

# The Elephant's Child

Many years ago there lived an Elephant's Child. He was very curious. Like the rest of his family he had no trunk. They all had small noses.



## 1. What kind of noses did all the elephants have?

long

fat

small

thin

The Elephant's Child wanted to find out what crocodiles liked to eat.

“Go to the river and ask one,” said the bird.

## 2. What did the Elephant's Child want to find out?

What birds liked to eat.

What elephants liked to eat.

What snakes liked to eat.

What crocodiles liked to eat.

## 3. What did the bird tell the Elephant's Child to do?

The Elephant's Child set off for the river. He met a snake who showed him the way to the river.

When the Elephant's Child reached the river bank, a strange creature swam to the edge of the water.

The Elephant's Child had never seen a crocodile before so he did not know that the strange creature was a crocodile.

**4. What kind of creature swam to the edge of the water?**

A crocodile.

A whale.

An eel.

A goldfish.

**5. Why didn't the Elephant's Child know that the strange creature was a crocodile?**

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"Excuse me," asked the Elephant's Child. "What does a crocodile eat?"

"Come closer and I will tell you," said the crocodile.

The Elephant's Child went closer. Straightaway, the crocodile grabbed his nose and pulled.

**6. Why did the crocodile tell the Elephant's Child to come closer?**

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The crocodile pulled and pulled.  
The poor Elephant's Child slipped on the mud and began to slide into the river.

Luckily, the snake came to help. He pulled on the little elephant's back legs and the little nose began to stretch.  
At last the crocodile let go and fell back into the river.

## 7. Who helped the Elephant's Child?

The other elephants.

The bird.

The snake.

The crocodile.

## 8. What happened to the Elephant's Child's nose?

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The Elephant's Child wrapped his sore nose in cool banana leaves.

“I hope it will shrink,” he said.

A few days later it had not shrunk.

“Think what you can do with a trunk,” hissed the snake.

“You can pick up food, you can carry things and when it is too hot, you can splash cool mud over your head and back.

## 9. What did the Elephant's Child's hope would happen to his nose?

## 10. Did the Elephant's Child's nose shrink?

Yes

No

The Elephant's Child thanked the snake and set off back home.

When he arrived home, all the animals laughed at him.

Angrily, he pushed them with his long trunk.

The other elephants were watching and thought how useful a trunk could be.

## 11. Why did the other animals laugh at the Elephant's Child?

Because he had a long trunk.

Because they were silly.

Because he told funny jokes.

Because he had tiny ears.

## 12. What did the other elephants think?

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So they all went back to the river and asked the crocodile to pull their little noses. And that is how elephants got their trunks.

## 13. Do you think this story is true?

Yes

No

Draw your favourite part of the story.