

# Planner: One Little Elephant

## Rhyme Structure

<b>Materials needed:</b> Rhyme pictures headbands (page 60), coloured markers, scissors, A4 laminate pockets, zip-top storage bags, laminator	<b>Guidance:</b> Choose five children to act out the rhyme. Lay out a big circle on the floor with a length of rope for the elephants to balance along. Repeat letting each child have a turn.
<b>Music:</b> P35 Okki-tokki Ounga.	<b>Instruments:</b> Shake a tambourine when elephants fall in. Big drum roll for elephants balancing.

## Activity Links:

<b>Book links:</b> <i>Elmer The Story of a Patchwork Elephant</i> David Mckee (Red Fox). A fun story about an elephant that is different. <i>Make it balance</i> Lets Explore Science Series (Dorling Kindersley)	<b>Activities:</b> Set up a wild animal sand tray. Have wooden bricks, stones, plastic trees, elephants and other animals. Sink a tray of water into the sand, and watch the children as they play. If the rhyme is familiar to them, you may observe some good recall.
<b>Extensions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ Let the children play with some balance scales. Show the children how to make them balance. Use linking elephants or Carebears for this because they are all regular sizes. Observe which children are able to do it.</li><li>◆ Make up some balancing activities for the children to try; Walk along a rope across the floor or along a plank or balance building blocks. Photocopy the elephant headbands for the children to colour and make.</li></ul>	<b>Early learning goals:</b> <b>Physical development:</b> Movement. <b>Stepping Stone – Blue:</b> Sit up, stand up, and balance on various parts of the body. <b>Goals:</b> Travel around, under, over and through, balancing and climbing on equipment.

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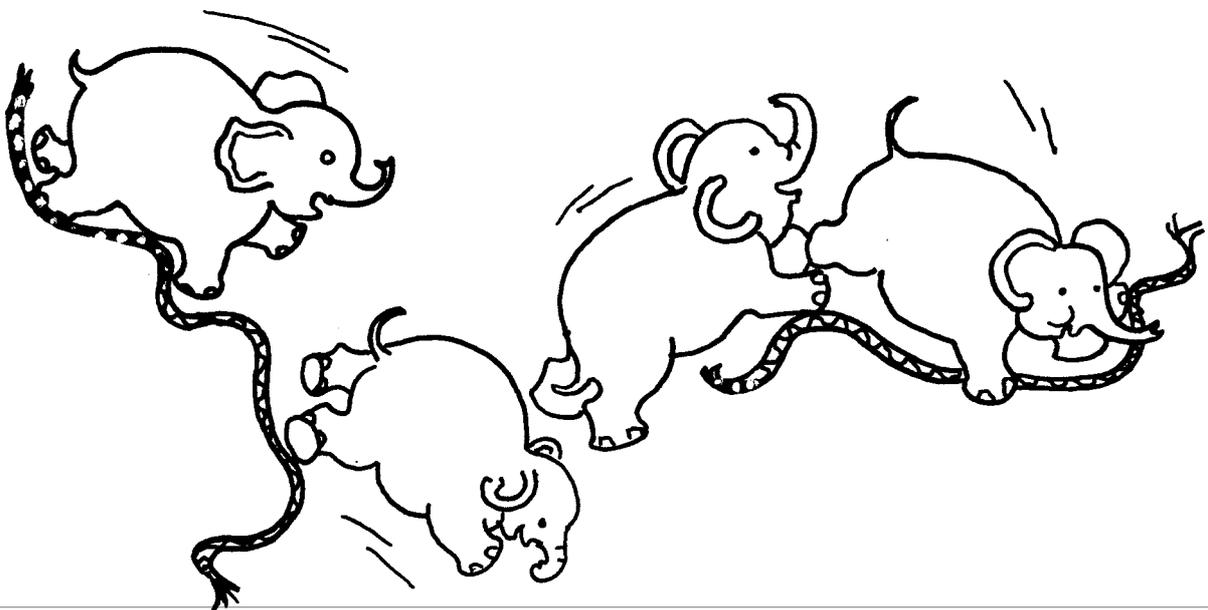
One little elephant balancing,  
Step by step,  
On a piece of string,  
Thought it was such tremendous fun,  
He called for another elephant to come,

(Child wears headband. Walks slowly round circle waving one arm, like a trunk. Chooses another child to walk behind.)

Two little elephants, etc.

Five little elephants balancing,  
Step by step on a piece of string,  
When all of a sudden,  
The string begins to break,  
And all of the elephants fall into the lake!

(All fall to the floor, saying, "SPLASH!")



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The musical score is written on three staves in 4/4 time. The first staff contains the first two lines of the song, with chords C, F, C, and F above the notes. The second staff contains the next two lines, with chords G, C, F, and C above the notes. The third staff contains the final line, with chords G and C above the notes. The lyrics are: "One lit - tle el - e - phant bal - an - cing, Step by step, On a piece of string, He thought it was tre - men - dous fun, So he called for a - no - ther el - e - phant to come."

