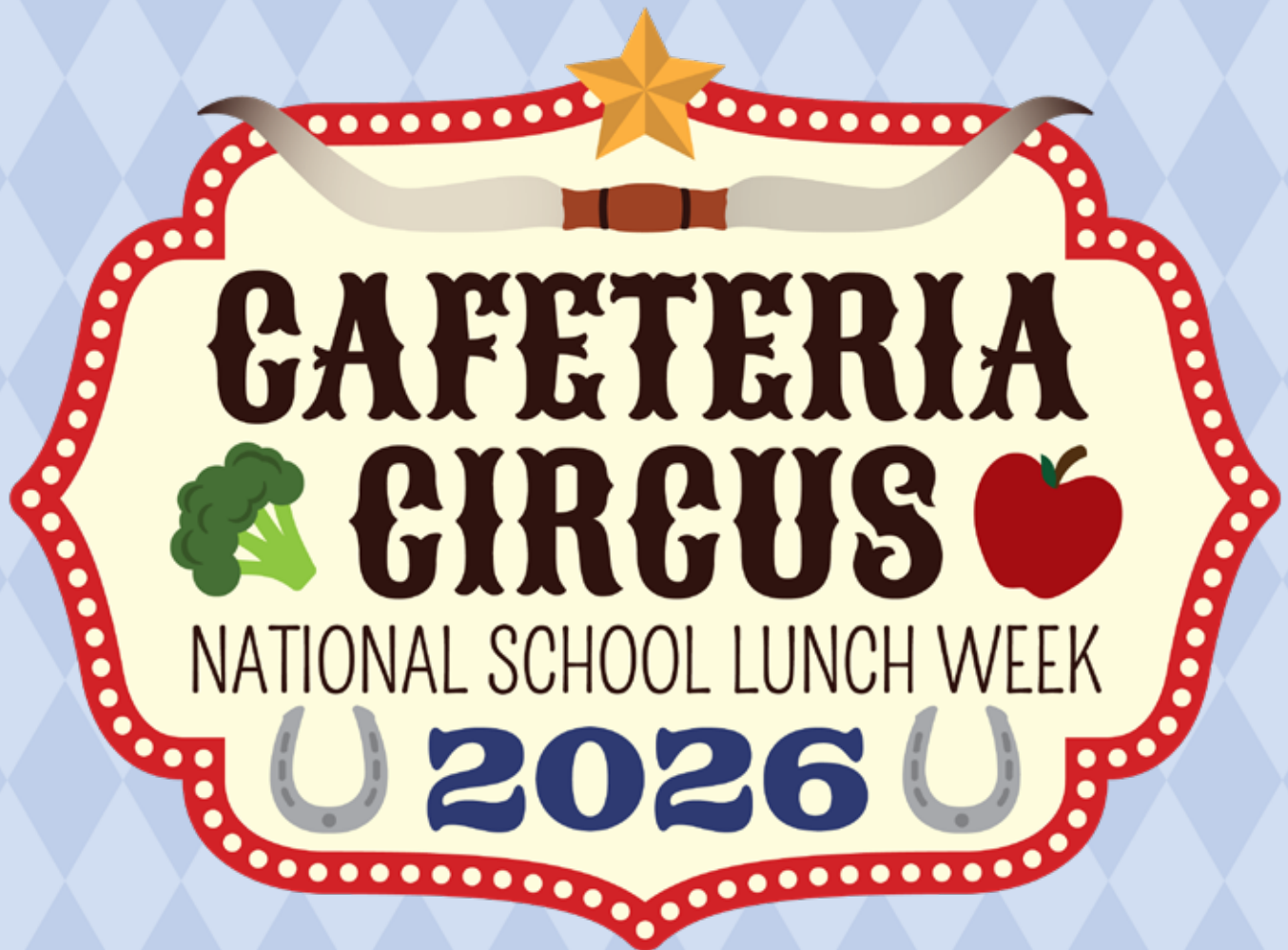


DIY Celebration Guide

National School Lunch Week 2026



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

This product was funded by USDA.
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October 2026
[Squaremeals.org](https://squaremeals.org)



DIY Celebration Guide

What's inside?

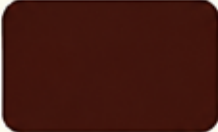
- NSLW Brand Guide
- Bulletin Display/Photo Backdrop Guide
- Sticker Templates
- Printable Poster Guide
- Printable Chart/Background Guide
- Printable Banner Guide
- Themed Lunch Guide
- Daily Menu Template
- Weekly Menu Template
- Name/Menu Tags





NSLW26 Brand Guide

Use this guide as a reference for NSLW26 theme colors and fonts to help decorate your space and create materials that bring The Cafeteria Circus to life across your campus.

COLOR PALETTE	FONTS
	DISPLAY
	Adobe: Cowboyslang Google Docs: Sancreek MS Word: Rockwell Extra Bold
	BODY
	Adobe: PT Sans Regular Canva: PT Sans Regular Google Docs: PT Sans Regular MS Word: PT Sans Regular
	
	
#f4f0d8	#d92228
#3a120f	#33459a
#d4a017	#556b2f

Logo:



Alternate:





Bulletin Display and Photo Backdrop Guide

A circus-themed bulletin display puts your 2026 National School Lunch Week (NSLW) celebration center stage.

Vibrant colored butcher paper paired with TDA's printable resources will create an eye-catching display for students and staff to enjoy. Consider offering your campus student service organizations or the Parent Teacher Association the opportunity to assist with creating the showcase. Encourage staff and students to use your display as a Circus themed photo

backdrop! It's a simple way to boost engagement and spread excitement across your campus community.

To get started, download the Display/Photo Prop file for a collection of printable graphics designed to bring your Cafeteria Circus décor to life.

Need inspiration? Check out TDA's examples below!



Assembly and How-To Guide available at [SquareMeals.org](https://www.squaremeals.org)



Use TDA-provided circus-themed graphics to bring big-top energy to your cafeteria. Downloadable graphics can be printed, colored, and attached to craft sticks for selfie props or printed and adhered to a bulletin board or lunch line.



Don't forget to tag TDA on social media! We're excited to see how your campus celebrates NSLW 2026!

#TXNSLW26 #NSLW26 #TXCenterStage26
#TXCafeteriaCircus26

Sticker Template: 2x2" Circle Stickers
(Avery Blank Template For Presta® 94501)





Printable Poster Guide

Choose your size, download, and print!

Tiled Oversized Poster (Final size 20x26")

Made up of individual 8.5x11 prints, this poster is easily produced on most standard printers.

Assembly and How-To Guide available on [SquareMeals.org](https://www.squaremeals.org).



Oversized Poster (20x26")

Coordinate with your local print shop to produce.



Tabloid (11x17")

Easily produced on most standard business printers.



Letter (8.5x11")

Easily produced on most standard business or personal printers.





Printable Chart Guide

Choose your size, download, and print!

Tiled Oversized Chart (Final size 20x26")

Made up of individual 8.5x11 prints, this poster is easily produced on most standard printers.

Assembly and How-To Guide available on [SquareMeals.org](https://www.squaremeals.org).



Oversized Chart (20x26")

Coordinate with your local print shop to produce.



Tabloid (11x17")

Easily produced on most standard business printers.



Letter (8.5x11")

Easily produced on most standard business or personal printers.





Printable Banners

Choose your size, download, and print!

Tiled Banner

Made up of individual 8.5x11 prints, this banner is easily produced on most standard personal printers. Tape the individual prints together and display as one large banner.

(Final size 8.5x55")



(Final size 8.5x44")



Oversized Banner (36x72")

Coordinate with your local print shop to produce.





Themed Lunch Guide

Choose your size, download, and print!

Planning school lunch celebrations that engage students and increase participation can sometimes feel like a balancing act. That's why we've put together this big-top guide for National School Lunch Week 2026!

Themed Food Item Names

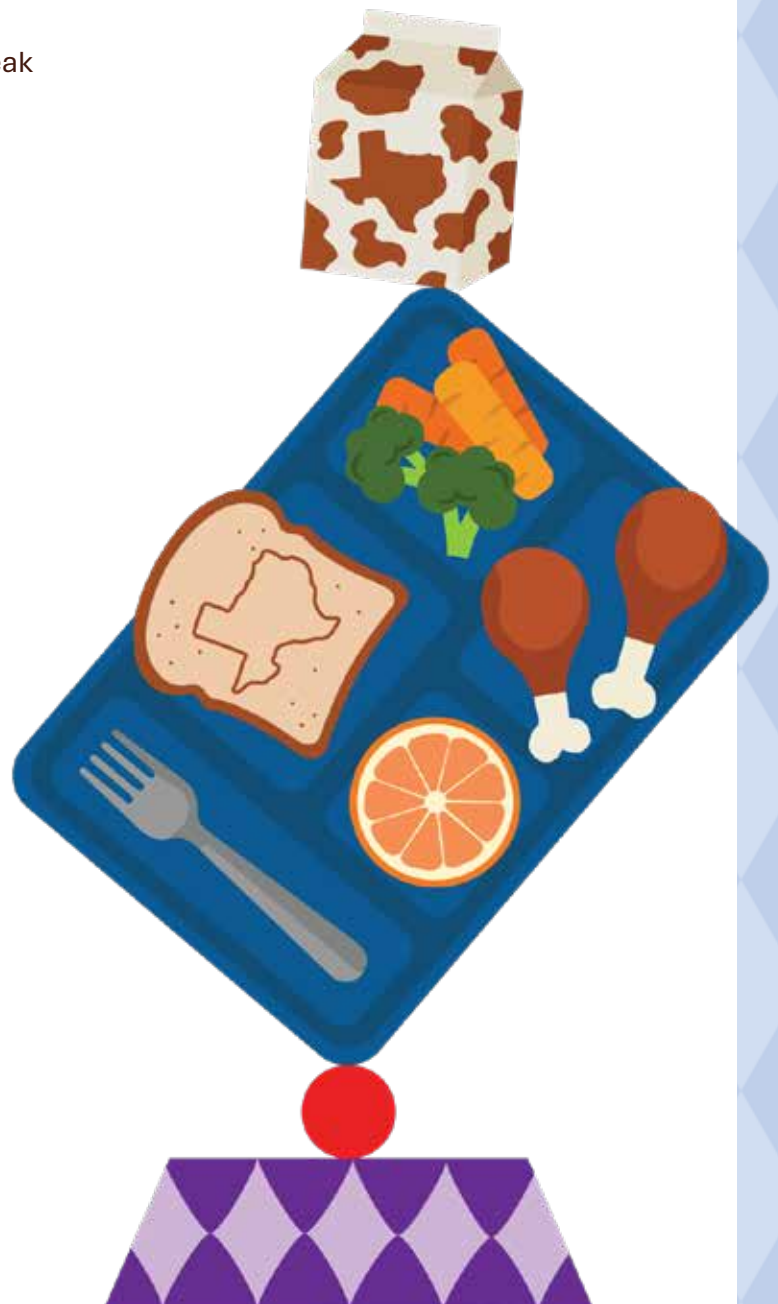
Step right up to lunchtime with creative menu name tags inspired by the 2026 theme, "Cafeteria Circus."

Entrées

- Incredible Flying Chicken Fried Steak
- Three Ring Rice
- Caravan Casserole
- Wild Wagon Wrap
- Trapeze Tacos
- Polkadot [flavor] Pizza
- Fabulous Flying Flatbread
- Big Top Burger
- Spaghetti Escape Act
- Penne Pasta Parade
- Midway Marinara
- Main Event Mac & Cheese
- Carnival Corn Dog

Fruits and Vegetables

- Acrobat Apples
- Dancing Bear Bananas
- First Prize Fruit Cup
- Spotlight Strawberries
- Wild Caged Cantaloupe
- The Greatest Grapefruit
- Opening Act Oranges
- Fresh Fruit Finale
- Marvelous Mangoes
- Center Ring Salad Sampler
- Balancing Act Broccoli
- Silly Salad Bar
- Swirling Sweet Potatoes
- Tightrope Tomatoes
- Happy Clown Carrots
- Marvelous Mixed Veggies
- Encore Corn on the Cob





Themed Activity Guide

Choose your size, download, and print!

These circus-themed, low-prep activities will help transform your cafeteria into a lively space filled with discovery and excitement while promoting The Cafeteria Circus.

Center Ring Sampling

Put one Texas-grown item in the spotlight each day—Hill Country peaches, Rio Grande Valley citrus, Pecos cantaloupe, East Texas sweet potatoes. Serve samples then let students vote with two jars or ballot buckets, one marked “Encore!” and one marked “Maybe Next Season.” Post the running tally where students can watch it climb.

Follow the Circus Route

The circus is touring Texas this week, and students plot the map. Laminate a state map, then reveal one stop per day tied to that day’s featured ingredient; the peach day lands in Fredericksburg, the grapefruit day in Mission. Students guess the city before the reveal and place a star on the route. By Friday, the whole tour is drawn across the state. Correct guesses go into a Friday prize wheel spin.

The Juggling Act

Five food groups, five balls in the air. Set up a magnetic board or felt wall where students build a balanced tray from cut-out food images, then check their work against a meal component key. It takes about ninety seconds per student and works as a line activity while trays are being served.

Paint the Parade Wagon

Track your NSLW participation with a circus-themed progress display in your cafeteria. Choose a graphic, such as a big top tent, circus train, or parade route, and set a scale that fits your school (for example, 1 symbol = 100 lunches served). Update the display each day as totals are calculated, adding performers, animals, or circus cars along the way, and celebrate when your campus reaches its goal.

Fill the Big Top

Print TDA’s circus-themed coloring sheets and hand them out to students throughout NSLW. Invite students to add their own creative touches, then display the finished artwork along the serving line, cafeteria walls or bulletin boards to create a colorful big-top gallery that grows throughout the week.

Each of these activities encourages participation, imagination, and healthy habits, all with minimal additional preparation from school nutrition staff.



Daily Menu Example: Download and save the blank template on the following page. Place the file into your preferred text editing software (Adobe Acrobat, Word, PowerPoint, etc.) and add your custom text. Be sure to reference the NSLW Brand Guide on Page 3 for fonts and colors.





★ **Today's Lunch** ★

Mains

Drinks

Weekly Menu Example: Download and save the blank template on the following page. Place the file into your preferred text editing software (Adobe Acrobat, Word, PowerPoint, etc.) and add your custom text. Be sure to reference the NSLW Brand Guide on Page 3 for fonts and colors.



Cafeteria Circus

National School Lunch Week

Menu

Monday

- Trapeze Tacos
- Center Ring Salad
- Spotlight Strawberries
- Mighty Milk - Variety

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday



Cafeteria Circus

National School Lunch Week

Menu

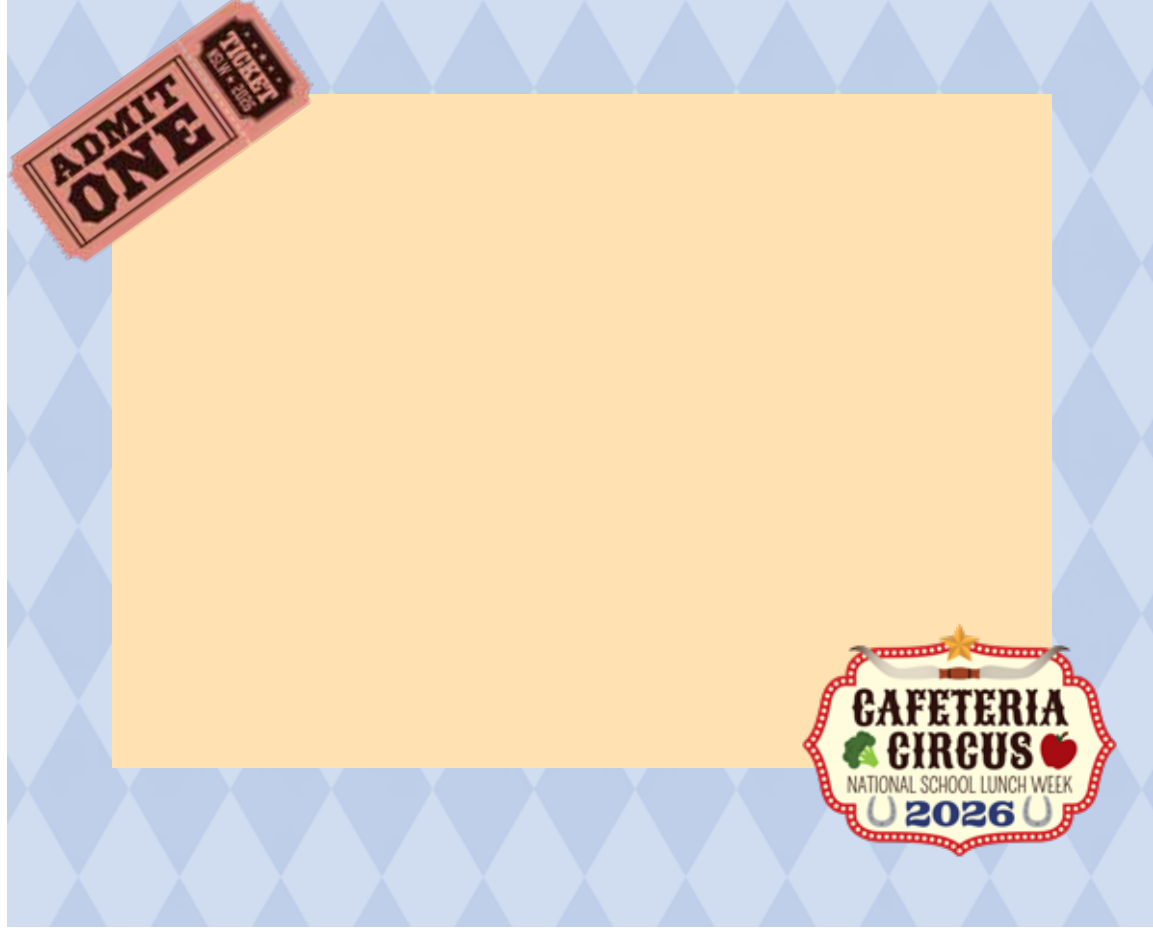
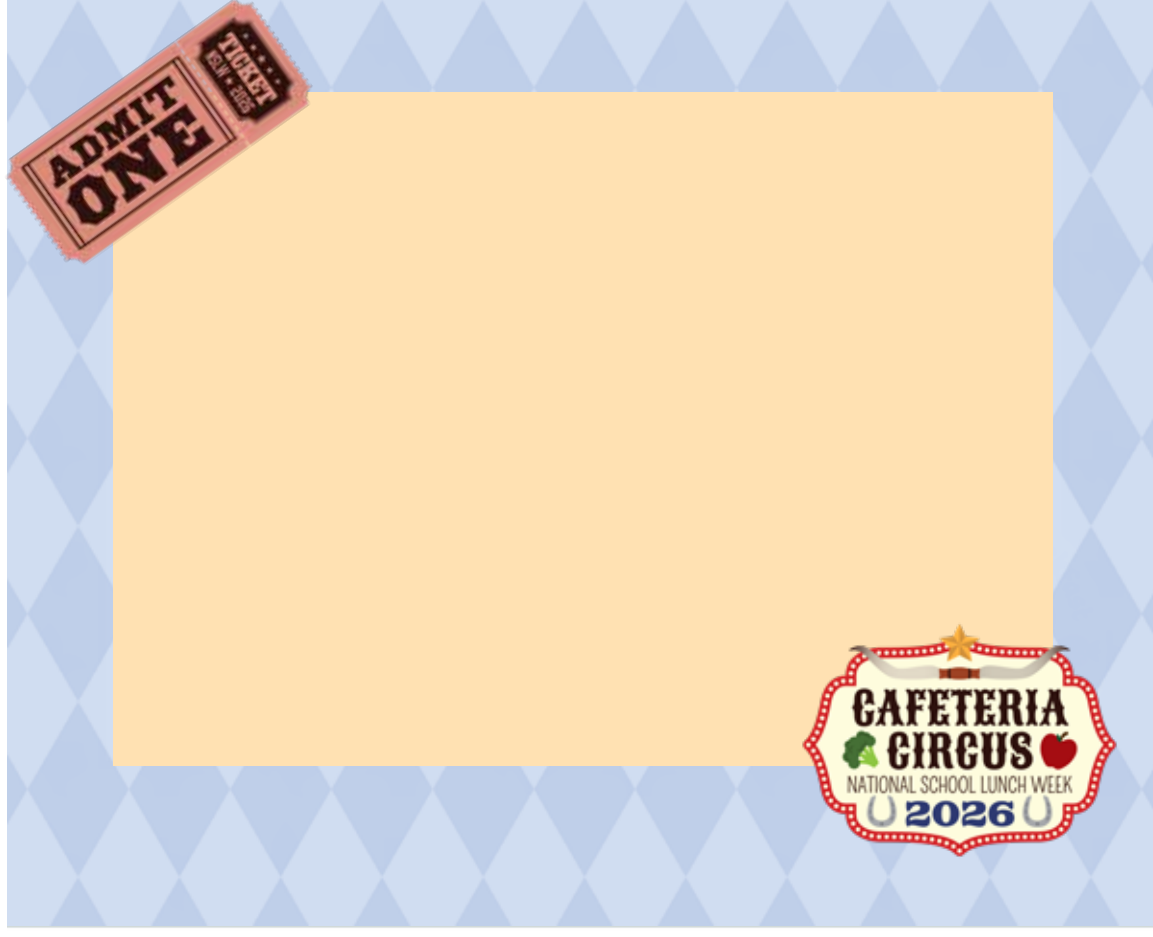
Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday



Name/Menu Tags

Print, cut out, and write a student's name or a menu item on each tag. Fold in half to create a tabletop tent card, or adhere flat to any serving station or display area that needs signage.