

# A MESSAGE TO THE STUDENTS

**Y**ou are about to attend a very exciting performance of the Big Apple Circus. Before you attend, your teacher and family may wish to discuss audience etiquette (manners).

Appropriate behavior is extremely important, not only to you and the other members of the audience, but also to the performers in the ring. As you learn about theater etiquette, think about and discuss the special privilege and role of an audience.

## Think about the last special event you attended.

- ★ What was the reaction of the audience?
- ★ Can you list some guidelines for being part of a good audience?



## Audience etiquette includes the following:

- ★ Following the instructions of your teacher or chaperone at all times.
- ★ Entering the tent or theater on time and sitting quietly in your assigned seat.
- ★ Being polite and attentive during the performance.
- ★ Remaining with your group at all times.
- ★ Walk, don't run, when entering or leaving the tent or theater.
- ★ Ask a teacher's or chaperone's permission before leaving your assigned seat.
- ★ Applause is a big indicator of the way an audience feels about a performance. If you like an act or a performer, your applause lets them know. If people in the audience do not care for something, they simply do not applaud or they applaud very softly. This conveys the message clearly.



Review these guidelines with your teacher and classmates. Add others to this list as you discuss them. Here is some room for you to list other ideas:

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