

Elmer and Rose by David McKee



STORY DESCRIPTION: Join Elmer and his new friend Rose, in an uplifting story that questions what it really means to be unique. When Grandpa Eldo asks Elmer and his cousin Wilbur to help a young elephant find her way back to her herd, they get a big shock when they see she is pink! No wonder she is called Rose. As they help Rose find her herd, Elmer and Wilbur learn a valuable lesson about being different and fitting in.

SUBJECTS: Social-Emotional Learning

GRADE LEVELS: Pre-K, K, 1

USING omBooks IN THE CLASSROOM

Reading Modes

Read it Myself

- Read the story to your students or have the students read the story themselves
- Turn the pages to read at your own pace

Read to Me

- Follow along as the story is read by the narrator
- Turn the pages to read at your own pace

Auto Play

- Follow along as the story is read by a narrator
- Pages turn automatically for reading at a controlled pace

Interactive Features

- Tap a picture to hear and see the word associated with it
- Tap on an individual word to hear it pronounced
- Touch and hold a paragraph to hear it read by a narrator
- Find the creatures throughout the story! Tap on them to count them.

Reading Dynamics

Large Group

- Connect your iOS or Android device to your classroom projector, TV, or computer monitor (see *How-To Guide*).
- Use the *Read it Myself* mode to read the story aloud, or use the *Read to Me* or *Auto Play* modes to present the story to the entire class.
- Use the discussion questions on page 3 to guide a whole-class discussion.
- Alternatively, if your students can read, project the questions on the screen. Invite students to partner up and discuss the story in pairs. Ask them to record their discussion on the iOS or Android device so you can assess their work.

Small Groups

- Gather a small group of students and display the iOS or Android device so all can see.
- Use the *Read it Myself* mode to read the story aloud, or use the *Read to Me* or *Auto Play* modes to present the story to the small group.
- Use the discussion questions on page 3 to guide a group discussion.

Partners

- If you have enough devices in the classroom, invite students to read or listen to the story in pairs.
- Students can take turns reading pages, asking questions, and supporting each other.
- If your students can read, give them the discussion questions from page 3. Ask them to record their discussion on the iOS or Android device so you can assess their work.
- If your students are non-readers, invite the class to come back together as a large group. Guide a class discussion using the discussion questions on page 3.

Independent

- If you have enough devices in the classroom, invite students to read or listen to the story independently.
- Students can use the interactive features to support their reading, and each student can explore the text and illustrations at an individualized pace.
- If your students can read, give them the discussion questions from page 3 and ask them to type or record their responses on the device.
- If your students are non-readers, invite the class to come back together as a large group. Guide a class discussion using the discussion questions on page 3.

DISCUSSING THE STORY

1. How do you think Rose feels when she gets separated from her herd?
2. How do Elmer and Wilbur help Rose?
3. What color is Rose? What color are the elephants in Elmer and Wilbur's herd?
4. Why does Rose think the gray elephant is strange?
5. Do people come in different colors? What color is your skin? Do you know people with lighter or darker skin than yours?
6. Does Elmer like Rose even though she is a different color than the elephants in their herd? Can you be friends with people if they look different than the people in your family?
7. Elmer doesn't look like the elephants in his herd. At the end of the story, Elmer imagines a herd of elephants that look just like him. How do you think Elmer would feel if all of the other elephants looked like him? How would his life be different?

EXTENDING THE LEARNING

Support students in using the iOS or Android device as a tool to extend their learning. Some ideas:

- **Celebrate diversity:** Sherwin Williams has a free app for Android and iOS called Color Snap. Have each student use the app to take a picture of his or her hand and determine what color it is. Make a list of each student's color. Are the colors the same? Are they different? Compare and contrast the colors. Celebrate differences and similarities, making each child feel special. If any of the students in your class have a skin tone that stands out from the rest of the class, go online and find images of other people with similar skin tones to share with the class.
- **Tell a transmedia story:** Rose got separated from her herd and she was scared. Elmer and Wilbur helped her find her herd and made her feel better. Ask your students to think of a time when somebody helped them and made them feel better. Use some or all of the following media:
 - Produce a movie
 - Conduct and audio-record an interview for a podcast
 - Perform a digital puppet show using a puppet app (such as Sock Puppets on iOS)
 - Draw or paint scenes to create a slideshow

SHARING YOUR WORK

Have you used the Elmer and Rose omBook in your class? We'd love to hear about it! To share your experience, please visit the educators section of our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/OceanhouseMedia> .

DOWNLOADING THE APPS

omBooks (Oceanhouse Media Digital Books) are available for purchase in the following stores:

