

The Day the Clown Went to the Zoo

One day, Colin the Clown was doing a show at his circus.



Colin's circus was called the Unlimited Laughter Circus. Colin liked being a silly clown but he did not like being laughed at every day. He wanted a new job but he didn't know what to do!

Every time they visited a new country, he would see if it could be his new home. In America, Colin tried playing baseball but he found it tricky to hit the ball.

When the Circus went to China, Colin went to a big festival. Suddenly, Colin saw a large dragon! "Oh no!" thought Colin. Chinese dragons were far too scary for him.



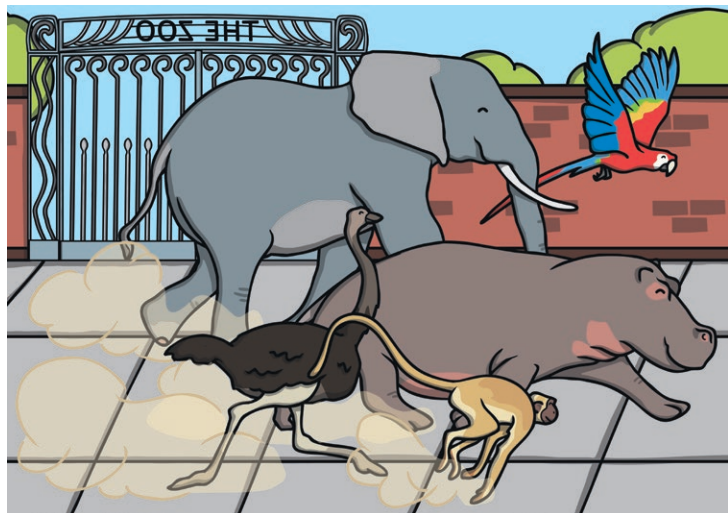
The circus visited Germany. They played in a city called Berlin, which is the capital of Germany. When Colin arrived, he could hear roaring. He thought it might have been a lion from his circus. The sound led him to big, tall gates. "The lion must be stuck behind these gates," thought Colin the Clown.

Colin unlocked all of the gates and looked around. Suddenly, lots of people were running past him and they were screaming.

"Get back! Get back!" shouted a man.

"What's going on?" asked Colin.

"Someone has opened all the gates and all the animals are running away!" replied the man.



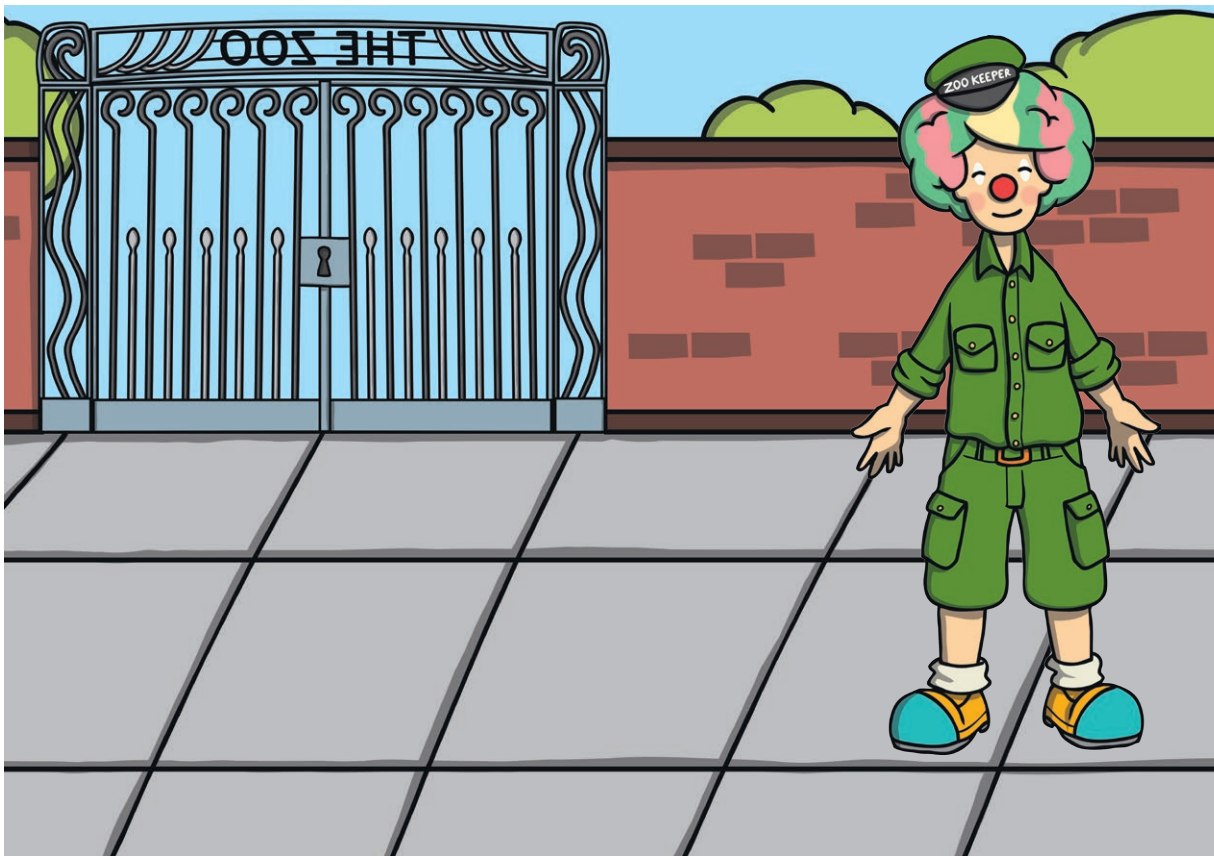
THE ZOO

“What animals?” asked Colin.

“All the zoo animals!” replied the man.

Colin had never heard of a zoo. He wanted to help the man. He ran around the zoo, locking gates as he went so that they couldn't escape.

The man thanked Colin for helping and told him what a zoo was. Colin the Clown liked the idea of working with the animals every day. He had found a place to stay where he was happy because he loved looking after the animals.



Questions

1. What was Colin's circus called?

2. Why did Colin not like being a clown?

3. What is the capital of Germany?

4. What scared Colin in China?

5. Why did Colin want to work in the zoo?

6. Where would you prefer to work, at a zoo or in a circus? Give a reason for your answer.

Answers

1. What was Colin's circus called?

Colin's circus was called the Unlimited Laughter Circus.

2. Why did Colin not like being a clown?

Colin did not like being a clown because he didn't like being laughed at every day.

3. What is the capital of Germany?

The capital of Germany is Berlin.

4. What scared Colin in China?

The Chinese dragon scared Colin.

5. Why did Colin want to work in the zoo?

Colin wanted to work in the zoo because he loved looking after the animals.

6. Where would you prefer to work, at a zoo or in a circus? Give a reason for your answer.

Children to give reasons to which job they would prefer.

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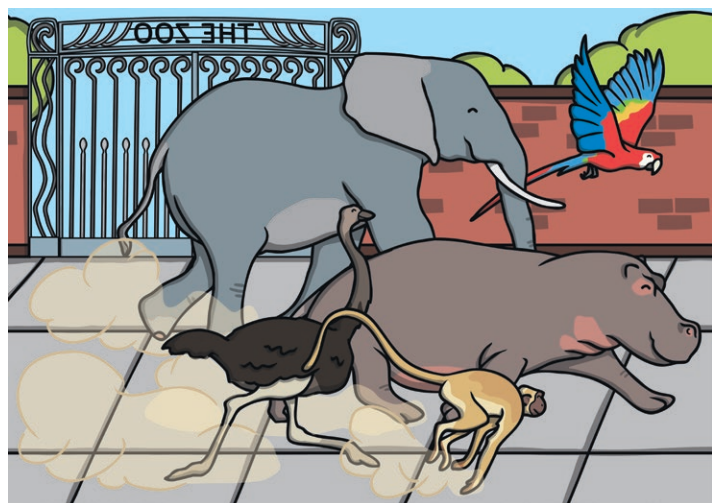
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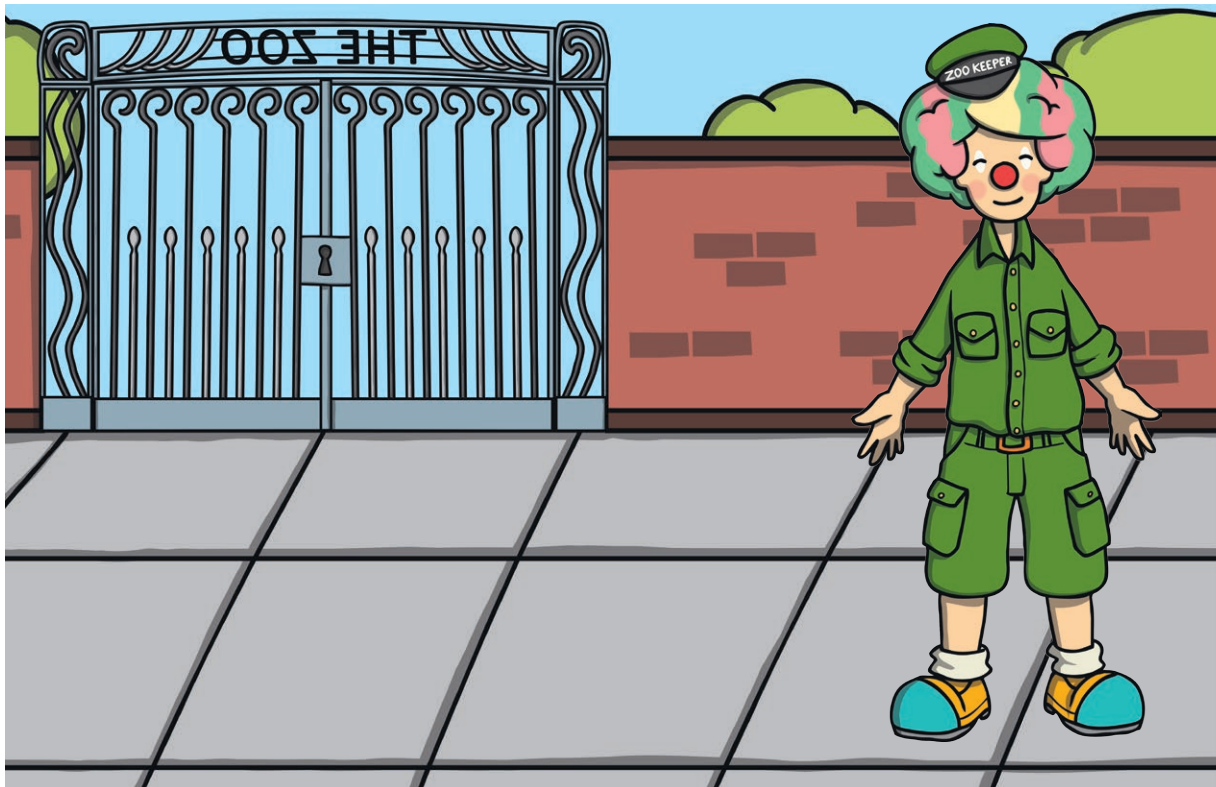
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Questions

1. What was the circus called?

2. Why did Colin want a new job?

3. What is the capital of Germany?

4. What did Colin meet in China and how did it make him feel?

5. When Colin first went into the zoo, what was he trying to do?

6. What did Colin do, by mistake, in the zoo?

7. Colin didn't know what a zoo was. Can you explain to him what a zoo is?

8. Why did Colin want to work in the zoo?

9. Where would you prefer to work, at a zoo or in a Circus? Give two reasons for your answer.

Answers

1. What was the circus called?

The circus was called the Unlimited Laughter Circus.

2. Why did Colin want a new job?

Colin wanted a new job as he didn't like being laughed at everyday as a clown.

3. What is the capital of Germany?

The capital of Germany is Berlin.

4. What did Colin meet in China and how did it make him feel?

Colin met a Chinese dragon in China and it frightened him.

5. When Colin first went into the zoo, what was he trying to do?

Colin was trying to help a circus lion because he thought it was stuck behind the gates.

6. What did Colin do, by mistake, in the zoo?

Colin freed all the zoo animals as he unlocked all the gates and they tried to escape.

7. Colin didn't know what a zoo was. Can you explain to him what a zoo is?

Children to explain, in their own words, what a zoo is.

8. Why did Colin want to work in the zoo?

Colin wanted to work in the zoo because he loved animals and wanted to work with them all day.

9. Where would you prefer to work, at a zoo or in a Circus? Give two reasons for your answer.

Children to give two reasons as to which place they would rather work, the zoo or the circus.

The Day the Clown Went to the Zoo

One day, Colin the Clown was performing at his circus.



It was called the Unlimited Laughter Circus. Colin enjoyed being a silly clown but he did not enjoy being laughed at every day. Colin knew he needed a new occupation but he didn't know what to do, so he tried a different job. He decided to become an acrobat at the Circus of Fun. The Circus of Fun had been around since 1980 and was a very popular circus. There were lots and lots of skills to learn and no matter how hard Colin tried, he always ended up tumbling over like a clumsy clown. Colin knew he needed another new job but he just didn't know where to go!

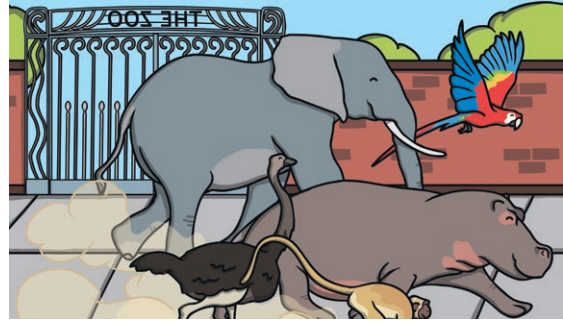
Every time his circus visited a new country, Colin explored it to see if it could be his new home. In America, Colin tried playing baseball and eating burgers but he found it tricky to hit the ball and all the burgers made Colin feel sick!



When the circus went to China, Colin went to a big festival. It was beautiful with lots of bright colours and amazing dancing. Suddenly, out of the corner of his eye, Colin saw a large dragon! "Oh no!" thought Colin as he ran back to the circus. Chinese dragons were far too scary for him.

Finally, the Circus World Tour visited Germany. They played in a city called Berlin, which is the capital of Germany. When Colin arrived, he could hear roaring and thought it might have been a lion that had escaped from his circus, so he followed the sound. The sound led him to big, tall, iron gates. "The lion must be stuck behind these gates," thought Colin the Clown. Colin unlocked the gates and explored the area. He heard lots of noises and saw lots

of different trees, plants, grass and rocks in what appeared to be lots of miniature gardens. All the different gardens had gates, so Colin opened them just in case the lion was inside.



Suddenly, Colin heard footsteps, screaming and shouting! He had no idea what was going on! Where was everyone going?

“Get back! Get back!” shouted a man with a uniform on.

“What’s going on?” asked Colin.

“Someone has opened all the gates and the animals are running away. It is like a stampede! They are escaping!” screamed the man.

“What animals?” asked Colin.

“We’re in a zoo! All of the animals!” replied the man.

Colin had never heard of a zoo. He loved helping with the circus animals so he decided to try and help. He ran around the zoo, locking gates as he went. He tried calling some animals back or even waving his arms to stop the animals in their tracks.

After the chaos was over, the man thanked Colin for helping and told him that he had done a great job. They talked about the zoo. Colin the Clown decided he liked the idea of working with the wonderful animals every day. The zoo owner was always happy to have extra helping hands around. So it was settled - Colin the Keeper finally found a place to stay where he was happy and he enjoyed his new job.



Questions

1. When did the Circus of Fun begin?

2. Why did Colin not want to be a clown or an acrobat?

Give a reason for both.

3. Why did Colin not want to stay in China?

4. What did Colin try in America?

5. Did Colin mean to let all the animals escape? What was he trying to do?

6. Read the sentence with the word 'stampede'. What do you think this word means? Give a reason for your answer.

7. Why did Colin's name change?

8. How would you describe a zoo to Colin? Write a short paragraph in full sentences.

Questions

9. Where would you prefer to work, at a zoo or in a circus?
Give two reasons for your answer.

Answers

1. When did the Circus of Fun begin?

The Circus of Fun began in 1980.

2. Why did Colin not want to be a clown or an acrobat? Give a reason for both.

When Colin was a clown, he did not enjoy being laughed at and he was far too clumsy to be an acrobat.

3. Why did Colin not want to stay in China?

Colin thought the Chinese dragons were too scary so he didn't want to live there.

4. What did Colin try in America?

Colin tried baseball and burgers in America.

5. Did Colin mean to let all the animals escape? What was he trying to do?

Colin did not mean for all the animals to escape. He thought a circus lion was stuck so he was trying to free them so they could come back to the circus.

6. Read the sentence with the word 'stampede'. What do you think this word means? Give a reason for your answer.

A sudden panicked run or rush of a large number of animals.

7. Why did Colin's name change?

Colin's name changed from Colin the Clown to Colin the Keeper because his job changed.

8. How would you describe a zoo to Colin? Write a short paragraph in full sentences.

Children to explain, in their own words, what a zoo is.

9. Where would you prefer to work, at a zoo or in a circus?

Children to give two reasons as to which place they would rather work, the zoo or the circus.