



Suggested Class Activities for **THREE-RING RASCALS:** **The Greatest Star on Earth**



- ★ "Be humble for you are made of earth. Be noble for you are made of stars."
Have students discuss the epigram. What does it mean to be humble?
What does it mean to be noble? Is it possible to be both?
- ★ Ask students to write a letter to their favorite member of Sir Sidney's Circus.
- ★ Have students research the *William Tell Overture* (also known as the *Lone Ranger* theme). Try to sing the song in Chapter 7 to the famous melody.
- ★ Make a list of every student in the class. Distribute the list to students and ask them to write one sentence about how each classmate is a star.
- ★ Have students write articles for *The Circus Times*.
- ★ Ask students to compare and contrast the instructions Sir Sidney gave Barnabas Brambles with the book written by Gert and Bert.
- ★ Have students discuss which is the easiest rule for them to follow: the Golden Goulash Rule or the Platinum Pancake Principle? Do they agree that the more you give, the more you'll smile? What about Bert's advice to think twice and then be as nice as circus mice?
- ★ Ask students to draw a map of the route the train might take in Chapter 6 from New Mexico to Georgia.
- ★ Have students research the history of awards and trophies.
- ★ In Chapter 6, Bert tells Dr. Drap that some rules were made to be broken. Ask students if they agree or disagree and why.
- ★ Encourage students to research stars. In ancient times, planets were sometimes called "wandering stars." In what way are we all wandering stars?
- ★ Have students write letters to Polly Pumpkinseed, explaining why they agree or disagree with her opinion about who the Greatest Circus Star on Earth is.
- ★ Ask students to research worrywarts. Have they ever had a worrywart or been one? When is worrying good and helpful? When can worrying be hurtful and unproductive?
- ★ Have students visit www.threeringrascals.com and apply for a job with Sir Sidney's Circus.

