



# Bigger Top

## Play Synopsis

**Characters:** There are seven characters: Boom, Tick Tock, Pop, Honk, Hum, Squeak, and Squawk who all work at a circus together. This story is about the character **Hum** finding the perfect job to do in the circus. **Boom** is the Ring Leader who runs the circus and announces each act. **Tik Tok** is the animal handler who takes care of the animals. **Pop** is a gymnast who is very skilled at singing and dancing. **Honk** is a clown who loves to make people laugh. **Squeak** and **Squawk** work together to make sure the audience has everything they need to enjoy the circus.

**Welcome:** Before the audience is seated, there will be games to play, prizes to win, and an opportunity to meet all of the characters in the story. Audience members can move around the space and enjoy a taste of the circus. Squeak and Squawk will let the audience know when it is time to start the play and where to take their seats.

**Scene 1:** The play begins with a conversation between Boom and Hum, about Hum's job in the circus. Hum is happy watching the other performers and would rather be making art, but Boom thinks Hum needs to be a performer to be an official part of the circus. Boom convinces Hum to try the job of a barker, which doesn't go as well as either of them would like. Hum tells Boom again that they are happy making their art, but Boom is too focused on finding them a new act to try.

**Scene 2:** Next, Boom asks Hum to try the job of an animal handler with Tik Tok. Tik Tok can see that Hum is upset and asks them how they are feeling. After the two have a moment of connection, Tik Tok brings out the animals. Hum has a surprise for Tik Tok and presents a gift they



made: a new saddle for the elephant to wear! Tik Tok loves it. Still focused, Boom suggests Hum tries handling one of the snakes. After trying for a little bit, Hum decides they do not want to be an animal handler.

**Scene 3:** Boom is determined to find the right job for Hum, so Boom sends Hum to try Pop's act. First, Pop teaches Hum a song and it goes surprisingly well. Then, Pop challenges Hum to keep up with their skillful dancing. But before they start, Hum stops Pop and retrieves a gift--some beautiful scarves they made just for Pop! Pop loves it and they use the scarves to juggle. While juggling, Hum bumps into Pop, which stops the act. Hum decides they don't want to sing and dance either.

**Scene 4:** There's still another job Boom wants Hum to try: the act of Honk the clown. Boom brings Honk over to show Hum how they do their act, but in the middle of it, Hum gets too overwhelmed and decides to go take a break. Boom tries to follow, but Honk stops Boom and the two play a game instead. Meanwhile, Hum is taking a moment alone and pulls out the sketchbook they like to draw in. Hum suddenly has another idea! Hum whispers his idea to Honk, Tik Tok, and Pop who signals to Boom to make an announcement.

**Scene 5:** Boom thinks that Hum has finally picked a performance to do in the circus. Hum has decided what job to do in the circus, but it's not a performance like Boom expects. Hum doesn't want to be a performer. They are an artist. Tik Tok, Honk, and Pop unfurl a giant poster that Hum made and show it to Boom and the audience. Boom loves it. Boom apologizes to Hum for not listening and joins in with the other characters in celebrating Hum's art! Hum forgives Boom and thanks everyone for being a part of this journey with them.



**Goodbye:** Hum will welcome the audience to move about the space again. The audience can come on stage to check out Hum's art and say goodbye to the characters.