

## Philip Astley Father of the Modern Day Circus

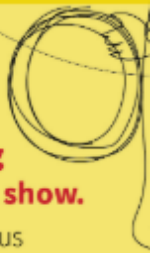


**Legacy:** To this day, Astley is recognised around the world as the original ringmaster and 'father of the modern circus'.

Astley did not invent the acts we associate with circus – jugglers, acrobats, rope-walkers and clowns  
**but he had the vision to bring these talents together in one show.**

This idea has formed the basis of circus entertainment for

**more than 250 years.**



Sketch of Newcastle-under-Lyme

Philip Astley decided that a ring of \_\_\_\_feet across was a good size for a circus ring.

He brought together different acts like \_\_\_\_\_ ,  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
and \_\_\_\_\_.

Look at circus ring master pictures and colour in Philip Astley at the top of the page.

Try juggling with scarves two then three. Can you balance a feather on one finger? Try hoola hooping with one hoop or more.