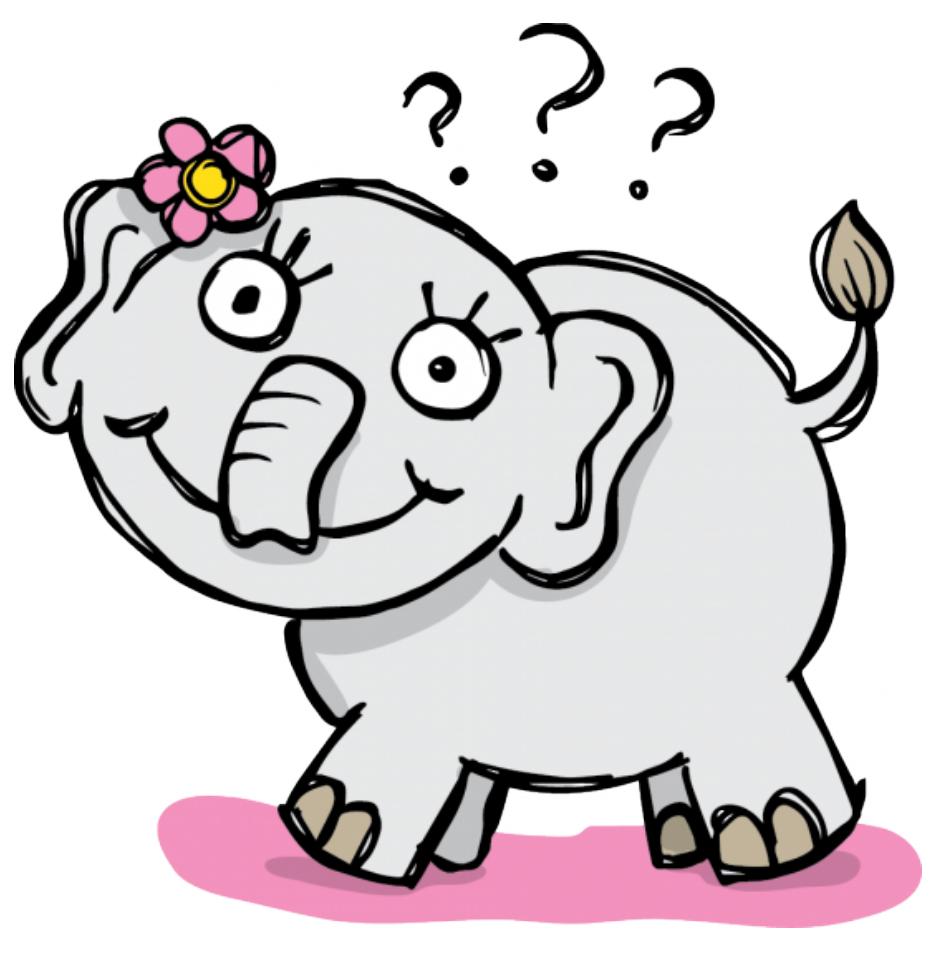
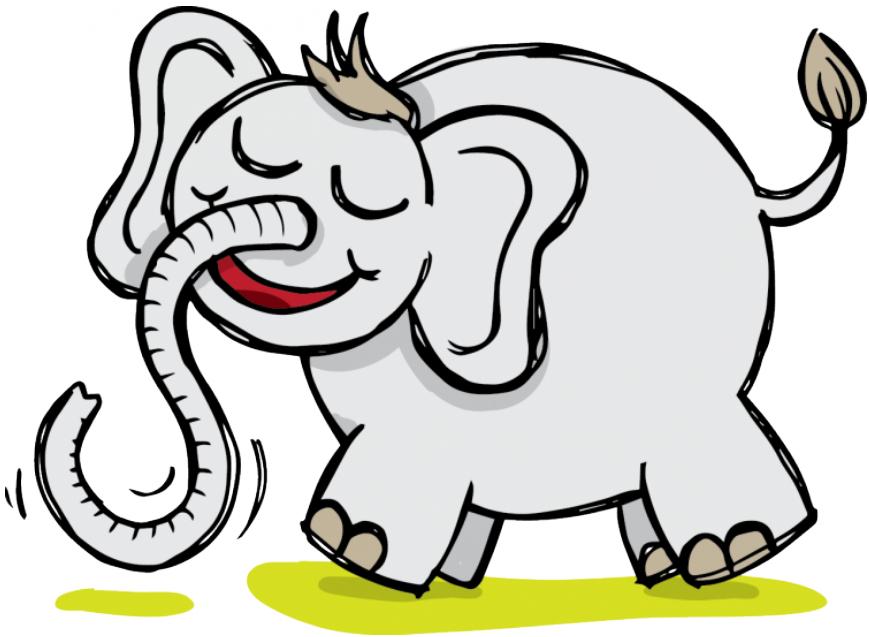


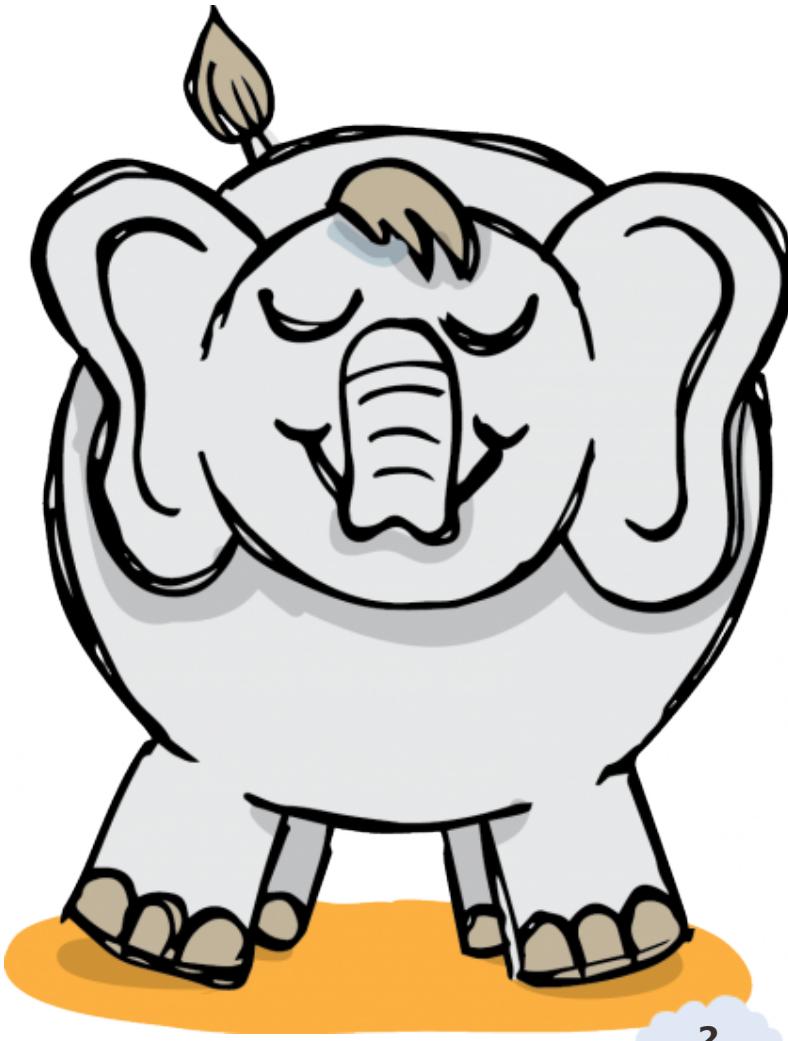
# Curious baby elephant

Judith Baker and Lorato  
Trok  
English



Everyone knows that  
the elephant has a very  
long nose.





But a long time ago, the elephant's nose was short and fat. Like a shoe in the middle of his face.

Then a curious Baby Elephant was born. She had a question for every animal.



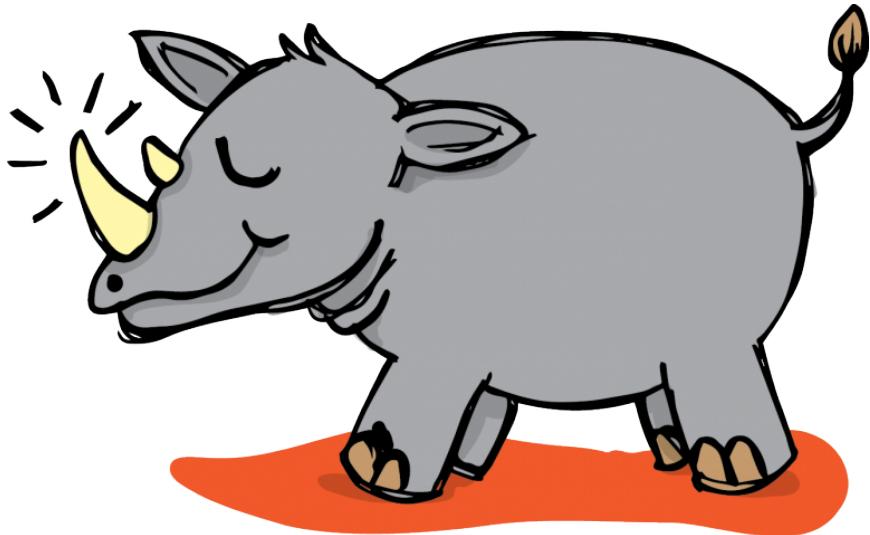


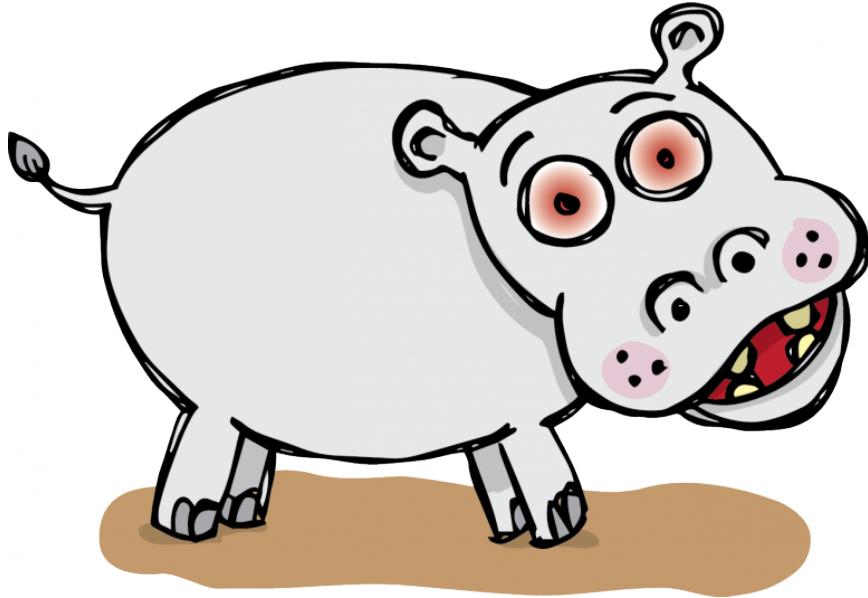
She was curious about  
Giraffe.

“Why do you have a  
long neck?” she asked.

She was curious about  
Rhino.

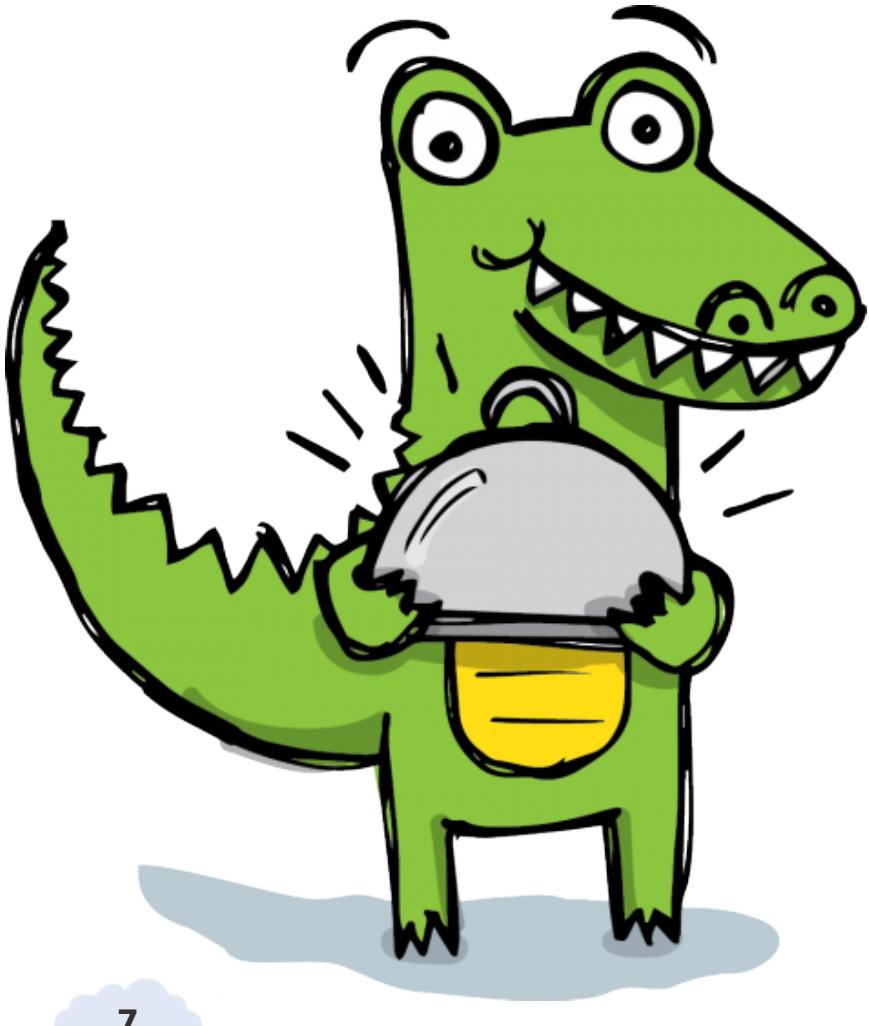
“Why does your horn  
have a sharp point?”

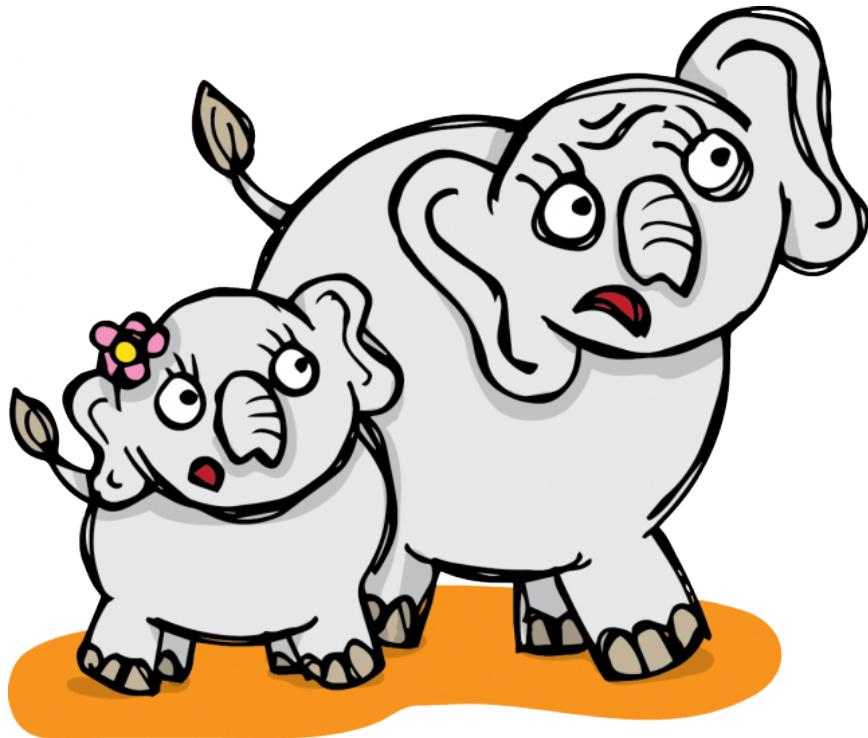




She was curious about Hippo.  
“Why do you have red eyes?” she asked.

And she was VERY  
curious about Crocodile.  
“What does Crocodile  
eat for dinner?”

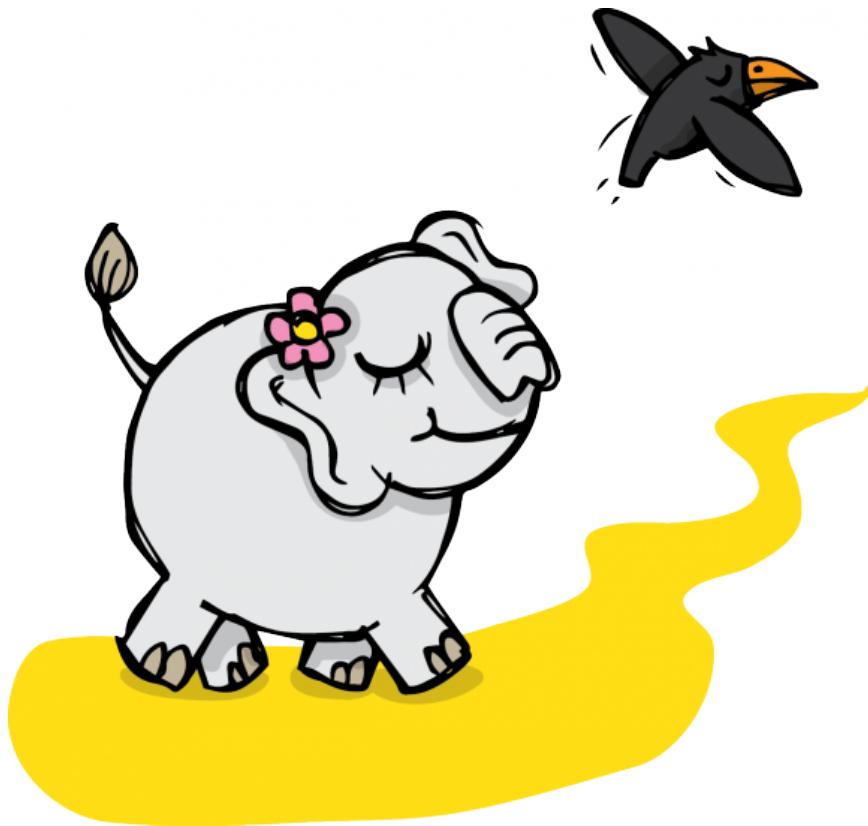




“Never ask a question like that!” said her mother.  
She walked off, frowning.

But clever Crow quickly said, “Follow me to the river. There you will see what Crocodile eats for dinner.”





So Baby Elephant followed Crow all the way down to the river.

She pushed through the reeds and stood on the bank.

She looked into the water.

Where was Crocodile?





“Hello,” said a stone  
near the river bank.

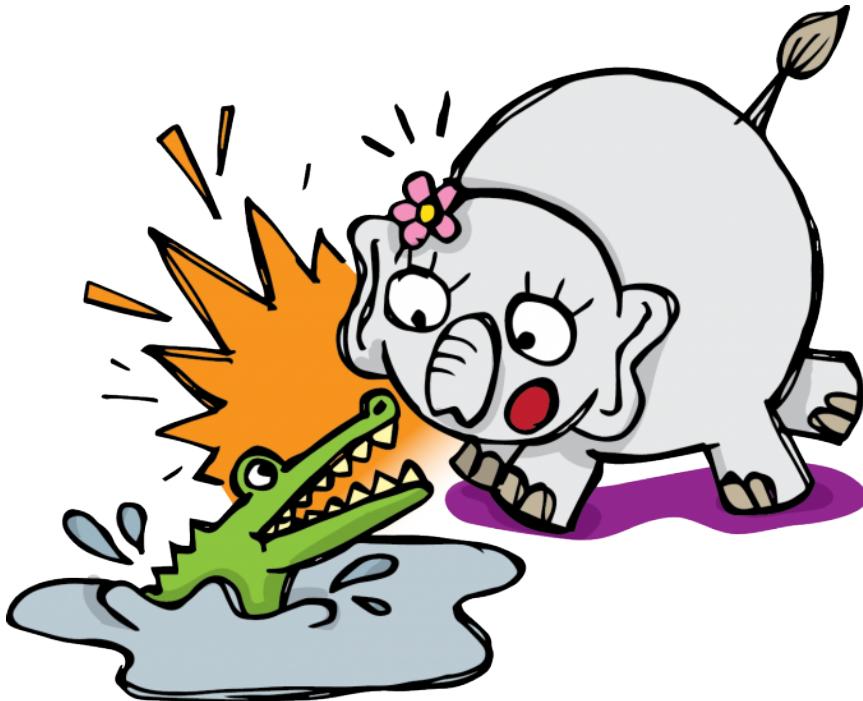
“Hello,” said Baby  
Elephant.

“Perhaps you can tell  
me what Crocodile eats  
for dinner?”

“Bend down and I will tell you,” said the stone. “Lower, lower...”

So Baby Elephant bent down lower, until...





“Snap!” Her nose was in the jaws of Crocodile.

“Crocodile will eat you for dinner!” squawked Crow.

Baby Elephant sat back  
on her strong legs and  
pulled, and pulled, and  
pulled.

But Crocodile did not let  
go.



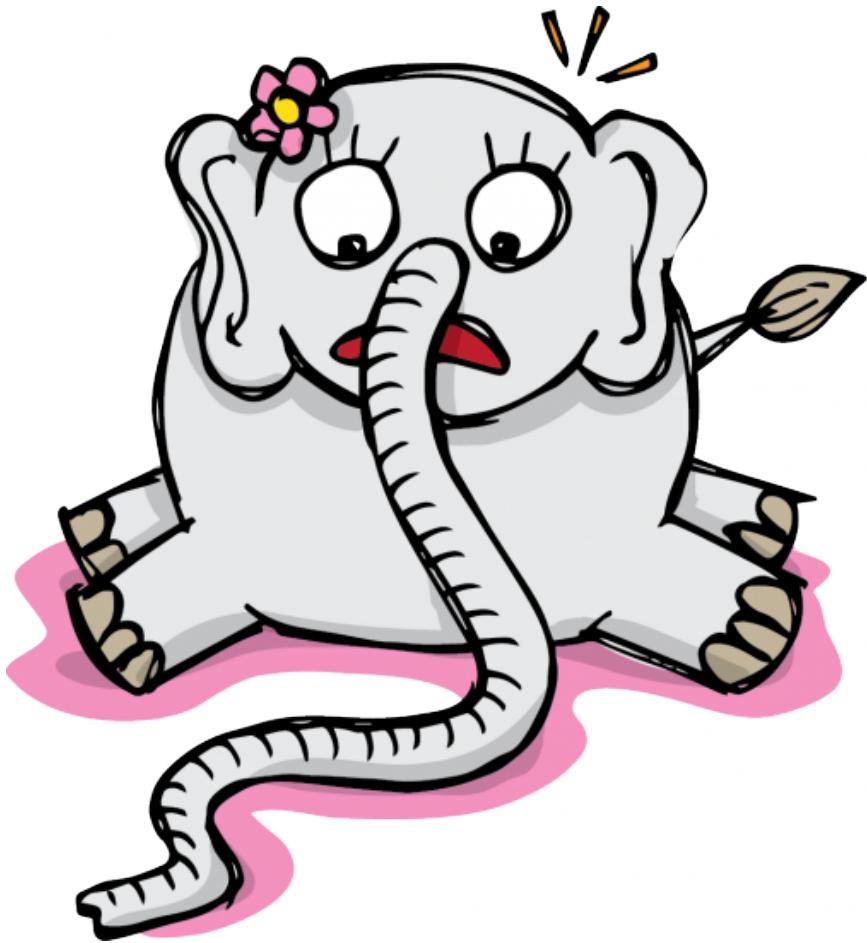


Baby Elephant's nose  
stretched, and  
stretched, and  
stretched, until...

"Duuffff!" she fell on  
her back.

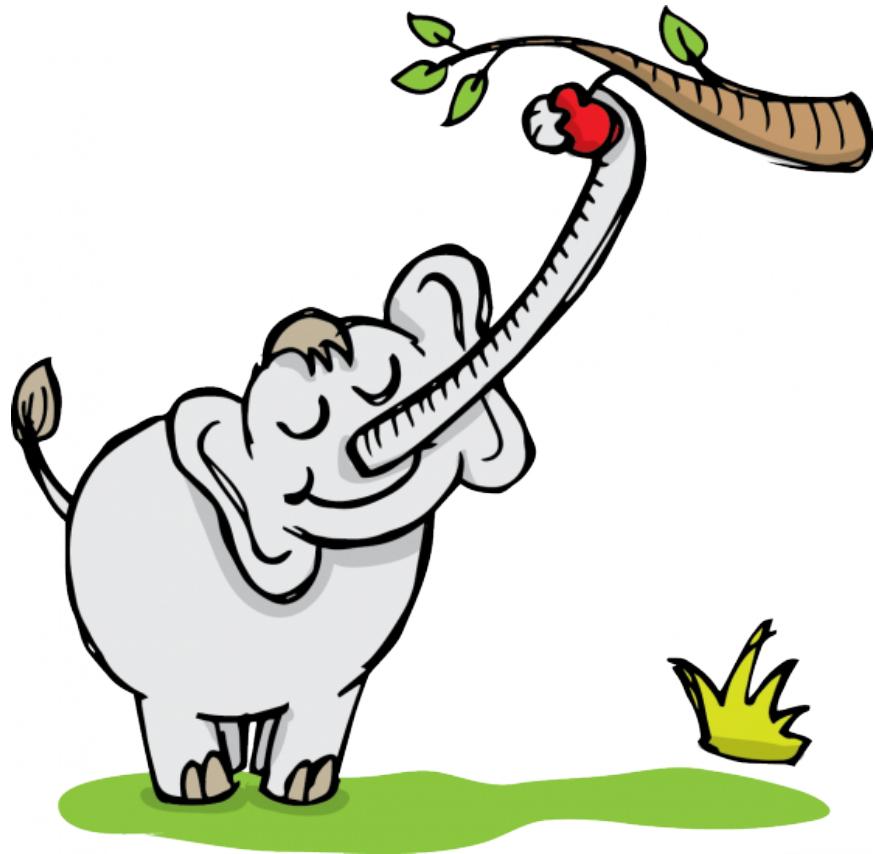
Cross at losing his dinner, Crocodile slithered back into the water.





Baby Elephant looked  
at her nose.  
She could not see  
where it ended!

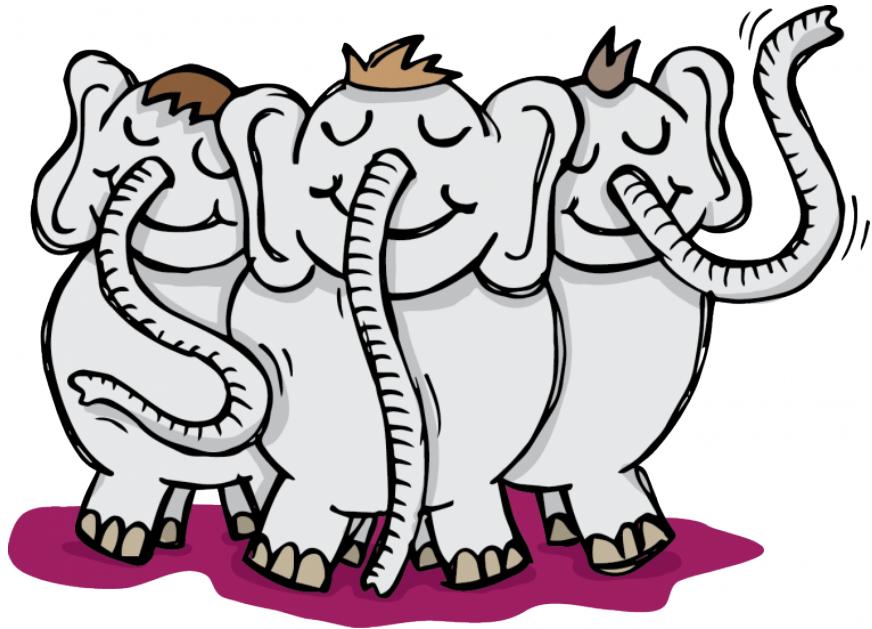
It was so long she could  
pick fruit from high  
branches.





And shower herself with  
water on a hot day.

And to this day, all elephants have very long and useful trunks.

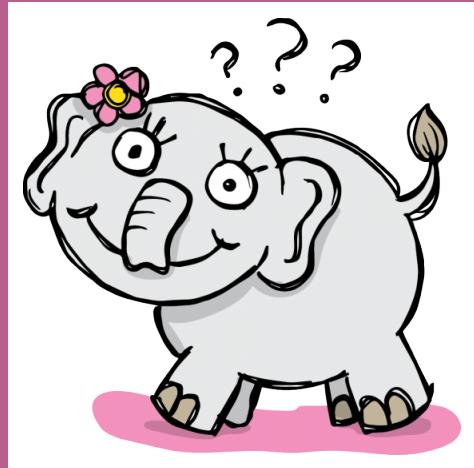


# Curious baby elephant

Writer: Judith Baker and Lorato Trok

Illustration: Wiehan de Jager

Language: English



© African Storybook Initiative, 2014



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution  
(CC-BY) Version 3.0 Unported Licence

Disclaimer: You are free to download, copy, translate or adapt this  
story and use the illustrations as long as you attribute or credit the  
original author/s and illustrator/s.



[www.africanstorybook.org](http://www.africanstorybook.org)  
A Saide Initiative