



*Little Nelly's Big Book* by Pippa Goodhart

**Related Books:**

Cinderelphant by Emma Dodd

Elmer by David McKee

Horton Hatches the Egg by Dr. Seuss

"Stand Back," said the Elephant, "I'm Going to Sneeze!" by Patricia Thomas

A Big Guy Took My Ball by Mo Willems

Little Bitty Mousie by Jim Aylesworth

The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson

Where's Mommy? by Beverly Donofrio

Horace and Morris But Mostly Dolores by James Howe

Mother, Mother, I Want Another by Maria Polushkin Robbins

**Songs and Fingerplays:**

**The Tail of a Mouse**

(Sung to the tune "The Wheels on the Bus")

The tail of a mouse curls round and round  
Round and round, round and round  
The tail of a mouse curls round and round  
All through the house.

The mouth of a mouse goes squeak, squeak, squeak  
Squeak, squeak, squeak. Squeak, squeak, squeak  
The mouth of a mouse goes squeak, squeak, squeak  
All through the house.

The nose of a mouse goes sniff, sniff, sniff  
Sniff, sniff, sniff. Sniff, sniff, sniff.  
The nose of a mouse goes sniff, sniff, sniff  
All through the house.

The feet of a mouse go scurry, scurry, scurry

Scurry, scurry, scurry. Scurry, scurry, scurry  
The feet of a mouse go scurry, scurry, scurry  
All through the house.

The ears of a mouse go twitch, twitch, twitch  
Twitch, twitch, twitch. Twitch, twitch, twitch  
The ears of a mouse go twitch, twitch, twitch  
All through the house.

### **Elephant has a Great Big Trunk**

The elephant has a great big trunk (*pretend an arm is the trunk*)  
That goes swinging, swinging so. (*swing trunk*)  
He has tiny, tiny eyes that show him where to go. (*point to eyes*)  
His huge, long ears go flapping up & down, (*pretend hands are ears*)  
His great feet go stomping, stomping on the ground. (*stomp around*)

### **Flannelboard: Five Elephants in a Bathtub**

One elephant in a bathtub going for a swim.  
Knock, knock – Splash, splash – Come on in! (*clap twice with “knock, knock”/slap knees twice with “splash, splash”/motion to come with “come on in”*)

Two elephants.....etc.

Three elephants.....etc.

Four elephants.....etc.

Five elephants in a bathtub going for a swim.

Knock, knock – Splash, splash – It all fell in! (*knock elephants and tub off the flannelboard for this surprise ending!*)

*Suggestion: Let children take turns putting an elephant in the tub while the class counts over and over again for number reinforcement and much fun!*

### **Five Little Mice Went Out to Play**

Five little mice came out to play,  
Gathering crumbs along the way,  
Out came a pussycat sleek and fat;  
Four little mice go scampering back!

Four little mice...

Three little mice...

Two little mice...

One little mouse came out to play,  
Gathering crumbs along the way,  
Out came pussycat sleek and fat;  
No little mice go scampering back!

## Activities:

### Elephant Marching Game:

It often looks like elephants march from place to place. Play a fun marching game with your kids! Tape construction paper squares in a row/marching pattern around your area and in various points in your line place different shapes, rather than the standard rectangle (ie circles, stars, etc). Whenever the children march to a shape, have them do an activity, whether it's clapping for the circle or hopping for the star. With younger children, you may want to place a picture of the activity on the shape. This is also fun to do to music!

### Making Mouse Traps:

Tell your kids about how people have tried to build a better mouse trap for many years and talk about what they feel could catch a mouse. Then give them the task of making their own! This activity can use almost any sort of supplies that you have available. Possible choices include: yarn, boxes, tinfoil, scraps of paper, tape, glue, etc.

### Elephant Handprints:

Use gray paint to make an upside down handprint on a piece of construction paper. Use a black marker to add eyes, a mouth and an ear. Let the children draw a jungle or savannah scene on their construction paper as well.  
<http://kiboomukidssongs.com/handprint-elephant-earth-day-craft/>

### Mouse Bookmark:

Add eyes, whiskers, and ears to a construction paper bookmark to encourage reading! Check out the following template: <http://www.allaboutyou.com/craft/knit-free/craft-ideas-for-kids-mouse-bookmarks-49739>

### Trumpeting Elephant Craft:

<http://spoonful.com/crafts/trumpeting-elephant>



### Paper Plate Mouse Craft:

<http://www.readingconfetti.com/2013/05/paper-plate-mouse-virtual-book-club-for.html>



### The Jumping Handkerchief Mouse:

Written directions: <http://spiritsdancing.com/msblog/the-jumping-hankerchief-mouse>

Video directions: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fe\\_RQxz\\_s9Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fe_RQxz_s9Y)

Story to tell while making the handkerchief mouse:

<http://cdacvolunteers.blogspot.com/2012/10/the-old-woman-and-squeaky-squeak.html>

You can make your own story up or find another version of the story in this book:

Drawing Stories from around the World and a Sampling of European Handkerchief Stories by Anne Pellowski  
<http://www.amazon.com/Drawing-Stories-Sampling-European-Handkerchief/dp/1591582229>