



## OVER THE TOP!

### EDUCATOR PACKET

#### How to Make the Most of Your Field Trip!

**Congratulations!** Your decision to offer your students a field trip to the 138<sup>th</sup> Edition of *Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey*<sup>®</sup> promises an electrifying experience, brimming with learning opportunities in science, geography, animal care and math.

At *Ringling Bros.*<sup>®</sup>, we know that children learn best and retain knowledge longer when they are engaged and motivated. The live *Ringling Bros.* experience provides that and more!

As part of our ongoing **CircusWorks**<sup>®</sup> educational programs, we have created the enclosed Educator Packet filled with circus-themed, interactive educational materials to help you maximize the *OVER THE TOP* learning potential of your trip to *The Greatest Show On Earth*<sup>®</sup>! The packet features three standards-based lessons which explore these intriguing questions:

**How do the circus trainers communicate with their performing animal partners?** Students find out how *Ringling Bros.* animal experts combine patience, trust, respect and praise in a lesson about animal care and training!

**How do those motorcycle daredevils safely ride motorcycles at 65 mph around and upside down inside a crowded steel sphere?** It's all about centrifugal force and a large dose of trust!

**How do 102 people from 20 different countries speaking 11 languages get along as they perform, travel and live together for two years?** Students will find out how in a lesson on geography and character education!

In addition to these high-interest lessons,  
your Educator Packet includes:

- ▶ A “Let’s Go To The Circus” poster to display in your classroom
- ▶ **CircusFit**® flyer introducing the *Ringling Bros.*® youth fitness program that encourages kids to have fun while making healthy lifestyle choices. Learn more at [www.CircusFit.com](http://www.CircusFit.com)
- ▶ A writing and review lesson for after your field trip. Students will practice specific writing skills and send a thank-you letter to their favorite *Ringling Bros.* performers via e-mail to [education@feldinc.com](mailto:education@feldinc.com)
- ▶ But the fun doesn’t stop there! Here’s more!

At [www.Ringling.com](http://www.Ringling.com) you can learn all about the *Ringling Bros.* stars and download many more free educational resources.

- Test your knowledge of special circus words and phrases by checking out the Circus Glossary! <http://Ringling.com/activity/education/glossary.aspx>
- Learn about our amazing family of Asian elephants at [www.ElephantCenter.com](http://www.ElephantCenter.com)
- Download circus-themed games and activity pages created especially for kids by *Weekly Reader*

This is entertainment and education as only *The Greatest Show On Earth*® can provide!

Have a great time at the show!

May All Your Days Be Circus Days!

Peggy Williams

Education Outreach Department

*Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey*®

(Please e-mail any comments or questions to [education@feldinc.com](mailto:education@feldinc.com))

Here is a fun fact and a math challenge  
to amaze your students:

The *Ringling Bros.* train has 61 cars. Each car is 90 feet long. How many feet long is the entire train?

(Answer: 5,490 feet) Point out to your students that a mile is 5,280 feet. That means the train is more than a mile long, and that’s before the engines are added!

And *Ringling Bros.* has two different trains!

