



Circus Elephants

Why did Denmark buy four elephants?

- The Danish government has bought four elephants.
- The elephants used to work in a circus but will now be cared for in retirement.

Photo: An elephant in its habitat.

Denmark Buys Four Elephants

Four circus elephants have been bought by the Danish government. It's done this to give the animals a happy retirement.

Ramboline, Lara, Djunga and Jenny used to be part of a circus in Denmark. The Danish government wants the four elephants to go somewhere that will give them plenty of space.

The news comes as Denmark is planning to ban wild animals in circuses. It's not the only country that wants to do this.

The UK banned wild animals used in travelling circuses on 24th July.

So what does the word 'wild' mean? The government says that wild animals are considered to be animals that are not normally domesticated in the UK. They are animals that would not be found in this country normally.

The RSPCA, an animal charity in the UK, said that it thought the ban was a good idea. It had been campaigning for a long time for a ban to become law.

It said that animals have "complex needs

that cannot be properly met in a circus environment". Circuses can entertain their audiences without using animals. They may use acrobats or clowns instead.

Circus Roncalli, which is from Germany, is using holograms of wild animals to wow their customers. These images are created using light beams from a laser to create 3D images.

These ingenious holograms are of elephants, horse and — perhaps unexpectedly — an image of a gigantic goldfish!

Glossary

retirement	The time of life after you have stopped working.
domesticated	An animal that is not wild and is kept as a pet or on a farm.
campaigning	To work towards a certain goal or target.
complex	Complicated or difficult.

Questions

1. Find and copy three animals that Circus Roncalli has made holograms of.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

2. How do you think vets will feel about this news? Explain your answer.

3. 'These ingenious holograms are of elephants, horse and — perhaps unexpectedly — an image of a gigantic goldfish!'

Tick the word that is closest in meaning to the story that means the same as 'ingenious'.

- clever
- normal
- easy
- straight forward

4. Where do you think the four elephants will move to? Explain your answer.

5. Do you think people will still go to the circus in the future? Explain your answer.

6. Summarise the story in 15 words or fewer.

Answers

1. Find and copy three animals that Circus Roncalli has made holograms of.
Elephants, horses and goldfish
2. How do you think vets will feel about this news? Explain your answer.
Accept any reasonable answer that refers to the story, e.g. I think that vets will be happy as they know the elephants are being well looked after.
3. 'These ingenious holograms are of elephants, horse and — perhaps unexpectedly — an image of a gigantic goldfish!'
Tick the word that is closest in meaning to the story that means the same as 'ingenious'.
 - clever**
 - normal
 - easy
 - straight forward
4. Where do you think the four elephants will move to? Explain your answer.
Accept any reasonable answer which refers to the story, e.g. I think the four elephants will move to a zoo because they may have enough space for the elephants.
5. Do you think people will still go to the circus in the future? Explain your answer.
Accept any reasonable answer which refers to the story, e.g. I think people will still go to the circus because they can still see acrobats perform and holograms of circus animals.
6. Summarise the story in 15 words or fewer.
Accept any reasonable summary that is 15 words or fewer, e.g. Denmark has bought four elephants from a circus to give them a good retirement.