\_\_\_\_
11. Why did he do it? (Circle one.)  
He needed the money. • He was forced. • He wanted to please Truckee, his boss.

### **Chapter 12: Home Sweet Home**

12. Circle the people who go after Taffy to bring her back.  
Sheriff Tate • Mother • Andi • Mitch • Justin • Chad • Sid
13. Who promises to send a telegram to Henry's aunt and uncle? \_\_\_\_\_
14. Name Henry's aunt and uncle. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
15. Andi is waiting for a telegram too. Does she get one? (Circle one.) **YES • NO**
16. How many days go by? (Circle one.) two • three • four • five
17. How long will Henry ride the train from California to Missouri? \_\_\_\_\_
18. Who calls to Andi and tells her Chad and Mitch are back? \_\_\_\_\_
19. Who have they brought home? \_\_\_\_\_

## Under the Big Top Word Puzzle

Use the clues to find a word that begins with each letter of the words "Under the Big Top." Some are new words. All of the words have something to do with the story. The second one has been done as an example.

### Clues:

<b>U</b> _ _ _ _ _	This is a symbol of the United States.
<b>N</b> i _ c _ e	Henry's lemonade was _____ and cold.
<b>D</b> _ _ _ _ _	Henry was given a bad one of these.
<b>E</b> _ _ _ _ _	Andi thinks Henry has an _____ life.
<b>R</b> _ _ _ _ _	This person announces the circus performances.
<b>T</b> _ _ _ _ _	This is a swing for doing circus tricks.
<b>H</b> _ _ _ _ _	Andi met this little boy at the circus.
<b>E</b> _ _ _ _ _	This is a large circus animal with a long trunk.
<b>B</b> _ _ _ _ _	The circus acts take place inside this tent.
<b>I</b> _ _ _ _ _	Henry _____ the girls behind the scenes.
<b>G</b> _ _ _ _ _	This is a male horse that cannot father a foal.
<b>T</b> _ _ _ _ _	This is how the circus traveled to Fresno.
<b>O</b> _ _ _ _ _	How many days did the circus perform?
<b>P</b> _ _ _ _ _	This is a small fenced pasture for horses.

## A Circus Train's Route

Coleman's Circus left Fresno on Sunday afternoon. It was headed for San Francisco but stopped at other towns along the way. The real-life Cooper, Bailey & Co. Circus traveled to California in 1876 and visited thirty-three towns in two months. Below is part of their schedule. Trace their route (in order) on the map below. Use an arrow to go to each city. Use a ruler to draw straight lines. The towns are labeled. Start in San Francisco and end in Sacramento. Color each city the circus visits. The first two cities have been done for you.

### September 1876

6-17 San Francisco: *red*

18 Gilroy: *blue*

19 Salinas: *yellow*

20 Watsonville: *orange*

21 Hollister: *brown*

22 San Jose: *gray*

23 Livermore: *green*

25 Anaheim: *dark blue*

26 San Bernardino: *purple*

27-28 Los Angeles: *light blue*

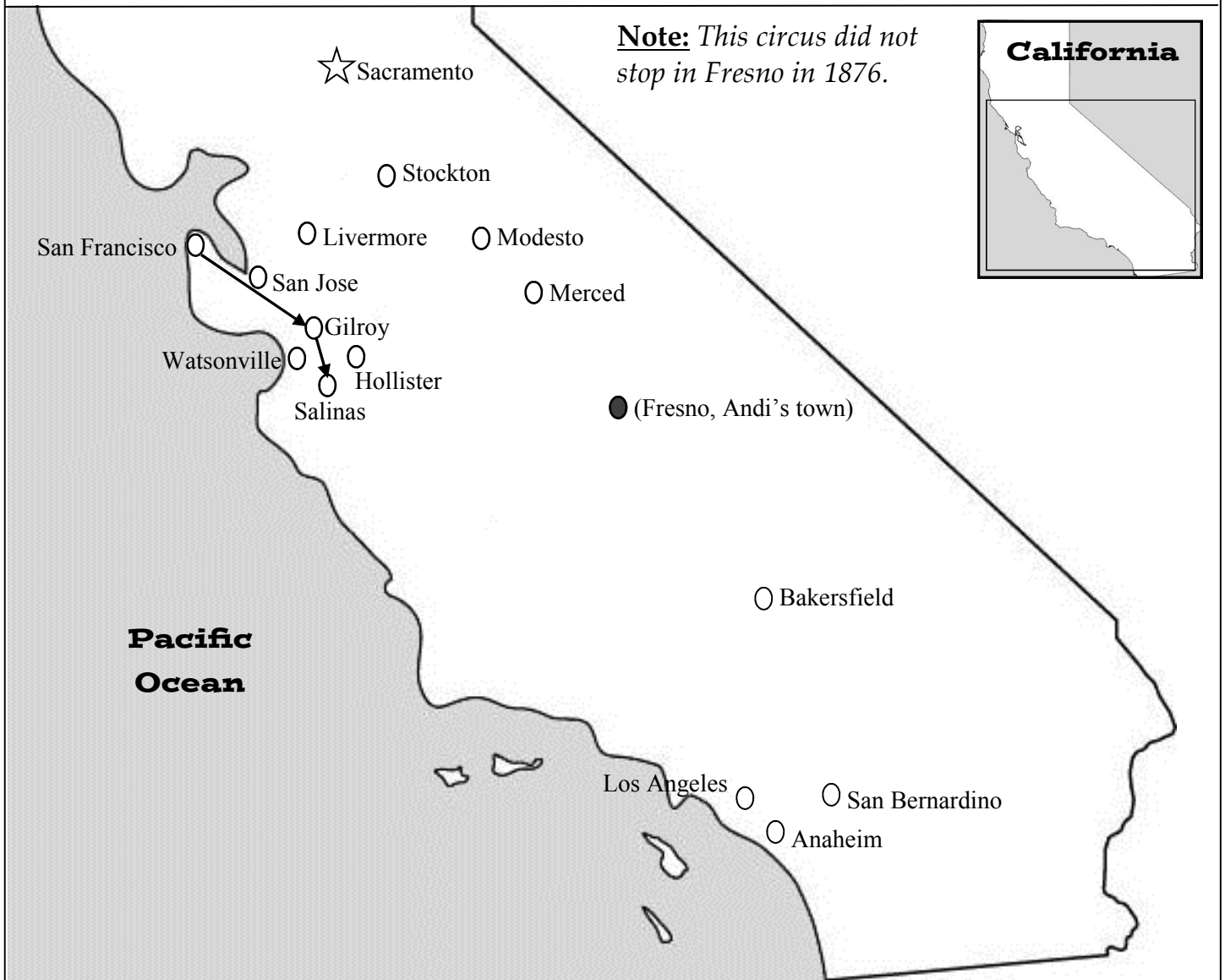
29 Bakersfield: *tan*

30 Merced: *gold*

October 2 Modesto: *pink*

3 Stockton: *dark green*

4-5 Sacramento: *red*



## Under the Big Top: Telegrams

"You'll feel even better when you hear that I'm going to send a telegram to your aunt and uncle this morning," Justin tells Henry. He sends it, and the next day someone from town brings an answering telegram out to the ranch. It probably looked something like the sample at the bottom of this page. Can you read the fancy writing? Everybody in the 1800s had nice writing. Typewriters had been invented (1868) but were not yet in everyday use. When the telegram was sent, where it came from, and who it was for was written at the top. Next came the message. Then finally the name of the person who sent it. Answer the questions about the telegram. (Look on page 97 in the book to help with the message.)

1. What time did this telegram message arrive? \_\_\_\_\_ The date? \_\_\_\_\_
2. From where did it come (city and state)? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who is this telegram for? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Copy the telegram's message. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Who is the telegram from? \_\_\_\_\_

Henry's uncle did not write the message in complete sentences. Why not? Because telegrams were very expensive. You paid for each word, so you kept your message short.

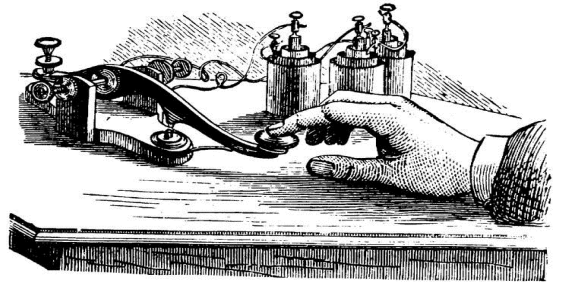
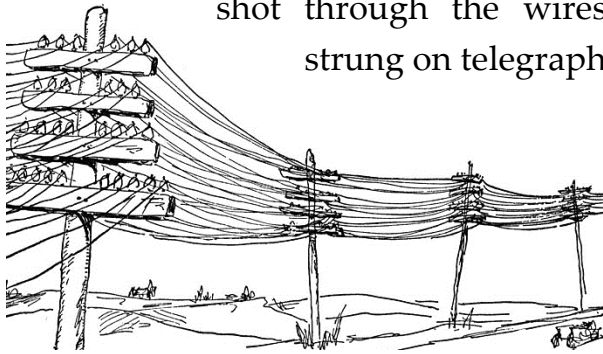
CLASS OF SERVICE	WESTERN UNION	SYMBOLS
This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.	TELEGRAM	DL = Day Letter NL = Night Letter LT = International Letter Telegram
The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination		
Rec'd at <u>8:05 am</u> <u>August 28</u> <u>18 77</u>		
Dated: <u>Jefferson City, MO.</u>		
To: <u>Justin Carter</u>		
<u>Fresno, CALIF.</u>		
<u>Glad to hear Henry safe. Very worried.</u>		
<u>Want Henry to come home.</u>		
<u>Hank Jackson</u>		

# Telegrams

Telegrams were a lot like today's email—very fast. Letters took many days (even weeks) to go from one side of the country to the other. However, a telegram to and from anyplace in the United States took only seconds to send and receive. This is how it worked.

Justin rode into town to the telegraph office. (*Tele* means “distance” and *graph* means “writing.” So telegraph means “distance writing,” and that’s exactly what it was!) He brought along a paper with the message he wanted to send to Henry’s aunt and uncle. The telegrapher (the man who ran the telegraph office) counted the words and charged Justin for each word he sent. (Aren’t you glad email is free?)

The telegrapher tapped out Justin’s message on the telegraph machine in long and short taps. Each time he pushed down on the knob, a burst of electricity shot through the wires, which were strung on telegraph poles.



The electricity zipped along the wires at the speed of light until they reached their destination. When the message arrived in Jefferson City, the telegrapher listened to the dots and dashes, wrote down the message, and had it delivered.

The long and short taps are Morse code. Each letter is a combination of short dots and long dashes. It’s like a secret code you can write or tap out to others. Use Morse code to figure out this message. Then cut out the code and keep it on hand to write your own secret messages. Have fun!

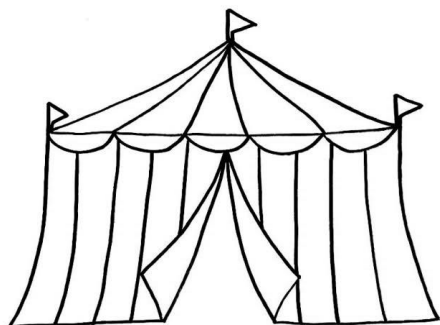
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 — — — — — — — — — — — — — —  
 — • — • — — — — — — • — • — • —  
 — — — — — — — — — — — — — —

A • —	U • • —
B — • • •	V • • • —
C — • — •	W • — —
D — • •	X — • • —
E •	Y — • — —
F • • — •	Z — — • •
G — — •	
H • • • •	
I • •	
J • — — —	
K — • —	1 • — — — —
L • — • •	2 • • — — —
M — —	3 • • • — —
N — •	4 • • • • —
O — — —	5 • • • • •
P • — — •	6 — • • • •
Q — — • —	7 — — • • •
R • — •	8 — — — • •
S • • •	9 — — — — •
T —	0 — — — — —

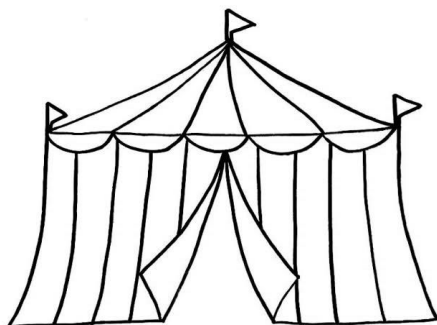


## Here Comes the Circus!

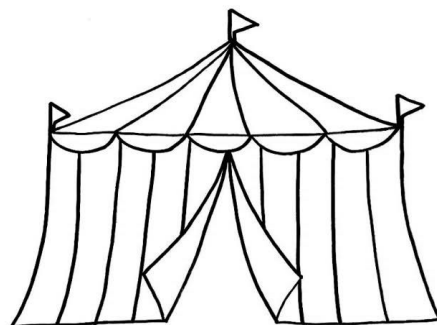
Do you remember what you read about circuses in the History Fun section? If the fact is true, color the big top. If the fact is not true, cross it out with a big X.



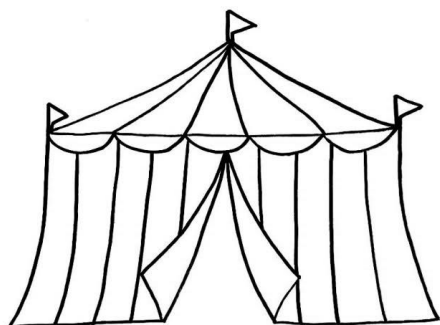
Some early circuses included acted-out battles and chariot races.



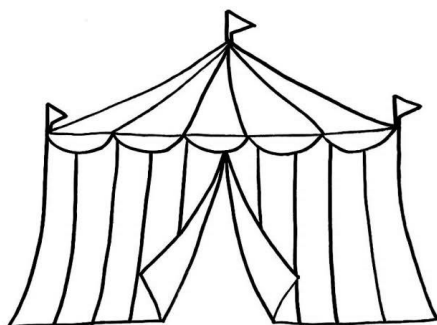
A circus and a zoo were both places to see wild animals in the 1800s.



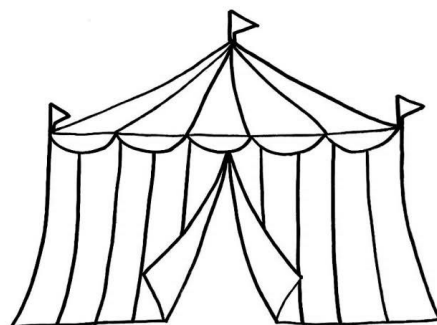
Circuses have always traveled around, starting with the first one in 1768.



There have been over one hundred different circuses since the first one opened.



The lion tamer was the most popular circus act under an 1800s big top.



The railroads in America made it possible for circuses to travel all over the U.S.

## Favorite Character

Who is your favorite character from *Under the Big Top*? \_\_\_\_\_

Write three sentences that tell why he or she is your favorite character.

---

---

---

---

---

---



# Answers: Andi Under the Big Top - 1

## Page 29: Questions Chapters 1-3

### Chapter 1

1. in the churchyard
2. blue-gray; straw-colored; Sunday clothes and a cap
3. circus posters
4. Cory—the lion and lion tamer; Andi—the bareback rider
5. Andi's big sister; fourteen
6. Mitch

### Chapter 2

7. trapeze artist; bareback rider; lion tamer
8. Mitch
9. Taffy; Panda; Chase
10. stilts
11. false

### Chapter 3

12. on Taffy
13. He got to water the elephants.
14. Henry
15. Any of these: elephants, camels, lions, snakes, horses, monkeys, tigers, giraffe
16. Answers will vary.

## Page 30: Vocabulary Chapters 1-3

### Part 1

Acrobat: a person who performs gymnastic acts like tumbling, tightrope walking, and swinging on a trapeze

Calliope: a musical instrument that produces sounds by pushing steam through large whistles of differing lengths

Gelding: a male horse that cannot father a foal

Jack-in-the-box: a toy box containing a figure (like a clown) on a spring that pops up when the lid is opened by turning a crank

Stilts: upright poles with supports for the feet that allow a person to walk high above the ground

Surrey: a horse-drawn carriage with two wide bench seats and a canopy top

Trapeze: a very high swing that circus performers use for doing tricks

Uncle Sam: a symbol of the United States, pictured as a man dressed in red, white, and blue

### Part 2

1. Safari: a trip or expedition
2. Knack: the skill
3. Bystanders: onlookers
4. Commotion: loud noise

## Page 35: Questions Chapters 4-6

### Chapter 4

1. church dresses; suits and ties
2. five cents (a nickel)
3. She gets splashed.
4. monkeys and apes
5. a ribbon
6. Henry (Jackson)
7. false

### Chapter 5

8. candy, peanuts, lemonade
9. lion cage and lions; high wire and platforms (trapeze artists)
10. true
11. ringmaster
12. Coleman's American Circus
13. peanuts and lemonade

### Chapter 6

14. to get his money back
15. false
16. in the church offering plate
17. a tip (ten cents)
18. Henry is a runaway.

## Page 36: Vocabulary Chapters 4-6

### Part 1

1. the large tent where the circus performances take place
2. a collection of wild or unusual animals on display
3. the person who announces the performances in the circus ring

### Part 2

1. C
2. H
3. A
4. F
5. B
6. D
7. G
8. E

### Fun Facts About the Circus Boy

1. Henry Jackson
2. Missouri
3. seven or eight years old
4. Truckee

## Page 37: Circus Snacks

1. 19 cents; 1 cent (penny) change
2. 15 cents; 10 cents (dime) change
3. 17 cents; 8 cents change
4. 5 cents; no change
5. 22 cents; 3 cents change
6. 39 cents; 11 cents change

## Page 39: The Five Senses

Answers will vary.

## Page 38: Wild Animal

### Menagerie

### Possible Answer

Monkeys are quick and clever. They could escape easier than a camel or an elephant if they are not kept caged.

# Answers: Andi Under the Big Top—2

## Page 40: Questions Chapters 7-9

### Chapter 7

- Justin—the bicyclists; Melinda—the trapeze act; Andi—Miss Minnie Mae and her horses
- run away to join the circus
- a nickel; sword swallower, giant rat, two-headed calf, midget
- false
- see behind the scenes, meet the performers

### Chapter 8

- six o'clock
- B
- The chance to earn money, watering the elephants, ~~not being able to leave, being hit~~, feeding the monkeys, riding on the wagons, ~~not being paid~~

### Chapter 9

- Corona, Jupiter
- Corona
- true
- The other palomino (Luna) died.
- 500 dollars
- Justin
- Mitch and Chad

## Page 41: Vocabulary Chapters 7-9

### Part 1

- paddock
- sideshow
- green broke

### Part 2—Crossword Puzzle

#### Across:

- scorch
- bellyaching
- appeal

#### Down:

- savage
- indecent
- enclosed
- canvas
- midget

## Page 43: “The Flying Trapeze” Word Match

- |      |      |       |
|------|------|-------|
| 1. F | 5. B | 9. K  |
| 2. J | 6. L | 10. D |
| 3. A | 7. C | 11. I |
| 4. G | 8. E | 12. H |

## Page 45: Questions Chapters 10-12

### Chapter 10

- oatmeal
- Answers will vary.
- A
- to hide him on the ranch
- across the street
- false

### Chapter 11

- Taffy is not in her stall.
- He will find Taffy.
- Henry
- He has taken Taffy for the circus.
- He was forced.

### Chapter 12

- Sheriff Tate, Mitch, Chad
- Justin
- Myrtle, Hank
- NO
- four
- three days
- Melinda
- Taffy

## Page 46:

### Under the Big Top Word Puzzle

U— Uncle Sam  
N— nice  
D— dime  
E— exciting  
R— ringmaster

T— trapeze  
H— Henry  
E— elephant

B— big top  
I— invites  
G— gelding

T— train  
O— one  
P— paddock

## Page 47: A Circus Train's Route



## Page 48-49: Telegrams

- 8:05 am; August 28, 1877
- Jefferson City, Missouri
- Justin Carter
- Glad to hear Henry safe. Very worried. Want Henry to come home.
- Hank Jackson

### Page 49: Learn Morse Code

## Page 51: Here Comes the Circus!

Some early circuses included acted-out battles and chariot races.

~~A circus and a zoo were both places to see wild animals in the 1800s.~~

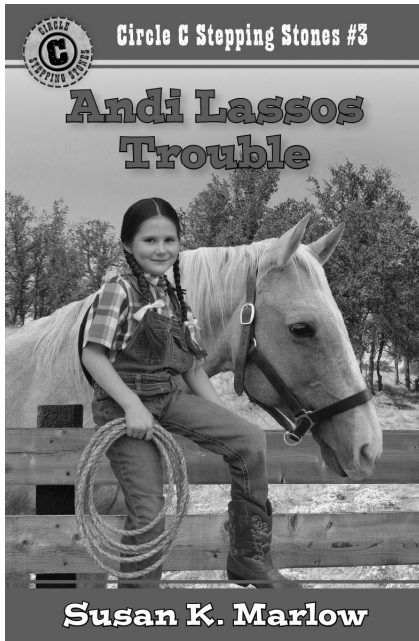
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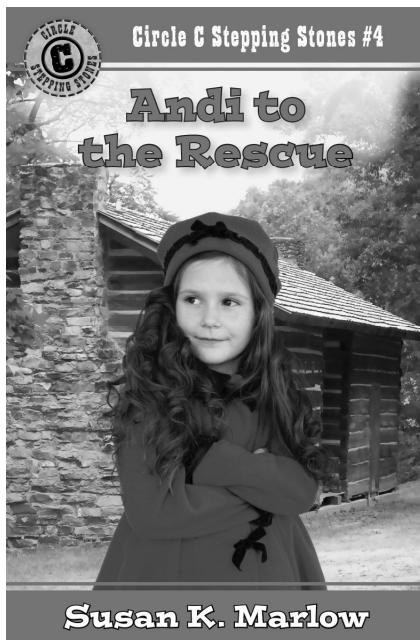
The railroads in America made it possible for circuses to travel all over the U.S.

**Coming Fall 2017**  
**Don't miss books 3 and 4 in the**  
**Circle C Stepping Stones series!**



What's more fun than being nine years old, living on a ranch, and having your own horse? A roundup! When the Circle C ranch decides to host a rodeo with two other ranches, dozens of cowboys eagerly sign up to prove they're the best riders and ropers in the valley. Andi aims to prove she can lasso too, even if big brother Chad insists the contest is not for kids. After hearing exciting tales of past rodeos, Andi thinks there must be some way kids can be included. She snags her lasso, her palomino filly, Taffy, and seeks help from her friend Sadie up in the hills.

Word spreads about the roundup, but rodeo day turns dangerous. The sheepherding Hollisters show up, ready to participate. They have even brought along a few sheep for the kids to ride. Sheep on a cattle ranch is the ultimate insult to the ranchers. Will a friendly rodeo turn into a range war? What can Andi and her family do to keep their neighbors and themselves safe?



Andi Carter doesn't want to go to school this rainy fall morning. Miss Hall is sick, and Mother is the substitute teacher. What will Andi's friends think? But Andi has bigger troubles ahead. Two outlaws kidnap them after school, thinking Mother is Miss Hall. It's too dangerous to correct this mistake and too late for Andi to run for help.

The men take Andi and Mother to a remote cabin, where Gentlemen outlaw, Will Benton, asks "Miss Hall" to teach him to read. When Mother learns Mr. Benton plans to keep them for several weeks, she sneaks Andi out the window, with instructions to follow the creek and bring back help. But the cold, rainy woods are thick and scary, and the creek seems to go on forever.

Andi eventually meets up with the search party, but there's no time to rest or get warm. She must retrace her steps and lead her brothers and the sheriff back to Mother—before the outlaws take their "teacher" and disappear forever.