

Boone County 4-H

# Clowning

Welcome, clowns!

We are SOOOOOO excited to have you join our project! In this project, we will work on improvisational skills, confidence, physical comedy, slapstick, balloon twisting, facepainting, juggling, and so much more. We will also learn about the different types of clowns and study the long history of clowning.

First things first, our meetings ☺ They will all be from 1-4 p.m. on the following dates:

April 29<sup>th</sup> (Farm Bureau dining room)  
May 6<sup>th</sup> (Leader's house)  
May 20<sup>th</sup> (Leader's house)  
June 23<sup>rd</sup> (Farm Bureau dining room)

The address for the leader's house is:  
3230 N State Road 39  
Lebanon, IN 46052  
*(gray house with stone on front)*

There may be extra meeting times added for performances. I will not be able to schedule those until we can meet and assess when the kids will be ready to perform. I will let you know those dates and times as soon as possible.

## Types of Clowns

Before we talk about what you will need for this project, we will need to talk about the different types of clowns so you can have a better idea of what makeup you will need to purchase. For example, a whiteface clown will need more white than color. An auguste clown will need a skin color base, where the whiteface clown will not need any of that color.

### *Whiteface*

The Whiteface clown is a pleasant looking clown. He has decent manners, and is generally artistic in his/her performance. He is usually in command of any situation and often bosses around the other clowns. True to the name, this clown has a face that is completely covered in white, with facial features painted in black and red. Other decorations may be added using other colors.

The Whiteface costume may be one piece or any variation of a suit. They are the only type of clown that may utilize sequins, rhinestones, or other flashy material. The Whiteface clown is always neat and put

together in appearance and has no skin showing that is not painted and/or covered in white.

*MAKEUP NEEDED: 7 oz (minimum) Mehron Clown White Lite, Mehron Grease color cups in black and red 0.5 oz (You can also buy the Mehron Pro-Pencil Makeup in these colors in addition or instead of the cups. I find that the kids have better control with the pencils, but it is completely up to you)*

### *Auguste*

The Auguste is the most comedic of clowns. His/Her actions are wilder than the other clowns. This type of clown is often a troublemaker, using slapstick comedy to get away with more and bigger pranks.

The Auguste face base makeup color is a variation of pink, red, or tan and not white. Features are exaggerated in size and are typically red and black in color. The mouth is thickly outlined with white, as are the eyes.

The Auguste clown is dressed in either well-fitted garb or in a costume that does not fit (either oversized or too small would be appropriate). Bold colors, large prints and/patterns, and suspenders often characterize Auguste costumes.

*MAKEUP NEEDED: 1.25 oz (minimum) Mehron Foundation Grease- Lite Auguste (or Mehron CreamBlend Stick Makeup Light Auguste), Mehron Grease color cups in black, white, and red 0.5 oz (You can also buy the Mehron Pro-Pencil Makeup in these colors in addition or instead of the cups. I find that the kids have better control with the pencils, but it is completely up to you)*

### *Hobo/Tramp/Bag Lady*

The Tramp/Hobo clown is the low man on the totem pole. He is usually responsible for cleaning up after the other clowns. The Hobo face can be painted in a flesh colored pink or tan. Make-up designs can often include a beard and highlights of white around the eyes and mouth.

The costume should be tattered looking. A dark suit with many patches, sloppy coat with many pockets, etc. A derby or silk hat often accompanies. The character and makeup portray a sad Tramp or a happy-go-lucky Hobo.

*MAKEUP NEEDED: 1.25 oz (minimum) Mehron Foundation Grease- Lite Auguste (or Mehron CreamBlend Stick Makeup Light Auguste), Mehron Grease color cups in black and white 0.5 oz (You can also buy the Mehron Pro-Pencil Makeup in these colors in addition or instead of the cups. I find that the kids have better control with the pencils, but it is completely up to you)*

### *Character Clown*

This clown depicts a specific character or occupation. A character clown can be anything; baseball player, ballerina, doctor, etc. Makeup and costume for this clown can be any of the above mentioned clown types. The makeup should complement the specific character being portrayed and can be subtle or bold, as long as it does not detract from the overall effect.

## What Will You Need?

A loaded question that truly depends how far you want to take your clowning. I will list necessity items and then list things you may want to consider.

Necessity	Lots of Fun
Grease Paint/Makeup (reference above)	Balloon Hand Pump
Baby Powder	Twisting Balloons
Mirror	Magic Tricks
Pair of white socks (able to be knotted at top)	Juggling Tools
Baby Hairbrush	Real Clown Nose (Jim Howle or ProNose)
Small Water Spray Bottle	Adhesive for clown nose (Jim Howle Nose Putty)
Towel	Facepaint and brushes
Makeup Remover Wipes	
Hair ties, headband, etc. to keep hair off face	
Box to hold supplies	
Costume (we will talk about at meeting)	

The brands listed are just my preference, but you can choose whatever brand works best for your child(ren). The best place I have found to get these items is through a website called Clown Antics ([www.clowntantics.com](http://www.clowntantics.com)).

Please order/get your makeup before the first meeting! We only have four meetings scheduled and learning to apply greasepaint takes practice.

If you have any questions whatsoever, please feel free to contact me. I do work, but I can normally answer text messages, emails and FB messages very quickly. My contact information is as follows:

(317) 750-3694 (can receive texts; just say who you are the first time ☺)  
[brandymoss@live.com](mailto:brandymoss@live.com)