



Learning to read depends on having and hearing a large vocabulary. Talk with your child about anything and everything. Share words with them during the brain's most formative five years and set them on a path of lifelong learning.

How to do this activity:

1 - Tell your child that this is the face of a little clown who needs help putting his make-up on. Give your child a pencil or a crayon and ask them to follow the dots to draw the face, the eyes, the mouth, the ears and the nose.

2 - Ask your child if they can name the parts of the face, in English and/or any other language spoken at home? What do we use our nose for? Our mouth? And our eyes and ears?

3 - How many eyes do we have? How many ears?

4 - Has your child seen a clown before? In a story book maybe? What colour does your child think a clown's nose should be? Can they colour it and any other part of the face? What colour have they chosen? Ask what is their favourite colour? Do they know what your favourite colour is?

5 - Does your child know what colour are their own eyes? And their hair? Is it the same colour as your own eyes and hair?

6 - Can you think of other questions you could ask your child? Did you ever go to a circus when you were a child? What did you like about it? Share your knowledge and experience.

7 - If your child has a book featuring a clown, make a mental note to read it together.