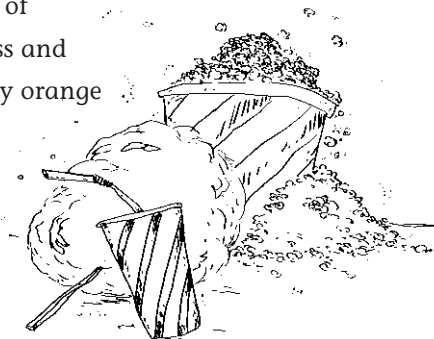


CHAPTER 3

THE SHOW BEGINS

Because the circus was free, Alfie and Fitzer could spend their pocket money on goodies. They bought huge tubs of popcorn, big sticks of candyfloss and giant fizzy orange drinks.



Tar-An-Tar-Aaaa

At seven o'clock exactly the monkey band blew their trumpets and banged their drums.

Monty, the circus owner, cycled into the ring.

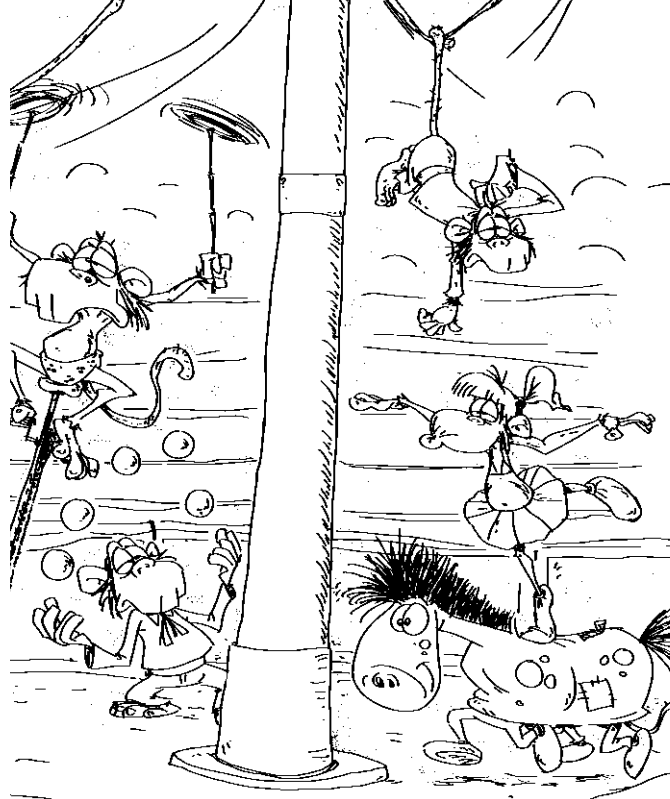
'Welcome to Monty's Marvellous Monkey Circus. Let the show begin!'

There were monkeys juggling balls and plastic bananas. Monkeys driving toy cars. There were flying trapeze monkeys and even a monkey in a pink dress dancing across a tightrope high up near the roof of the tent.





It was the best circus ever.



After the monkey acrobats had finished their act, Monty came back into the ring.

'Now, ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, it's time for some lucky person to win the Big Prize.'

He clapped his hands twice, and two monkeys pushed a drum out into the centre of the ring. Monty put his hand into the drum and pulled out a leaflet.

