



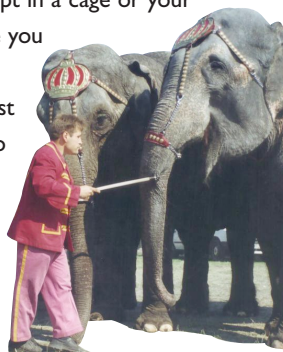
Lonely
days ...

... and
scary
nights ...



Circuses are **no** **fun** for animals

Imagine being stolen from your family and taken to a strange place where people beat and starve you. They make you perform stupid, scary acts over and over until you learn that if you jump through a flaming hoop or stand on your head, they might stop hitting and hurting you. When you aren't performing tricks, you are kept in a cage or your legs are chained together to make sure you can't get away. If you try, you'll be hurt badly, maybe even killed. You spend most of your time trapped like this, unable to play or do anything fun. And you never get to see your family again.



It sounds awful,
doesn't it?





Chained ...



... beaten ...



... terrified.

Sadly, this is what life is like for circus animals, including elephants, lions, tigers, and bears. It's hard for them to ride bicycles and perform other tricks, but they do it because they've learned that if they don't, they'll be in trouble. Many circus elephants have old scars on their faces and around their ears from where they were beaten. Lions and tigers cower and put their ears back because they're frightened. Elephants rock back and forth, and bears, tigers, and lions pace because they've gone crazy from being caged and abused.

Big animals could easily hurt the men and women who use them in circuses—that's why trainers carry whips, guns, and hooks. They use them to keep the animals scared, so they won't fight back or try to run away. If animals don't want to do a trick, the trainer whips or hits them.

How can I help?

- Go to circuses that feature only human performers, such as Cirque Ingénieux, Cirque du Soleil, the New Pickle Family Circus, and Circus Oz. They have all the fun but none of the sad animals.
- Write a letter to the editor of your newspaper and tell readers how animals suffer in circuses. Many people believe that circuses are important to kids—let them know that protecting animals is important to a lot of kids, including you. Most people like animals and don't want them to be hurt. When they know how circus animals are treated, many will decide not to go.



BWCC India

Made to wear silly clothes, and chained up forever.



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