

## Strictly No Elephants

### Extension Activities for the Classroom

#### Games:

##### Don't Wake the Animal

- Put a stuffed animal or puppet into the middle of the circle. They are "asleep."
- Then you all chant together in a whisper:  
*Little (name of stuffed animal) sleeping on the ground.*  
*Shh! Shh! Shh!*  
*We must not wake them with a sound.*  
*Shh! Shh! Shh!*
- Then get a tambourine, bells, or keys. Pass the instrument around the circle as silently as possible. See if you can get around the circle without making any noise. If you are successful, try it again, but this time go faster.

##### In the Clubhouse



The game begins with everyone sitting in a circle (including the teacher). Have a story bag (or bin) with animals inside. The teacher starts. Say, "In the clubhouse, we invited (pick one out) an elephant!" Pass the bag to the next child, who says, "In the clubhouse we invited" an elephant and a tiger etc. etc. Keep going just like that until everyone has a chance to choose an animal.

##### Elephant Tails



To play this game, you are going to need a strip of fabric or ribbon for each student. The fabric should be about 7 inches long and 3 inches wide. Have each student put the fabric in their back pocket. If they don't have pockets, they can just tuck it in the waistband of their pants. Have the children stand in a circle until you say, "Go." When the kids get the signal, they should run around, trying to grab the tails from the other students. This will require them to run backward, run sideways, and change directions quickly. The student who has the most tails when everyone has lost their tail is the winner. This is a quick game that should take no longer than 5 minutes. It can be played inside or out.

Art:

Paper Plate Elephant



This elephant can be turned into a mask if you make holes for the eyes (instead of wiggly eyes) and you can put a hole in each of the elephant's ears and tie yarn.

Sock Puppet Elephant



This is an adorable elephant puppet. See complete instructions in link: <https://iheartcraftythings.com/paper-plate-elephant-puppet-tutorial.html>

Music:

The Juicebox Jukebox– “Kindness”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H98Rfljxmsc>

The Singing Walrus – “So Many Colors, So Many Shapes”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZiOSzuXjDD0>

Raffi – “The More We Get Together”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4crwVqxsVOO>

If you and your class enjoyed reading *Strictly No Elephants*, be sure to check out these books too:

- *Elephants Cannot Dance!*, by Mo Willems
- *Neither*, by Airlie Anderson
- *Everyone Belongs*, by Heather Avis