



# Acrobatic clown

<b>EQUIPMENT</b>	Thin cardboard (cornflake packet will do), Pencil, Scissors, Sellotape, Coloured markers or crayons, 2 coins of the same value or Plasticine or clothes pegs
<b>PREPARATION</b>	<p>Make some cardboard templates of the clown (to speed up procedures – say one per 5 children)</p> <p>With younger children stick the template on cardboard and get enough cut out for all the children. A simpler shape could also be used.</p>
<b>BACKGROUND INFORMATION</b>	All objects have a balancing point, called the centre of gravity. The lower you make the centre of gravity the more stable the object is. This is why a double decker bus should fill up the bottom deck first with passengers – i.e. make the bottom heavier; the bus is less likely to topple over.
<b>SKILLS</b>	Investigating and experimenting
<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<p>Using the template make a cardboard clown and try to balance it first on its nose – difficult.</p> <p>Then lower the centre of gravity by attaching coins or Plasticine and it will balance.</p>
<b>SAFETY</b>	<b>General care with scissors.</b>
<b>FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES</b>	Design and make your own balancing figure.



## Acrobatic clown continued

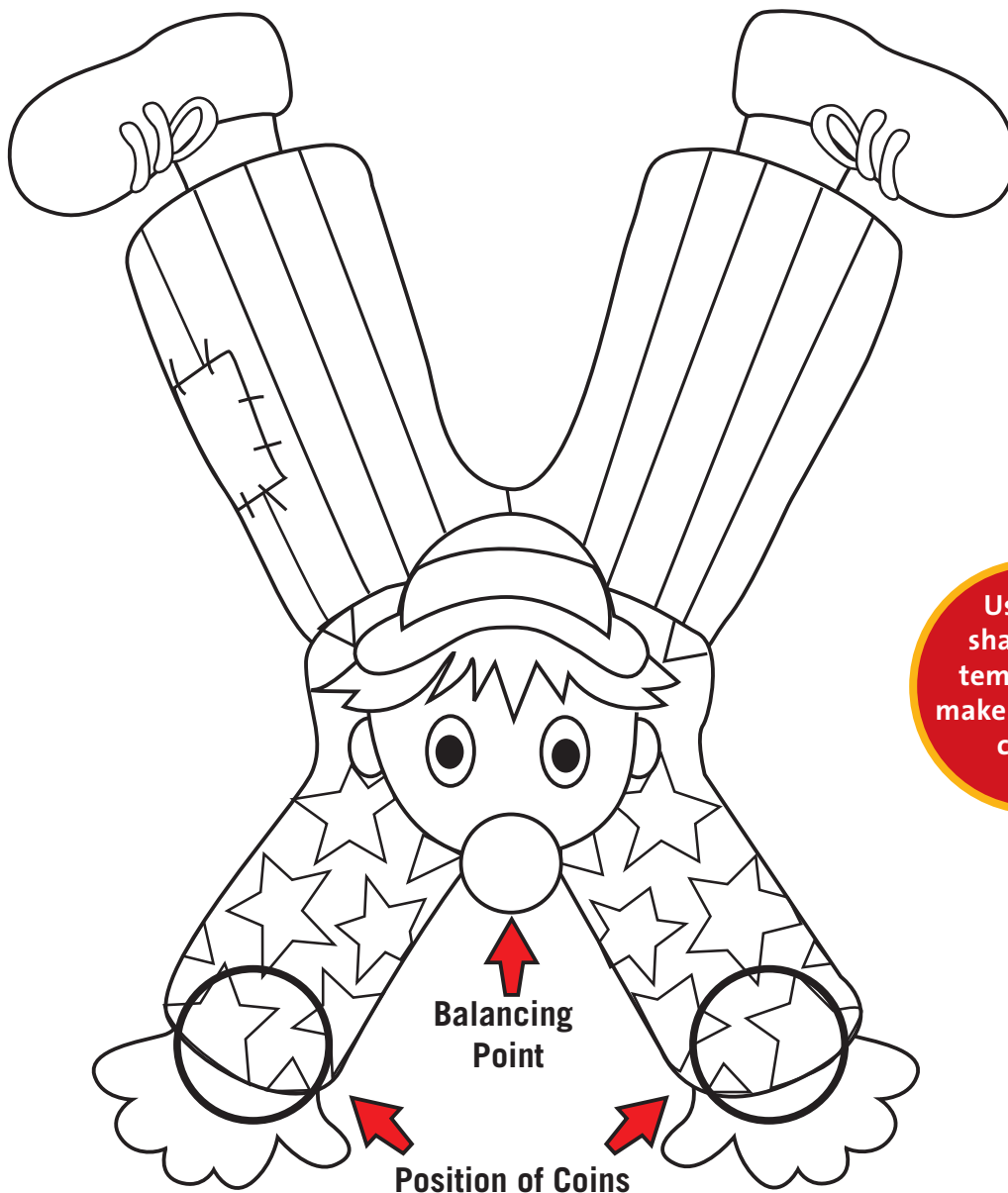
Use the template to draw out a clown shape, then cut it out.

Use the markers or crayons to colour the clown's face, costume etc.

Try to balance the clown on its nose on the rim of the glass or on your finger.

Attach either two similar coins or two similar sized lumps of Plasticine to back of each hand.

You should now be able to balance the clown on its nose of the rim of a glass or on your finger.



Use this shape as a template to make your own clown