



Tear Off and Give to Your PARENTS OR GUARDIAN

Dear _____,

There are plenty of family shows that don't use wild animals that we can all enjoy. I don't want to attend shows that use wild animals because:

● Circuses Don't Teach Us

Watching wild animals perform unnatural tricks does not teach children respect or appreciation for animals, nor does it help animals in the wild.

● Circuses Are Not Safe

The conflict between the natural instincts of wild animals and the harsh realities of captivity — as well as training that utilizes violence, fear, and intimidation — causes tremendous stress. Some animals have even gone on the rampage, injuring and killing people.

● Circuses Can Make Me Sick

Public records show that elephants in some circuses have a history of tuberculosis (TB). TB can be dangerous and transmitted to humans.

● Circus Laws Are Not Adequate

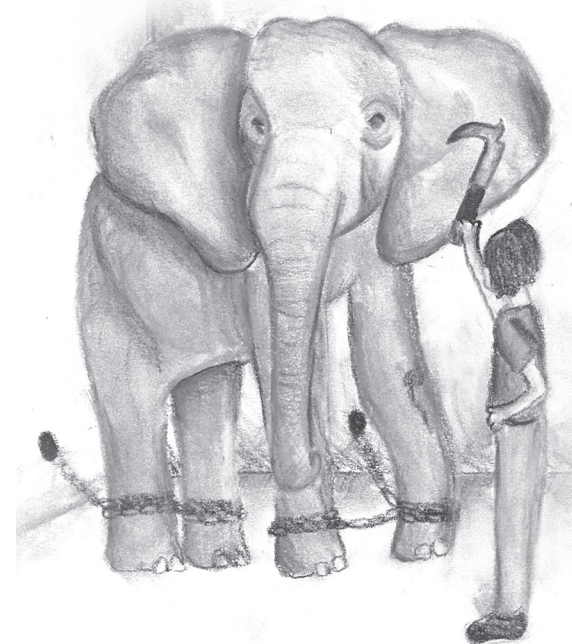
While some state and federal laws do exist, they are not tough enough or specific enough to make a real difference. Let's work together to get our city councils and state legislatures to ban wild animal circuses from coming to our town.

Get more info at www.bornfreeusa.org or call us at (202) 450-3168. Check out www.WhatElephantsLike.org, and discover an animated children's book, coloring book, video and more.

When you SEE CIRCUS ANIMALS performing IN THE RING...



What you're NOT SEEING is what happens BEHIND THE SCENES!



Illustrator and co-author JULIA DAVIS, AGE 12

"The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated."
— Mahatma Gandhi, Indian Statesman and Philosopher

KEEP WILDLIFE IN THE WILD

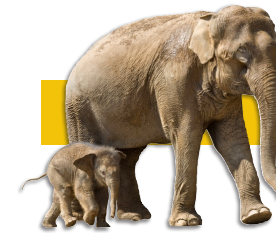
Born Free USA is a national non-profit 501(c)(3) animal advocacy organization whose mission is to end the suffering of wild animals in captivity, rescue individual animals in need, protect wildlife in their natural habitats, and encourage compassionate conservation.



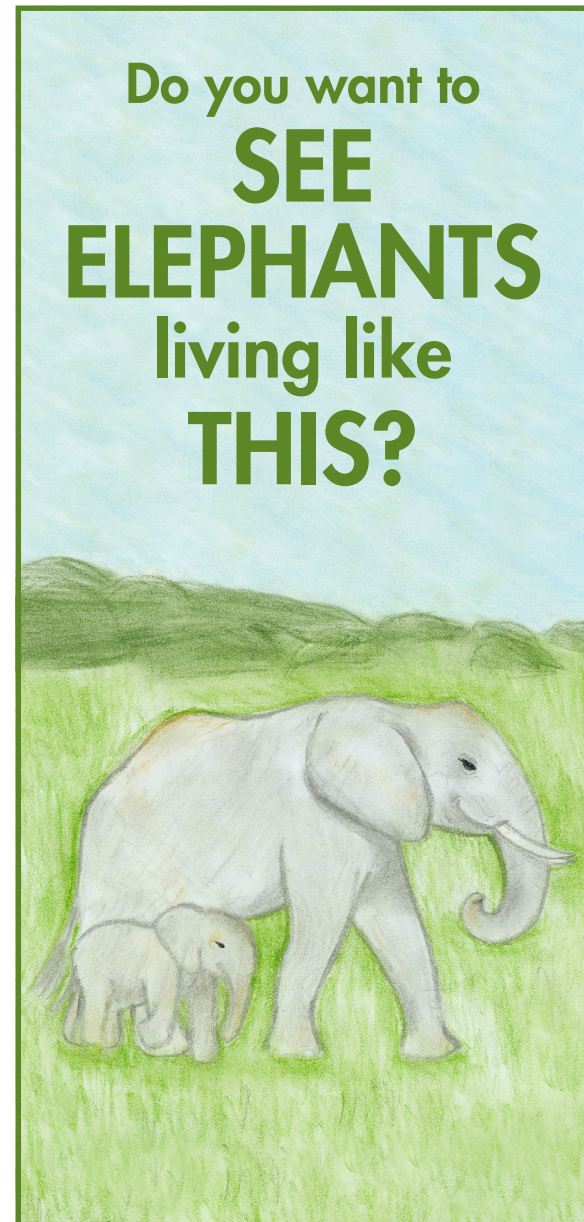
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FROM ONE KID TO ANOTHER



DID YOU KNOW?

IN THE WILD:



● Elephants Are Super Social

Elephants are really smart and like to socialize with each other. In the wild, they live and travel in families, caring for and playing with each other. Young elephants are suckled and protected by their moms for the first two or three years of their lives, and like to play with the other babies in the herd. It's amazing to see mothers, daughters and grand daughters all living together.

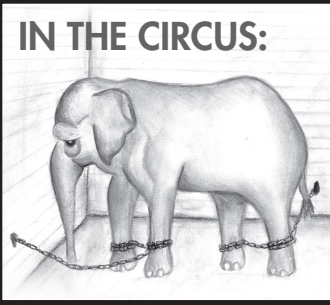
● Elephants Pack Their Trunks and Roam Far and Wide

When families of elephants gather it's called a "herd." Herds travel up to 30 miles a day and can have *thousands* of square miles of territory!

● Elephants Enjoy Wallowing and Bathing

Elephants like to bathe often, and enjoy splashing around in the cool water to escape the blazing sun. Elephants are very good swimmers, and like you and your friends, often play with one another in the water, splashing and squirting water with their trunks. Elephants wallow to cover themselves in wet mud to ward off biting flies.

DID YOU KNOW?



IN THE CIRCUS:

● Elephants in Circuses Are Often Alone and Chained for Hours and Hours

Circuses usually take baby elephants from their moms before the age of two. Elephants in circuses have few companions and may be forced to stand in chains, staring at blank walls for many, many hours at a time! They endure long, brutally hot or bitterly cold train rides that can take many days. *[Can you imagine being taken away from your mom at two years old, and then spending much of your life in chains?]*

● There's Nothing Normal about an Elephant's Life in a Circus

Elephants in circuses cannot get proper exercise, or even play. Like you, they want to eat a variety of food, but circuses don't offer many choices. And elephants are forced to perform unnatural "tricks." *[Would you want to eat the same food every day, stand on your head, and be yelled at by a trainer holding a sharp stick?]*

● Elephants in Circuses Are Hit and Whipped

Elephants in the circus are often whipped and hit with "bullhooks" — 2-foot long, heavy sticks with a sharp, metal hook on one end. Bullhooks, whips, and other "tools" are used to "break" the elephants' spirits to make sure they obey and perform on command for the circus crowds. *[Now, you don't want to be part of that crowd, do you?]*

NOW YOU KNOW!

Now that you know animal-circus acts are not fun and games for animals, why not have fun with the following human games — no suffering involved!

● Circus Word Scramble

- 1) h l o b k l u o = _____
- 2) r c s u c i = _____
- 3) p n a e h l t e = _____
- 4) r d e h = _____
- 5) f c l a = _____
- 6) h n a c s i = _____
- 7) t o h m r e = _____

● Decode the Secret Message

Now that you have solved the Circus Word Scramble, rearrange the above underlined letters to decode the secret message:

____ _ ____ _ ____ _ ____ _ ____ _
____ _ ____ _ ____ _ ____ _ ____ _ !

● Fill in the Blanks

The _____ of a circus animal is filled with misery. Elephants are forced to do unnatural _____, like standing on their _____. When not performing, elephants are _____ up for many, many hours. In order to break their _____, elephants can be hit with a heavy stick that has a sharp hook, called a _____

Bonus Question: What was the hairy, extinct ancestor of the elephant called?

ANSWERS:

SCRAMBLE: 1) bullhook 2) circus 3) elephant 4) herd 5) calf 6) Chains 7) Mother MESSAGE: No Animal Circuses! BLANKS: life, mammoth BONUS: bullhook, spirit, chained, head, tricks, head, elephant



WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

● Don't Go to Animal Circuses

There are plenty of cool shows that don't use wild animals such as movies, concerts, plays, sporting events, stunt-car shows, and more. As much as you want to see an elephant, if you really love animals, you won't go. Supporting the animal-circus industry will only cause more animals to live a life of misery.

● Tell Your Parents

Let your mom or dad know that you don't want to go to animal circuses. Just pass them the Parent Form on this flyer to help you explain why.

● Start the Ball Rolling!

Convince ten of your friends not to attend circuses with animals — every person counts! If you tell ten people, and each of them tells ten more people — well, pretty soon you'll have started something huge that can help animals.

● Create an Animal-Friendly School Policy

Talk to your favorite teacher about making it your school's policy not to have field trips to animal circuses and not hand out free tickets to these circuses. When schools give out tickets, they are sending the message that it's okay to keep and treat animals in this way.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

— Margaret Mead