Madison Public Library’s

Storytime Starters

Elephant Walk

Books for Toddlers:

Dear Zoo by Rod Campbell, © 1982. (CPC, Campbell)
Hooray for Hat! by Brian Won, © 2014. (FAVORITES, Won)
I Love My Mama by Peter Kavanagh, © 2002. (ANIMALS, Kavanagh)
Small Elephant’s Bathtime by Tatyana Feeney, © 2015. (FAVORITES, Feeney)
Splash! by Flora McDonnell, © 1999. (FAVORITES, McDonnell)
We’ve All Got Bellybuttons! by David Martin, © 2005. (CONCEPTS, Martin)

Books for Preschoolers:

Have You Seen Elephant? by David Barrow, © 2015. (FAVORITES, Barrow)
How to Cheer Up Dad by Fred Koehler, © 2014. (GROWING, Koehler)
Monkey with a Tool Belt and the Noisy Problem by Chris Monroe, © 2009. (FAVORITES, Monroe)
Peanut by Linas Alsenas, © 2007. (ANIMALS, Alsenas)
Special Delivery by Philip C. Stead, © 2015. (STORIES, Stead)
Strictly No Elephants by Lisa Mantchev, © 2015. (GROWING, Mantchev)
The Thingamabob by Il Sung Na, © 2008. (FAVORITES, Na)
When the Elephant Walks by Keiko Kasza, © 1990. (FAVORITES, Kasza)

School-Age Extension:

Elephant and Piggie Plays + Books by Mo Willems
I Am Going!, Pigs Make Me Sneeze, and Today I Will Fly!
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Fingerplays & Songs:

**One Elephant**

One elephant went out to play,
On a spider’s web one day.
He had such enormous fun,
He asked another elephant to come.
(From: *My Toes Are Starting to Wiggle!,* 1989.)

_Elephant_

Right foot, left foot, see me go.
( *Put weight on first one foot, then the other,* swaying from side to side.)
I am grey and big and slow.
I come walking down the street
With my trunk and four big feet.
(Extend arms together in front and swing like a trunk.)
(From: *Ring A Ring O’Roses,* 1996.)

**Los Elefantes** (The Elephants)

Un elefante se balanceaba
(One elephant balanced)
(Extend one finger.)

Sobre la tela de una araña.
(On a spider web.)

*Swing arms together as elephant trunk.*

Cuando veía como resistía
(When he saw how strong it was)
Fue a llamar a otro elefante.
(He called another elephant over.)
Dos elefantes se balanceaban
(Two elephants balanced)

*Extend two fingers.*

Sobre la tela de una araña.
(On a spider web.)

*Elephant trunk motion.*

Cuando veían como resistía
(When they saw how strong it was)
Fueron a llamar a otro elefante.
(They called another elephant over.)
Tres ... (Three elephants ...)

*Extend three fingers.*

Cuatro ... (Four elephants ...)

*Extend four fingers.*

Cinco ... (Five elephants ...)

*Extend five fingers.*

(From: *Ring A Ring O’Roses,* 1996.)
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**Elephant Walk**

**Five Little Elephants**

Five little elephants
Rowing toward the shore;
One fell in,
Then there were four.

Four little elephants
Climbing up a tree;
One slid down,
Then there were three.

Three little elephants
Living in the zoo;
One walked off,
Then there were two.

Two little elephants
Playing in the sun;
One fell asleep,
Then there was one.

One little elephant
Isn’t any fun;
Abra-ca-da-bra!

Then there were none!

*Holding up five fingers, suit actions to words.*

(From: *Ring A Ring O’Roses*, 1996.)

**The Elephant’s Trunk**

The elephant has a great big trunk

*(Pretend arm is the trunk)*

That goes swinging, swinging so.

*(Swing trunk)*

He has tiny, tiny eyes
That show him where to go.

*(Point to eyes)*

His huge long ears go flapping,
Flapping up and down.

*(Pretend hands are ears)*

His great big feet go stomping,
Stomping on the ground.

*(Stomp with feet)*

(From:

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STAFF ONLY

Big Book: Miss Mary Mack

Flannel Boards: Five Elephants in the Bathtub, I Dream of an Elephant, Three Enormous Elephants

Prop Stories: Elmer, Seven Blind Mice, Dear Zoo

Movies: Ella the Elegant Elephant (VHS, 10 min.), Seven Blind Mice (DVD, 7 min.), A Sick Day for Amos McGee (DVD, 10 min.)

App:
Elmer’s Photo Patchwork by TouchPress
Skyscrapers by Tinybop (when building the foundation, you can test the strength of your building by placing heavy things (like dinos, cruise ships and … elephants!) into your building)

Stamps: Elephant, E, e

Craft Suggestion: Letter E Artwork – I have included sheets with a large upper case E printed in the center of the page. The children can create E artwork! They can simply decorate the E, or they can turn it into an elephant or any object they like.

Play Literacy:
This Play Literacy element is all about the letter ‘E’!
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Foam Letters: Share the foam letter ‘E’ with the kids. Pass it around, and let the children touch and trace it. You can take this opportunity to talk about the sounds that ‘e’ makes – don’t forget that ‘e’ is a super sneaky letter, and it makes different sounds!

Magic Finger: Write a lower case ‘e’ with your magic writing finger. Say “slide right, circle back” as you write the letter. Encourage the children to get their magic writing fingers out, too!

Make the shape of the letter with your body: Encourage the children to become an upper case ‘E’ or lower case ‘e’ with you.

Practice Writing: The kit includes ½-sheets of paper (please provide your own pencils or crayons) to practice writing the letter ‘e’ or ‘E’. You can choose if you’d like the children to write upper or lower case letters.

Early Learning Tip: Practice writing by tracing letters in sand or shaving cream.