

# The **ELEPHANT & PIGGIE** Books

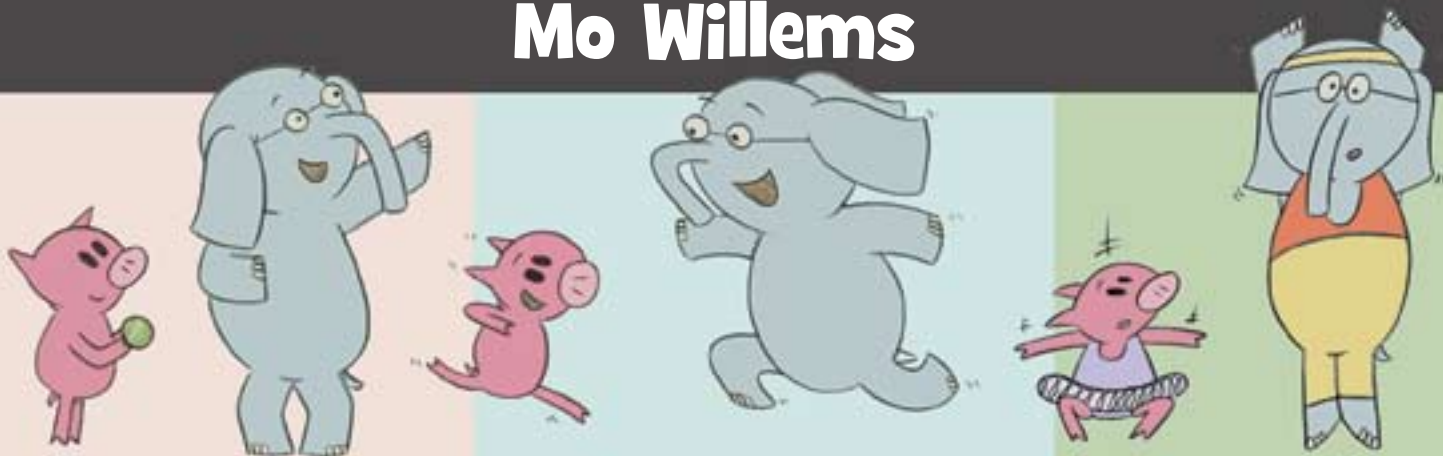
# PARTY KIT!

2008  
and 2009  
Theodor Seuss  
Geisel Medal  
Winners!



The award-winning, *New York Times* best-selling series from

## Mo Willems



## Dear Reader:

Here they go again. The two characters created by Mo Willems — Elephant and Piggie — are back for more exciting adventures.

At least, Mo thinks they're exciting. Okay, fine.

The books are sort of hilarious, and charming (I suppose), and they speak directly to kids. Piggie is an optimistic pig, and Elephant (otherwise known as Gerald) is a cautious, pessimistic elephant.

Sure, go ahead. Like them. *Love* them! But whatever you do, please —don't let them drive the bus!

Sincerely,

Pigeon

(and all the little birdies at Hyperion Books for Children)

P.S. Don't forget to check out *my* Web site

**[www.pigeonpresents.com](http://www.pigeonpresents.com)**

(you'll find them there, too)



Pigeon

Presents.com

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# Elephant & Piggie Story Time Ideas

- Make Elephant and Piggie name tag stickers. Write the children's names in **BLOCK** letters as they arrive.
- Serve snacks that will please every Elephant and Piggie: animal crackers or pink and blue jelly beans!
- Give everyone a chance to participate. Divide your reading group into Elephants and Piggies, and have the different groups repeat some of their dialogue out loud as you are reading the story.
- Assign an Elephant and a Piggie representative to give one sticker sheet to each person in the story time group.

## After Reading about Elephant & Piggie . . .



### Here is a discussion topic for **Elephants Cannot Dance!** :

Elephant unknowingly creates his own dance—how do the kids like to dance? Have them stand up and show off their favorite moves. Did they see someone doing the dance, or did they make it up themselves?



### Here is a discussion topic for **Watch Me Throw the Ball!** :

In *Watch Me Throw the Ball!*, Piggie is all about having fun, while Elephant takes a while to understand that having fun is sometimes better than thinking about things too hard. When do the children think it's okay to let loose and have fun, and when are they expected to be calm and think about things? Which times do they like best, and why?



### Here is a discussion topic for **Are You Ready to Play Outside?** :

Piggie changes her perspective when she sees two worms happy about the rain. What is each child's favorite type of weather, and how does it make them feel? Do they enjoy playing in the rain, or the sunshine, or both?



### Here is a discussion topic for **I Will Surprise My Friend!** :

In *I Will Surprise My Friend!*, the two friends try to surprise one another but wind up worrying instead. Can the kids think of a time when they really worried about something? Were the worries justified in the end, or did the situation turn out all right?



## Here are some discussion questions for **I Love My New Toy! :**

- Piggie has a favorite new toy. Ask the children about their favorite toy. What makes it special?
- Gerald and Piggie get into a fight over the broken toy. Have the children ever been in a fight with a friend? Did they ever make up with their friend? If so, how?
- Talk about the concepts of “by accident” versus “on purpose.” Did Elephant break Piggie’s toy by accident or on purpose? How did Elephant try to make it up to Piggie, and what made them realize that friends are more important than things? Discuss whether the children have ever hurt a friend by accident.



## Here are some discussion questions for **I Am Invited to a Party! :**

- How did Elephant know what to wear to the party?
- What do you think Elephant & Piggie did at the fancy costume party?
- What did they eat? What games did they play?
- What was the best party you ever attended? Why was it so great?



## Here are some discussion questions for **There Is a Bird on Your Head! :**

- Why doesn’t Elephant want those birds to hatch their eggs on his head?
- How does Piggie’s advice help Elephant?
- How is Piggie going to get birds to leave her head? What do you think Piggie will learn from the experience?
- If someone does something that bothers you, what are good ways you can get that person to stop doing it?



## Here is a discussion topic for **Today I Will Fly! :**

In *Today I Will Fly!*, Piggie believes she will fly. Have the kids try and “fly” for thirty seconds. Talk about why they can’t fly. Talk about how birds and planes are able to fly.



## Here is a discussion topic for **My Friend Is Sad :**

How do we express how we are feeling with our voice? Have the children read sections of the book out loud, as expressively as they can. Discuss how tone and facial expressions make it clear how each is feeling.



# Circle-Time Activities

## ● It's Time to Cut a Rug!

After reading *Elephants Cannot Dance!*, teach the kids a bit about some of the well-known dances from different decades, and give them an opportunity to strut their stuff! Bring in a CD player along with music from the 1920s to the 1970s. Here is a quick list of dances for your reference, or go online to find more dance moves!

**1920s** – The Charleston

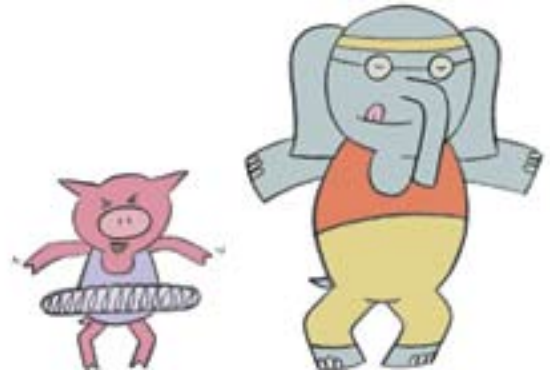
**1930s** – Tap

**1940s** – Swing

**1950s** – Cha-cha

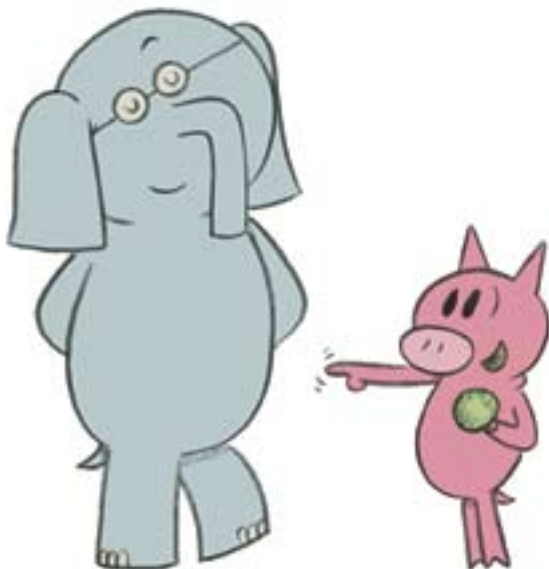
**1960s** – The Twist

**1970s** – The Pogo or The Hustle



## ● Ball in the Bucket

After discussing *Watch Me Throw the Ball!*, challenge kids on their ball-throwing skills. First, ask the kids to line up. With a rope or some masking tape, make a line on the ground, behind which the player should stand. Set a bucket one foot away from the line, and ask the first child to toss a tennis ball into the bucket. Then ask that child to go to the back of the line, and give the next child a chance. Keep going one by one. If a child misses, he or she is eliminated from the game. After all of the children are done, move the bucket another foot away, and the game continues until there is only one child left—the winner!



- **My Favorite Toy Guessing Game**

Play a fun drawing and guessing game based on the children’s favorite toys from home. Ask each child to stand in front of the group and draw a special toy on a large pad of paper or the chalk board. The audience can call out answers as the drawing gets more developed, and the winner with the most correct answers gets a small toy that you bring to the event.

- **Surprise Gift Bags**

After reading *I Will Surprise My Friend!*, announce to the kids that they’ll be making surprise gift bags to give to a friend or family member. Provide children with white bags that they can decorate with images of Elephant and Piggie, and give them great materials to put inside, such as a flower, a pad of stationery with colorful pencils, and even a small box of cookies. Don’t forget to have them create a “For You” card, too!

- **Dress Up!**

Read *I Am Invited to a Party!* out loud, using props. Store them in a box or sack. As you pull out each of the props, have children put them on. Props could include Elephant’s top hat, a bow tie, cane, giant gloves, earrings, flippers, water wings, goggles, a cowboy hat, and a bandanna.

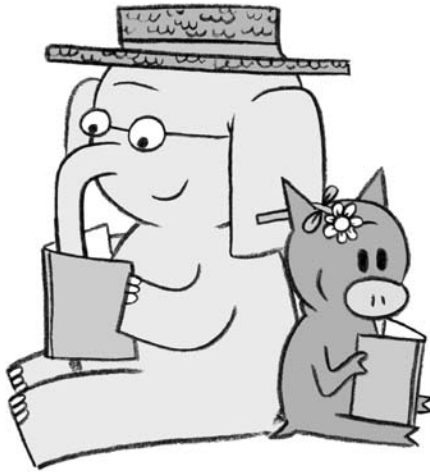


- **Make Me Laugh, Piggie!**

Have your group break into pairs: one of each pair is Elephant Gerald and the other is Piggie. When you give the starting signal, Piggie faces Elephant and has one minute to make him laugh. Elephant must keep his “serious” face and not smile or laugh at all. Piggie may use her hand and facial expressions to make Elephant laugh, and is only allowed to say one thing: “Oink, oink.” Piggie is not permitted to make any other noises or touch Elephant, or Elephant is the automatic winner. If Elephant laughs before the minute is up, Piggie wins. If not, Elephant wins. Then have the pairs switch roles and do it again.

# Fun and Games In Every Season!

## Spring

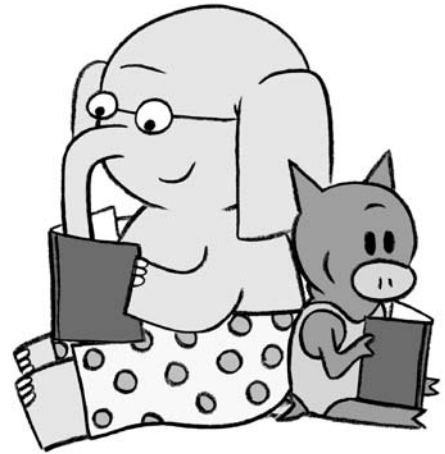


**IN THE SPRING. . . .**

Elephant likes to read about \_\_\_\_\_

while Piggie likes to read about \_\_\_\_\_

## Summer

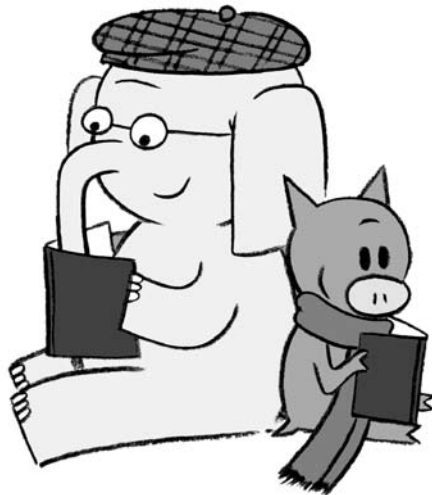


**IN THE SUMMER. . . .**

Elephant likes to read about \_\_\_\_\_

while Piggie likes to read about \_\_\_\_\_

## Fall



**IN THE FALL. . . .**

Elephant likes to read about \_\_\_\_\_

while Piggie likes to read about \_\_\_\_\_

## Winter



**IN THE WINTER. . . .**

Elephant likes to read about \_\_\_\_\_

while Piggie likes to read about \_\_\_\_\_

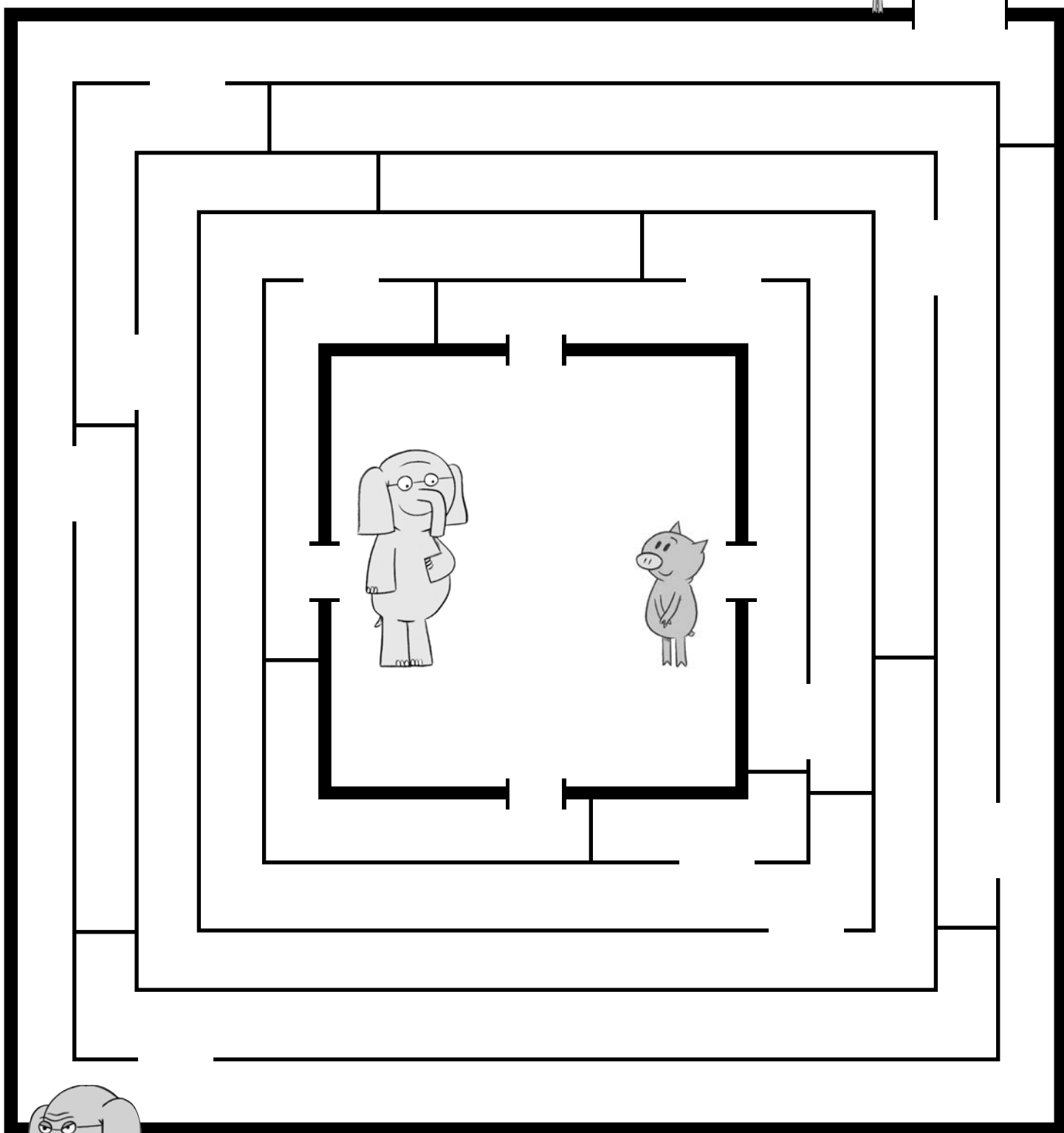


# Find Your Favorite Toy

Draw your favorite toy in the middle of the maze and then find your way to it, beginning at your Start!



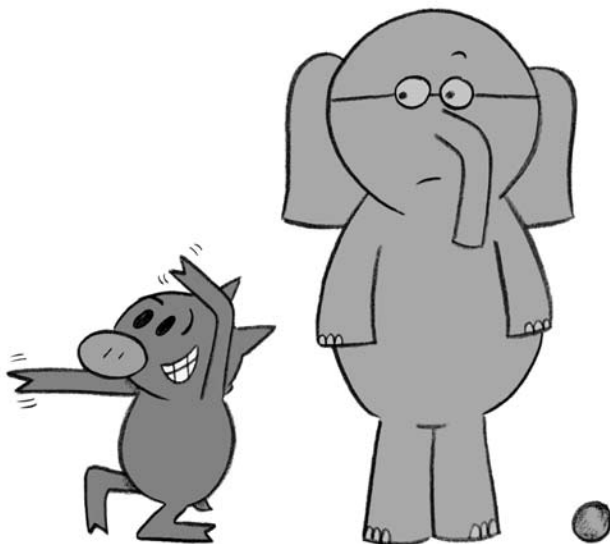
**START!**



# What's in a Name?

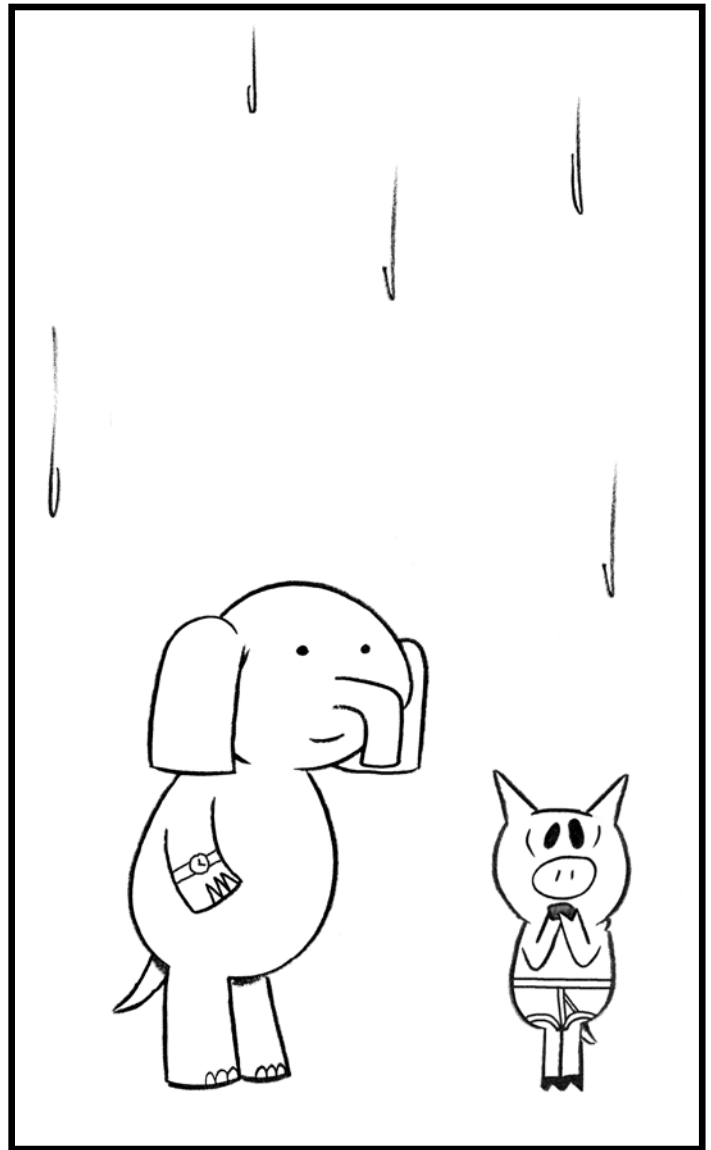
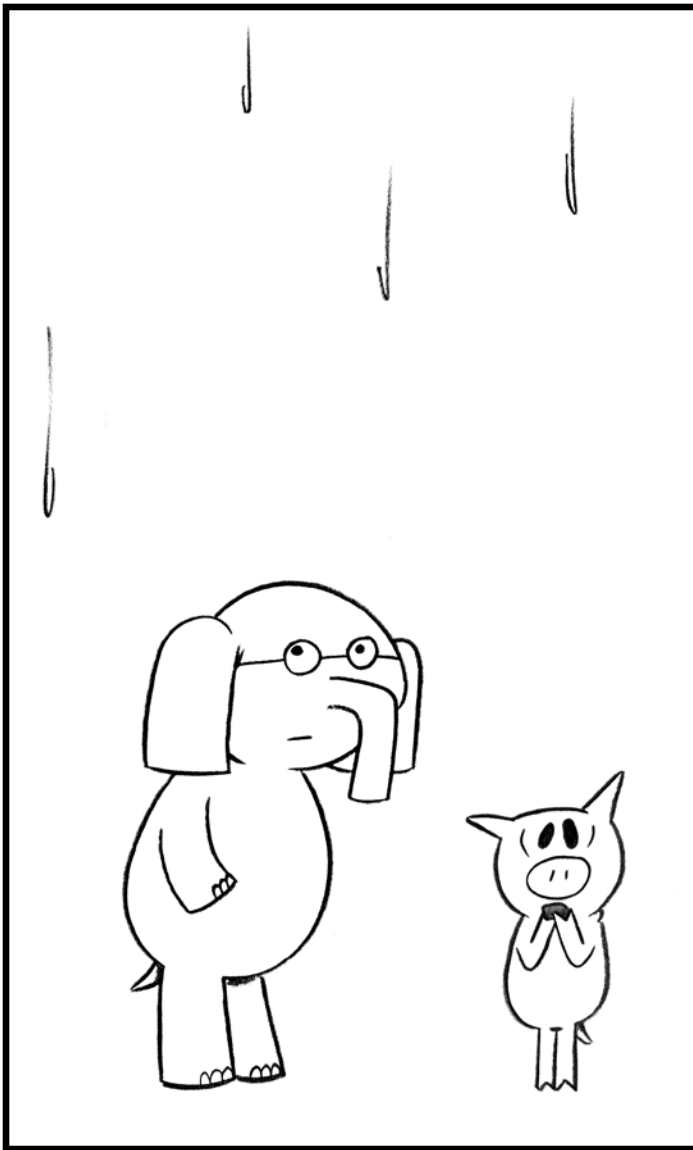
Using the letters in **“Elephant and Piggie,”**  
spell words to finish the sentences.

1. You have to \_\_\_\_\_ an orange before you eat it.
2. Another word for “JUMP” is \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The Earth is a \_\_\_\_\_ in space.
4. A large monkey is an \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The U.S. national bird is the \_\_\_\_\_.
6. It's fun to play \_\_\_\_\_ and seek.
7. A rain storm brings thunder and \_\_\_\_\_.
8. If it's not day, it's \_\_\_\_\_.
9. A cat has a long \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Can't guess it? I'll give you a \_\_\_\_\_.



# What's Wrong with Elephant & Piggie?

These two pictures look the same, but look closer — the picture on the right has ten things that are different from the picture on the left. Circle the differences in the picture on the right.



# Create Your Own Elephant & Piggie Story.

Fill in the blanks below and draw pictures to go along with the story when you are done.

One day, Piggie and Elephant went to \_\_\_\_\_.

When they got there, Piggie found\_\_\_\_\_.

Then Elephant found\_\_\_\_\_.

“Oh, dear!” Elephant cried. “Look at this \_\_\_\_\_!”

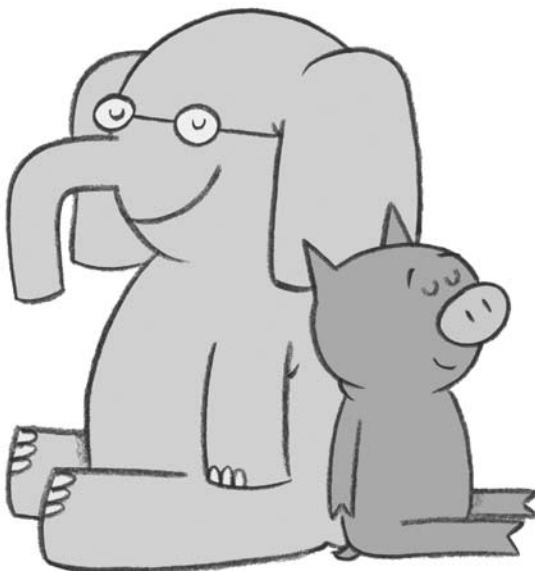
Piggie said, “Don’t worry, Gerald.

Now you can\_\_\_\_\_!”

The two friends laughed.

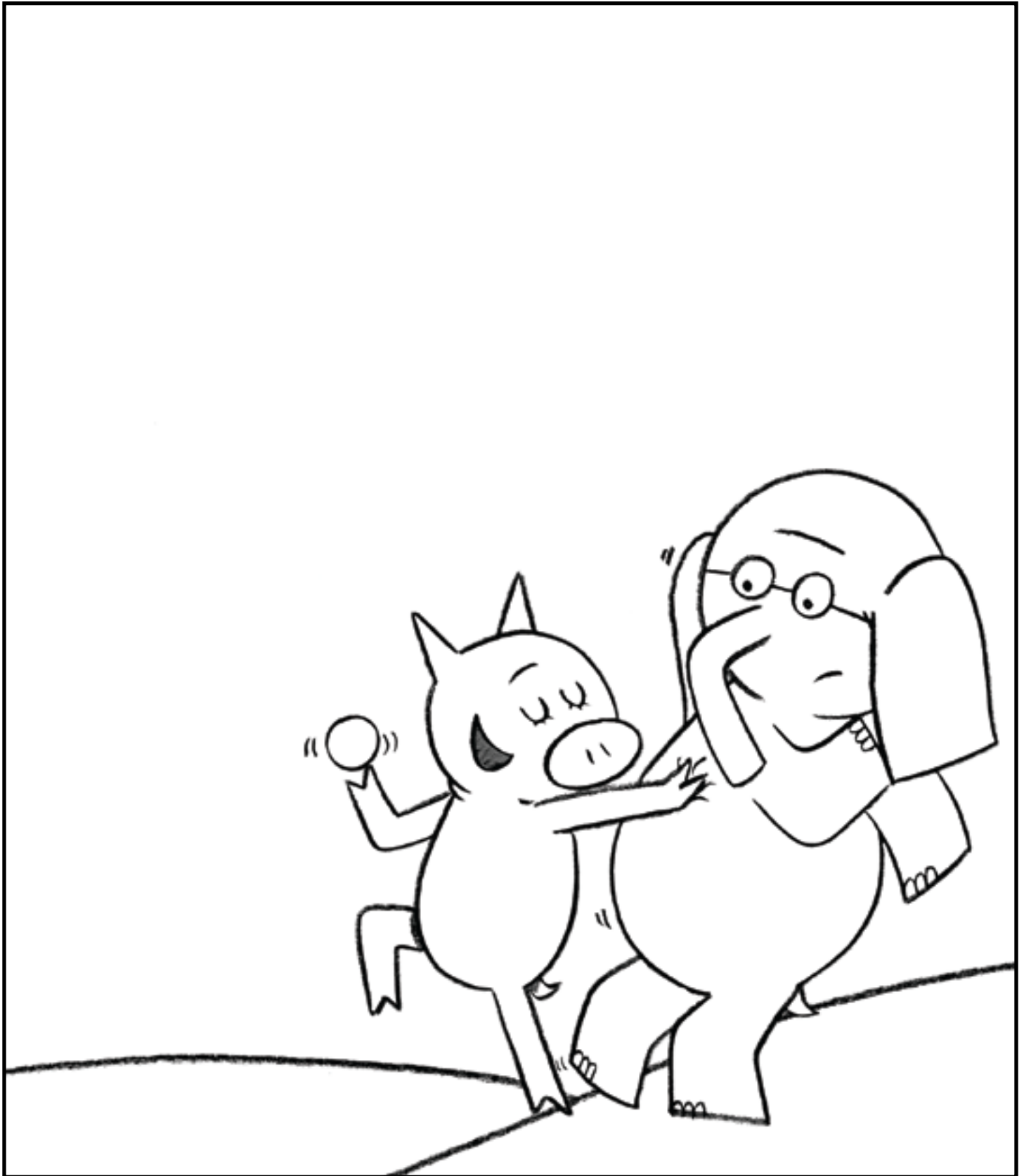
Elephant asked, “\_\_\_\_\_?”

“\_\_\_\_\_!” said Piggie.



# Draw a Picture of Yourself

at the ball game with Elephant and Piggie.

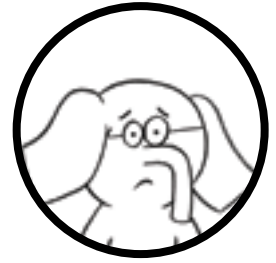


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# How Do They Feel?

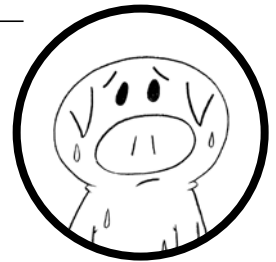
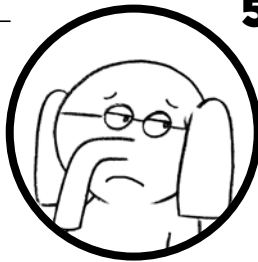
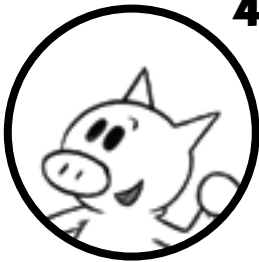
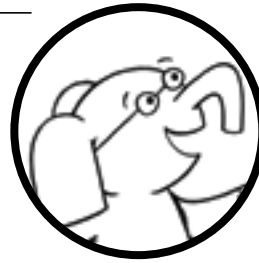
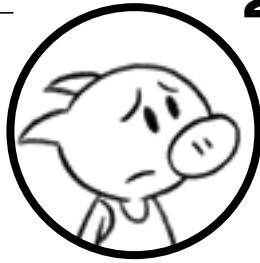
Underneath each picture below, match the emotion that best shows how Elephant or Piggie is feeling. You can use each emotion more than once, and you can ask a grown-up for help with the words.



1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_



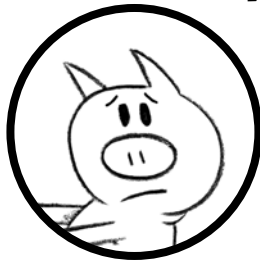
4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_



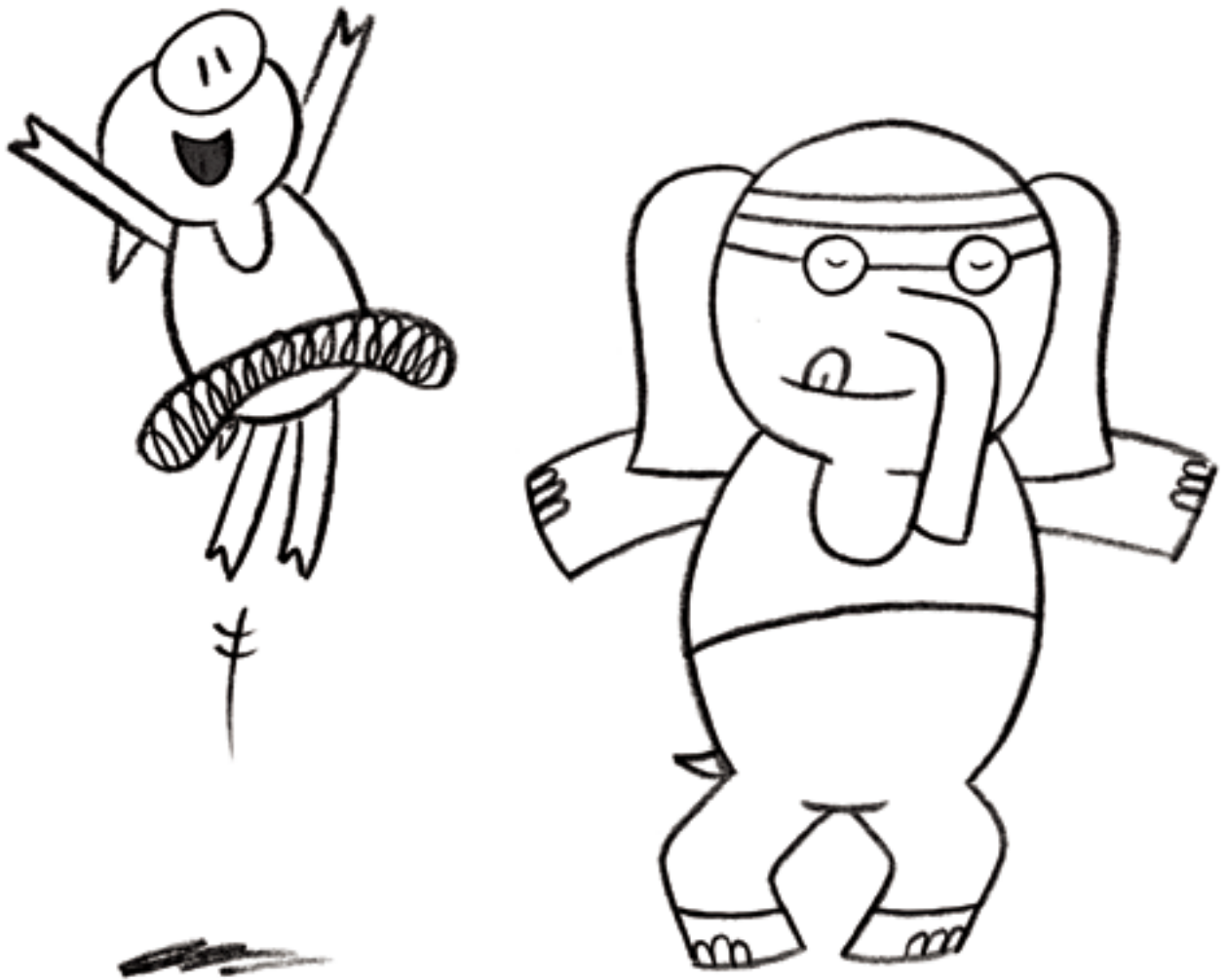
9. \_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_

**CHOOSE AN EMOTION:**

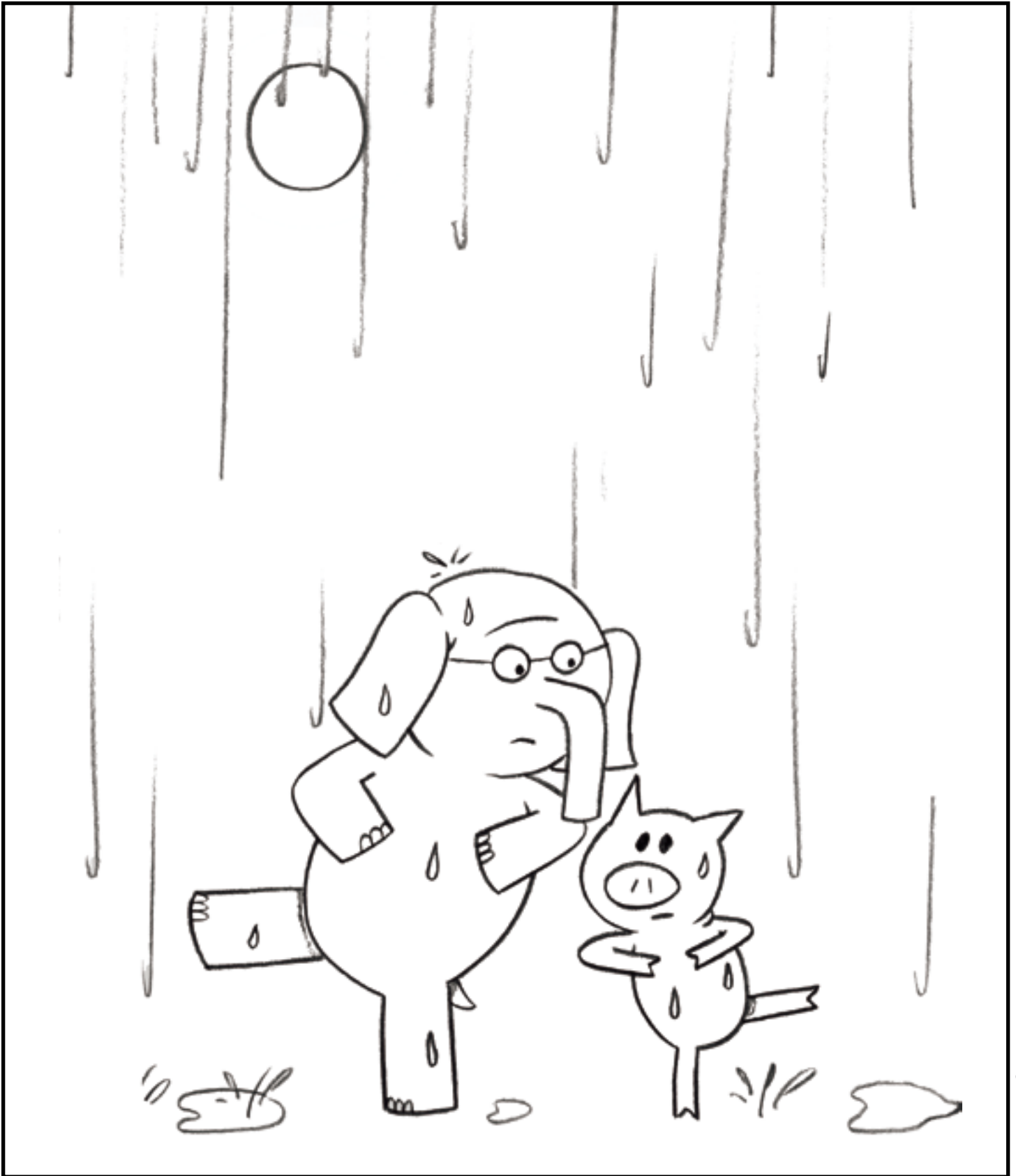
**HAPPY • SAD**

# Color Elephant and Piggie



Art © 2009 by Mo Willems

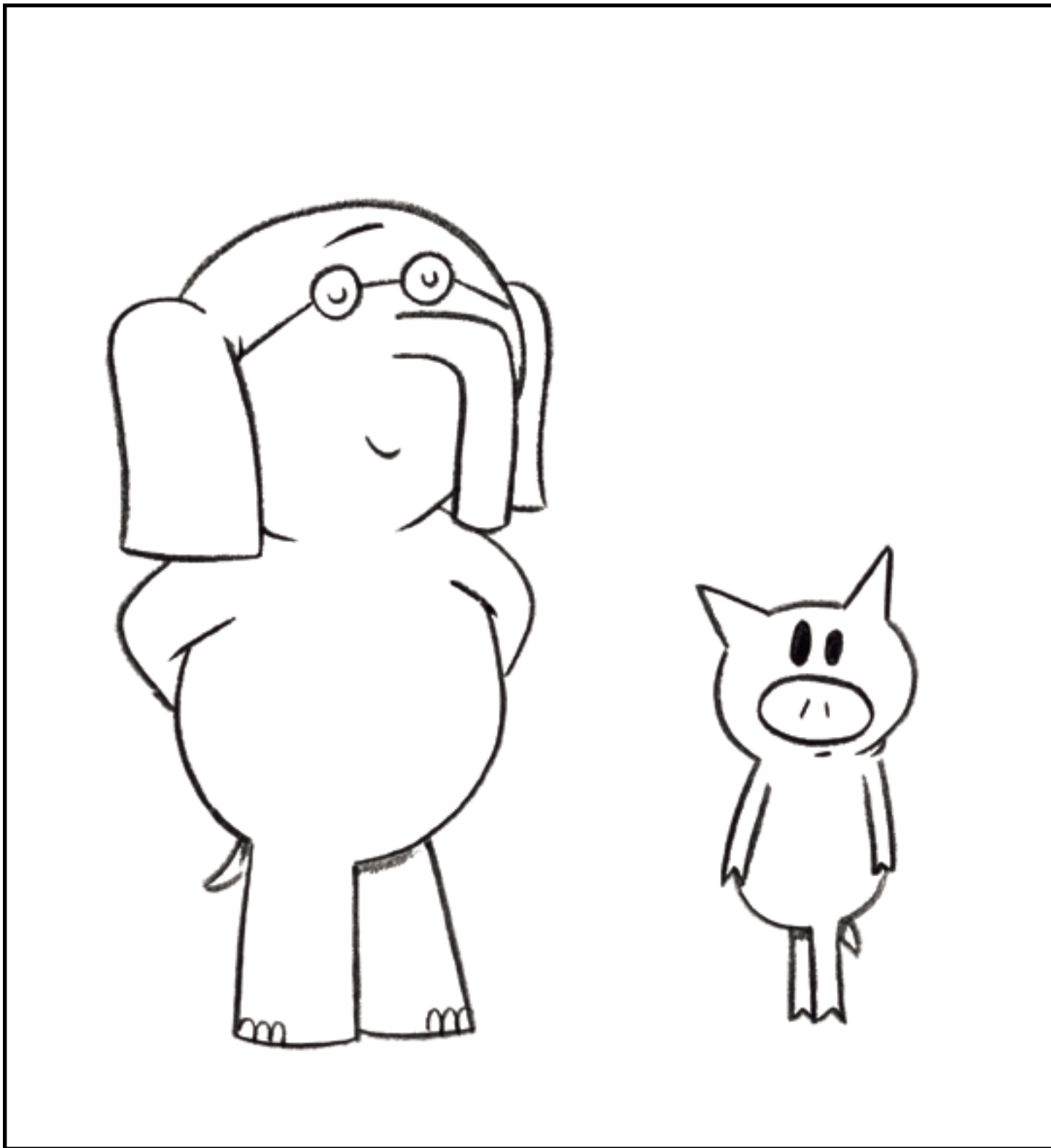
# Color Elephant and Piggie



Art © 2009 by Mo Willems

# Elephant and Piggie Can't Decide!

Help Elephant and Piggie decide whether to go dancing or to play ball by drawing them in dance costumes or ball uniforms.



# STORY TIME WITH ELEPHANT & PIGGIE

The award-winning, *New York Times* best-selling series from **Mo Willems**

**DATE:**

**TIME:**

**PLACE:**



Visit [www.pigeonpresents.com](http://www.pigeonpresents.com)

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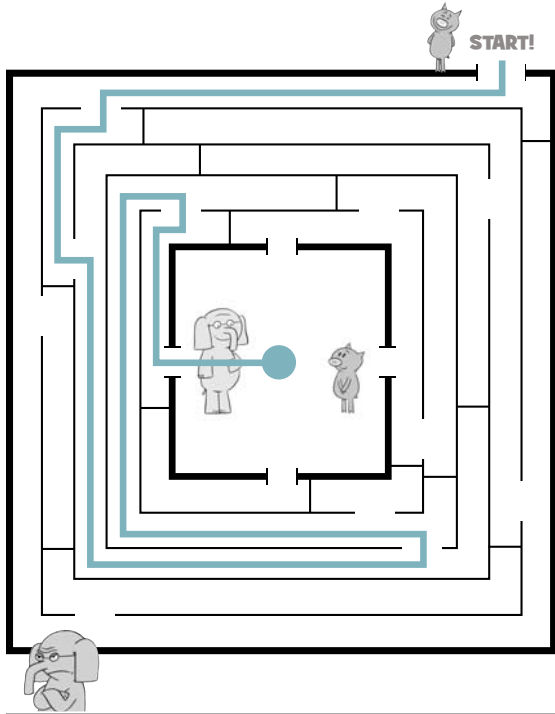
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# Answer Key

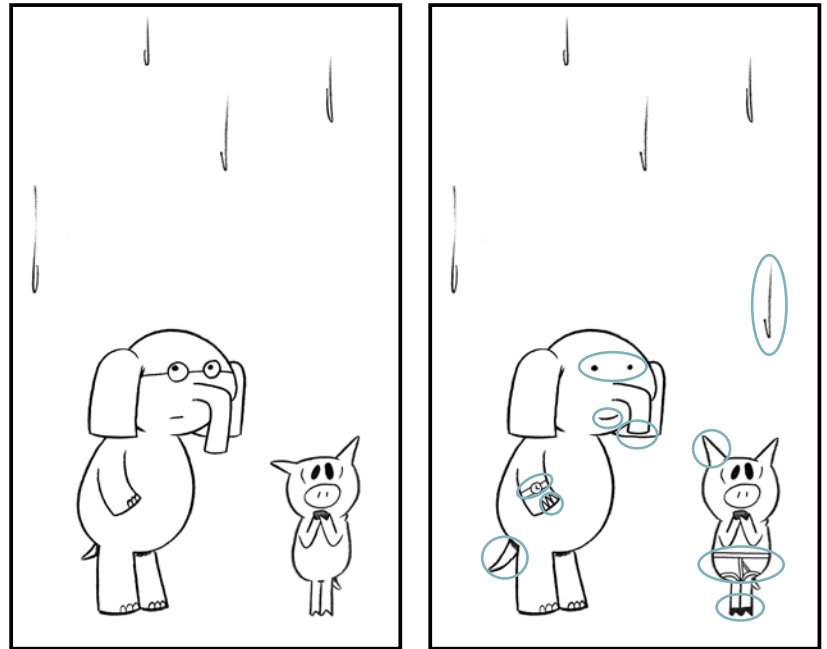
## FIND YOUR FAVORITE TOY

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## WHAT'S WRONG WITH ELEPHANT & PIGGIE?

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## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

page 8

1. PEEL
2. LEAP
3. PLANET
4. APE
5. EAGLE
6. HIDE
7. LIGHTNING
8. NIGHT
9. TAIL
10. HINT

## HOW DO THEY FEEL?

page 12

- |           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| 1.  HAPPY | 6.  HAPPY  |
| 2.  HAPPY | 7.  SAD    |
| 3.  SAD   | 8.  SAD    |
| 4.  SAD   | 9.  SAD    |
| 5.  HAPPY | 10.  HAPPY |



Photo Credit: MARTY DIMAS

**Mo Willems** is a #1 *New York Times* best-selling author and illustrator who started his career on *Sesame Street*, where he garnered six Emmy Awards for his writing before changing the face of children's literature with his groundbreaking picture books. Mo has been awarded a Caldecott Honor on three occasions (for *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!*, *Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale*, and *Knuffle Bunny Too: A Case of Mistaken Identity*), and his acclaimed Elephant & Piggie early reader series received the Theodor Seuss Geisel Medal in 2008 and 2009.



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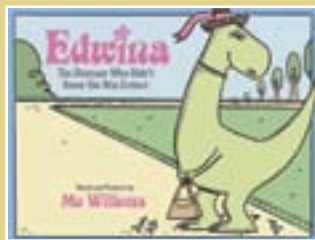
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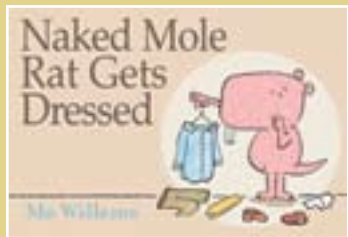
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