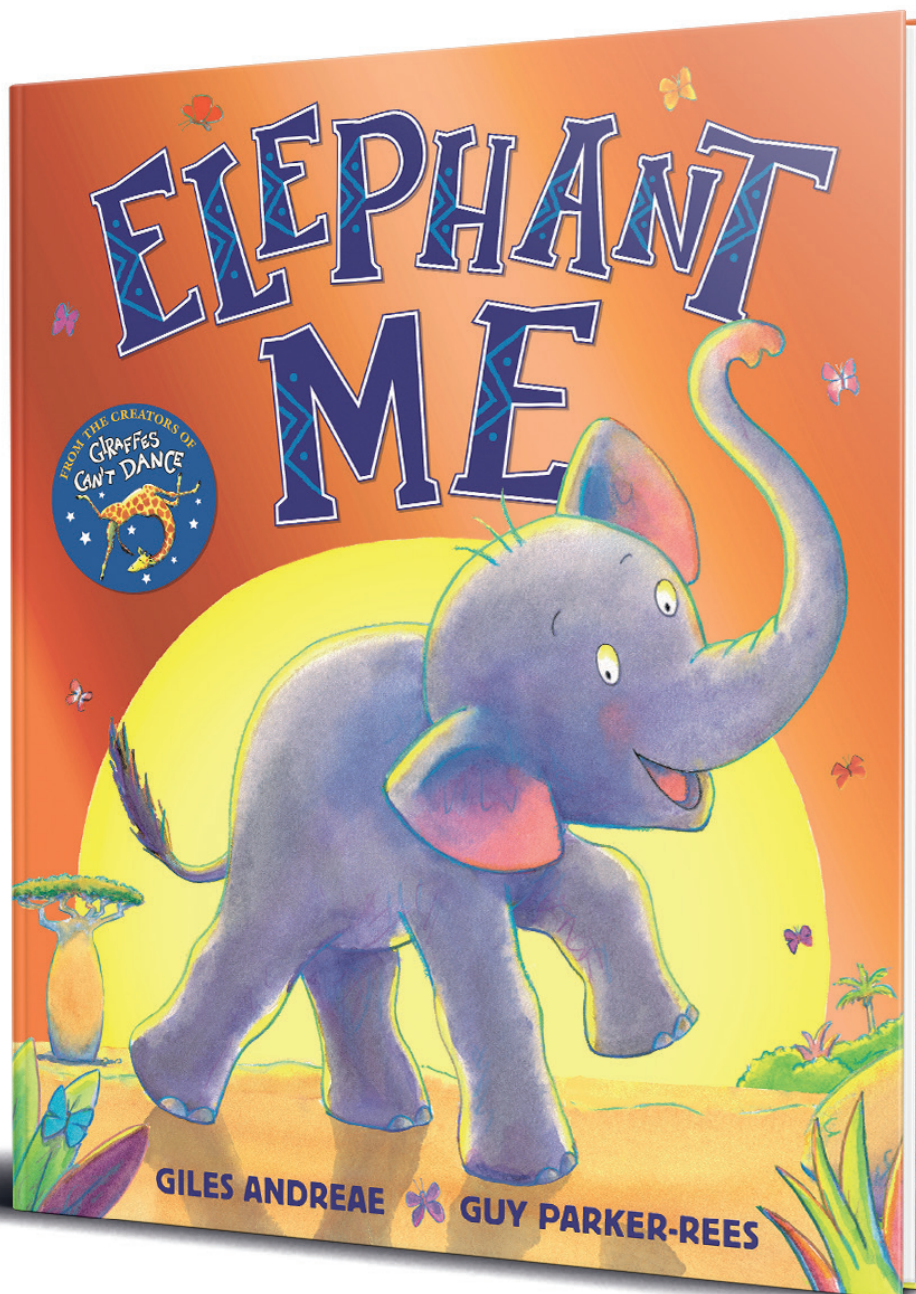


Resource Pack for KS1 Teachers and Librarians



Teacher Resources based on *Elephant Me*
The empowering picture book about celebrating being YOU,
from the creators of *Giraffes Can't Dance*,
Giles Andreae and Guy Parker-Rees.
Resources prepared by J. Baldwin, SHAPES for Schools.

ELEPHANT ME

THE AIM

This Resource Pack can be used with children from EYFS through to KS1. It is based on Elephant Me, the brand new picture book from the creators of the bestselling Giraffes Can't Dance.

The three lessons included have been designed as sequential activities and can be taught as whole Literacy or Citizenship/PSHE units, or as standalone activities. Their overall objective is to give children the opportunity to explore what we mean by 'being yourself' – to understand that everyone is unique, that we are all valuable – and that the very best thing you can be is YOU!



ABOUT THE BOOK

The empowering story of little elephant Num-Num, who discovers the importance of simply being YOU!

It's time for the Elephant Games! One by one, the young elephants compete to impress King Elephant Mighty and earn their Elephant Name.

*Nina is the strongest, so she becomes Elephant Strong.
Norcus is the loudest, so he becomes Elephant Noisy.*

Little Elephant Num-Num thinks he will never discover his own special talent – until he learns that the very best thing you can be is YOU!

ELEPHANT ME

LESSON ONE: FEELING HOPELESSLY SMALL

OBJECTIVES

- To explore why people sometimes feel small or worthless
- To make inferences about Num-Num's emotions in the story
- To show empathy with Num-Num's situation in the story

Outcome: A drama piece in groups, with children in-role as characters from the story

Lead-in questions:

- Can you think of a situation in school where people are made to feel small or worthless?
- Can you think of a situation in the world where people are made to feel small or worthless?

TASK 1:

Look at the illustration below from *Elephant Me*:

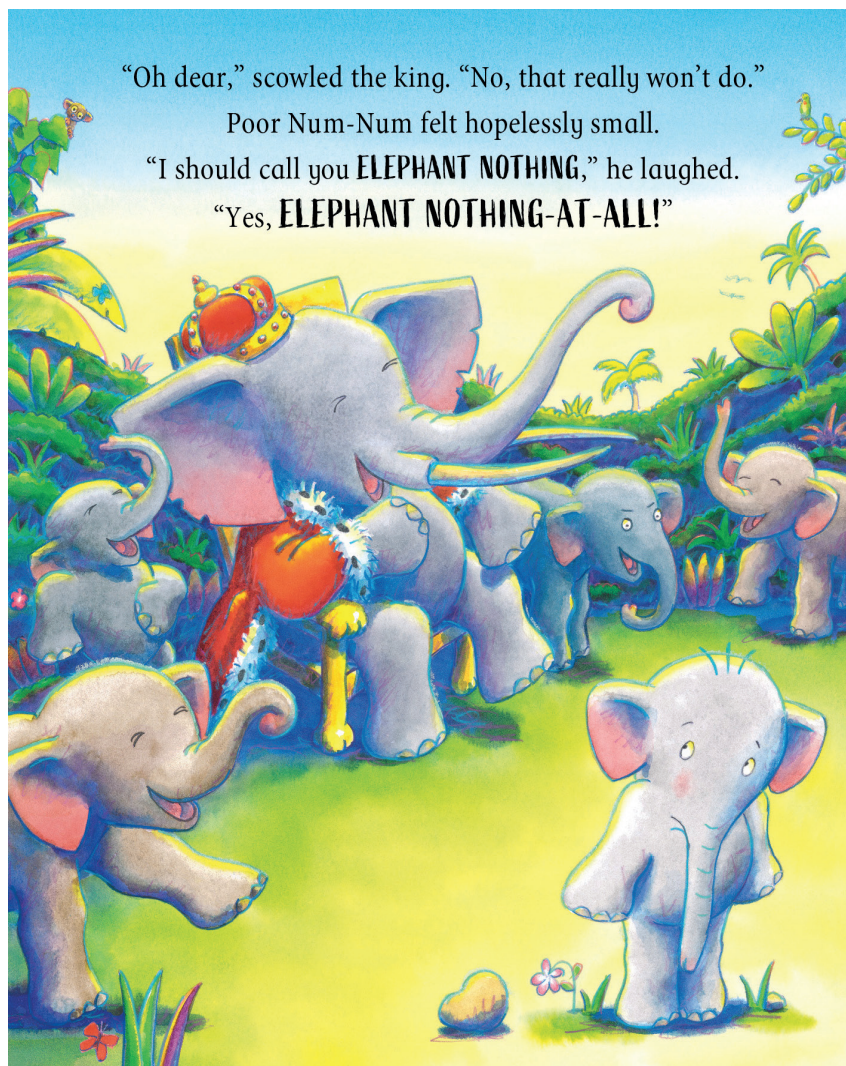
What is happening here?
How does Num-Num feel? What do the other elephants think about Num-Num not having a special talent?

Group challenge:

In your group, spend five to ten minutes creating a drama of what happens to Num-Num here. Imagine one of you is Num-Num, one of you is Elephant Mighty, and the rest of you are the laughing elephants.

Reflection questions:

1. How did you feel during the group challenge?
2. Did anything make you feel uncomfortable or upset?
3. Do you think that Num-Num needs to have a 'marvellous trick' or 'thing' like the other elephants, in order to 'fit in'? Or do you think he can be himself and show them who he is in a different way?



ELEPHANT ME

CONT. LESSON ONE: FEELING HOPELESSLY SMALL

TASK 2

Look at another illustration, when Num-Num decides to move far away:

How have the other animals made Num-Num feel? Make a list of five words below to describe his emotions in the illustration, e.g. sad.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

TASK 3

Imagine that you are one of Num-Num's new friends – lion, zebra, giraffe, gazelle, warthog or crocodile. What would your advice to Num-Num be? How would you make him feel better?

Start with the words:

There's only one . . . only one YOU!

.....

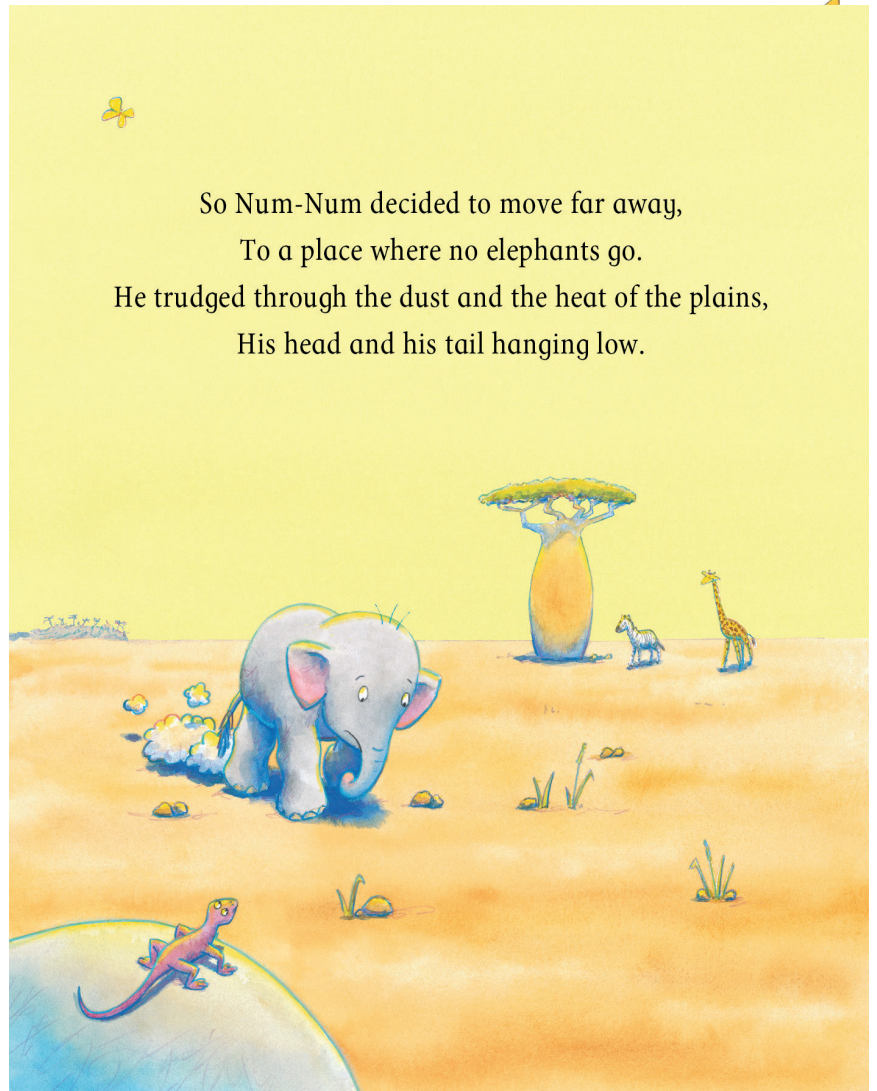
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So Num-Num decided to move far away,
To a place where no elephants go.
He trudged through the dust and the heat of the plains,
His head and his tail hanging low.

ELEPHANT ME

LESSON TWO: THERE'S ONLY ONE ... ONLY ONE YOU!

OBJECTIVES

- To explore what makes Num-Num 'enough' simply as himself
- To understand how we all have something to offer
- To identify words that describe what makes you, YOU!

Outcome: A selection of describing words with illustrations to show personal characteristics and qualities

Lead-in questions:

- What does the phrase, 'there's only one... only one YOU!' mean?
- Why do you think it is good to celebrate that we are all important and we all have something to offer?

TASK 1:

Look at the illustration below from *Elephant Me*:

Why do the other animals come to share Num-Num's new watering hole? What words are used to describe Num-Num here? Why are these words just as important as any 'special talent'?

TASK 2

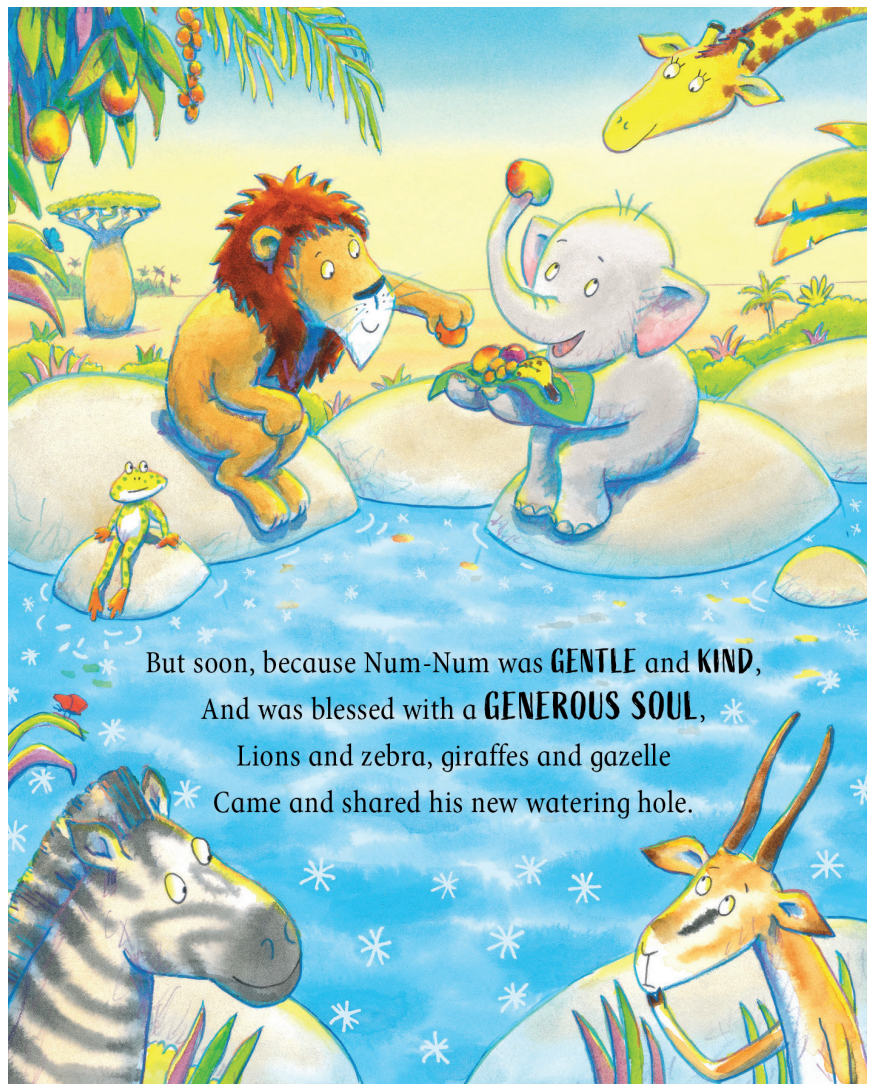
Look at the words or phrases below that are used to describe Num-Num.

Can you act out or draw an image to represent each word/phrase?

GENTLE

KIND

GENEROUS



But soon, because Num-Num was **GENTLE** and **KIND**,
And was blessed with a **GENEROUS SOUL**,
Lions and zebra, giraffes and gazelle
Came and shared his new watering hole.

Do you possess any of these qualities, or do you know someone who does?

ELEPHANT ME

LESSON TWO: THERE'S ONLY ONE ... ONLY ONE YOU!

TASK 3

Now, imagine your friends describing you. What words would they use? Use the Word Bank below to help you. Pick your top five FAVOURITE words and write them in the spaces below! Then, draw an image next to each word to show what it means to you.

MY WORDS!

1.	2.
3.	4.
5.	



ELEPHANT ME

LESSON TWO: THERE'S ONLY ONE ... ONLY ONE YOU!

WORD BANK

PATIENT

KIND

CREATIVE

GENEROUS

BOLD

DEDICATED

FUNNY

COMMITTED

ACCEPTING

RESPONSIBLE

CALM

UNIQUE

STRONG

CONSISTENT

FRIENDLY

OPEN

RELIABLE

DETERMINED

CURIOUS



ELEPHANT ME

LESSON THREE: CELEBRATING ME-NESS

OBJECTIVES

- To learn to value the idea of 'ME-NESS'
- To identify the central message of the story
- To understand the power of being content with 'whatever you are'

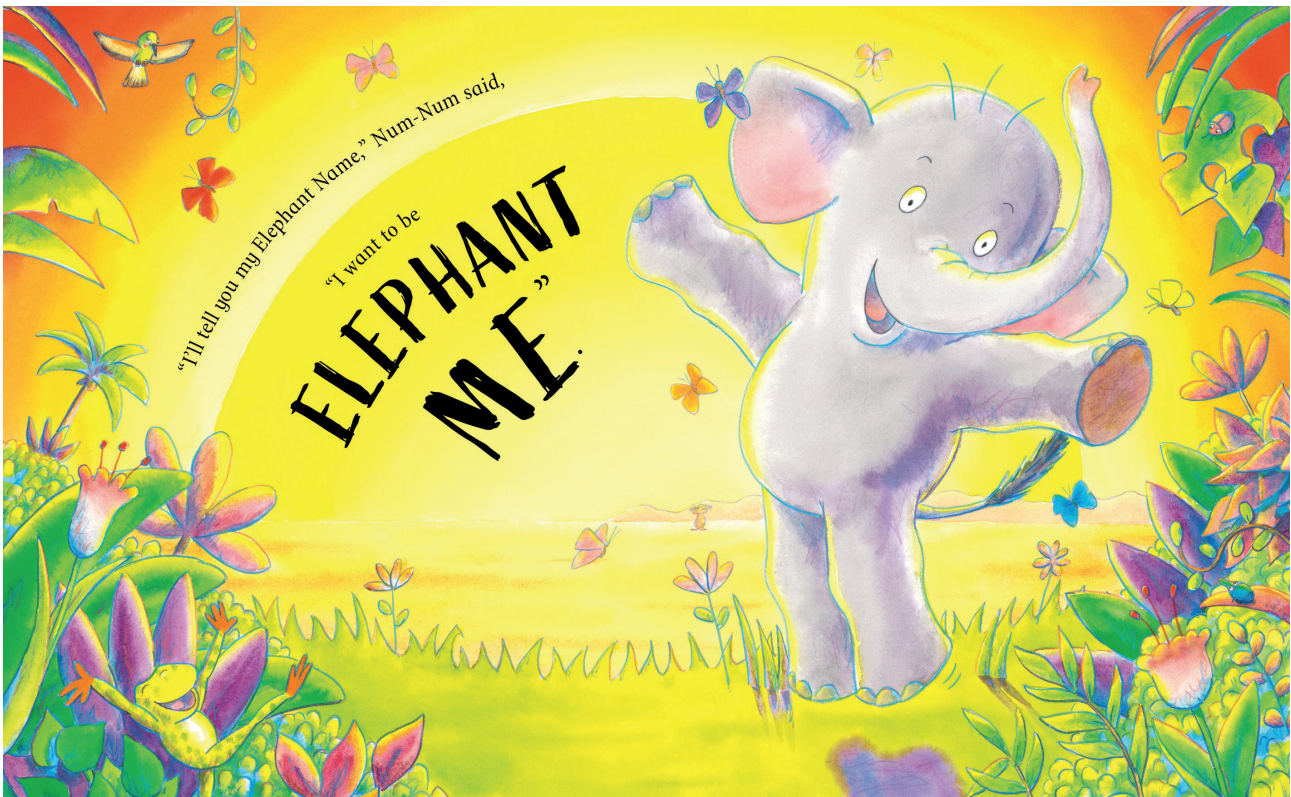
Outcomes: A collage celebrating 'ME-NESS'; a class reading of a section of the story

Lead-in questions:

- How does Num-Num feel at the end of the story?
- What has Num-Num realised by the end of the story?

TASK 1:

Look at the illustration below from *Elephant Me*:



How does Num-Num feel here? Why? What does Num-Num mean when he says: "I want to be ELEPHANT ME".

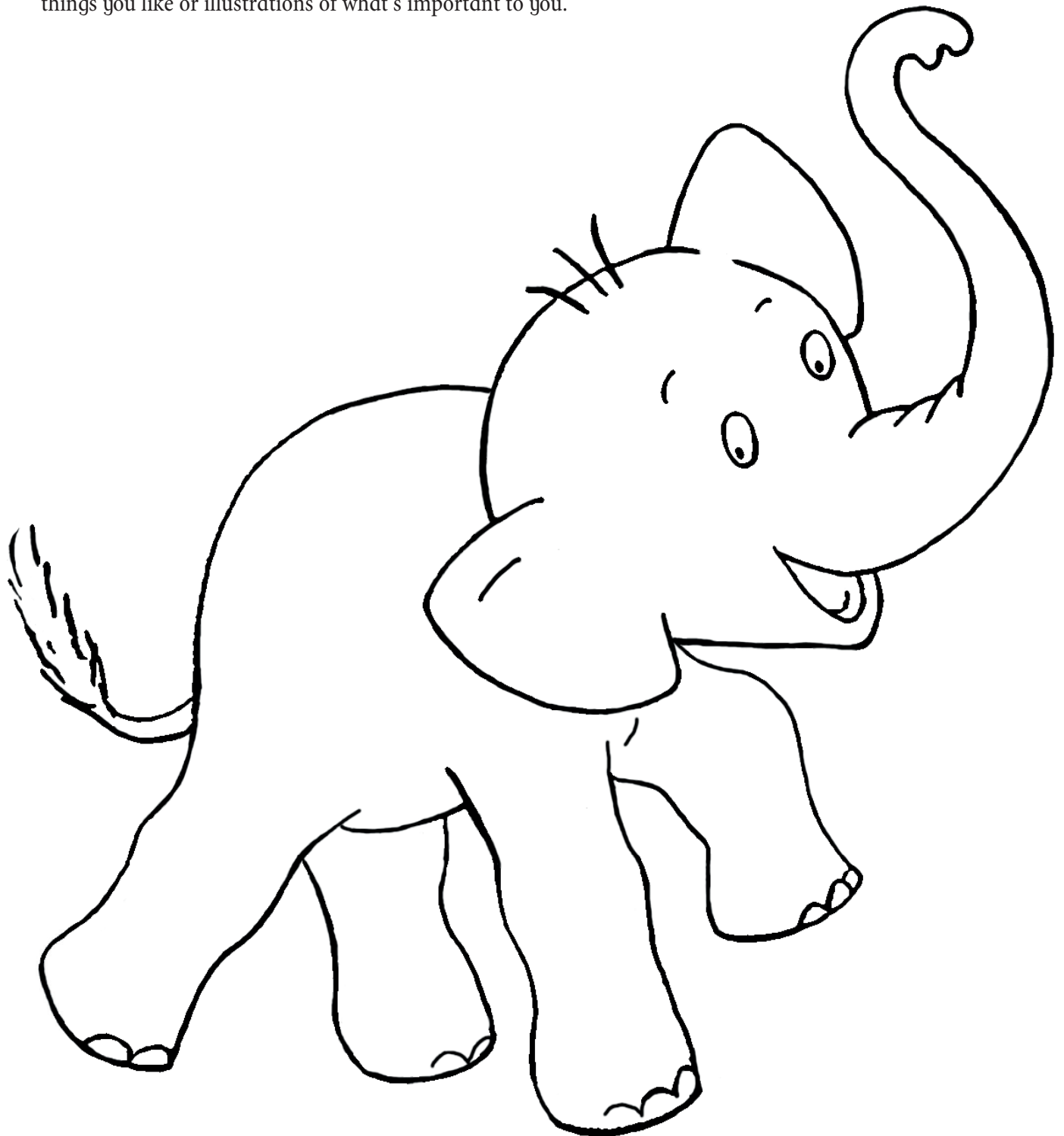
ELEPHANT ME

CONT. LESSON THREE: CELEBRATING ME-NESS

TASK 2

Create a collage inside the Elephant template below to show what makes you, YOU.

You might include some of the describing words from the previous lesson, photographs, images of the things you like or illustrations of what's important to you.



ELEPHANT ME

CONT. LESSON THREE: CELEBRATING ME-NESS

TASK 3

In *Elephant Me*, with the help of his friends from the watering hole, Num-Num does something different: he chooses not to take a ‘ridiculous name’ and to simply be himself.

Read the following section from the book, when Elephant Mighty sees the power of Num Num’s words:

*“Who cares about all these ridiculous names?
No, what’s more important by far,
Is just to be true to ourselves every day,
And content with . . .*

WHOEVER WE ARE.”

*“ELEPHANT ME! What a wonderful thing!
Now, whenever we see there’s a chance,
Let’s celebrate ME-NESS with all of our hearts,*

And right now, I see stars . . .

. . . so let’s DANCE!”

Class challenge:

Read this extract again as a whole class. Together, create actions with your bodies and hands to show what is happening. Use volume and tone to place emphasis on certain words that Elephant Mighty says. Ask your teacher to film you reciting this section of the story and to share it with us on Twitter at @HachetteSchools!

TASK 4

Finally, write your own sentence or short poem, or draw a picture to show why we should celebrate ‘ME-NESS’ – with all of our hearts. As a class, bring all of your creations together to build an Elephant Me classroom display – so you will always be reminded of the importance of being content with . . . WHOEVER WE ARE!

REFLECTION ACTIVITIES

Take a moment to think about the work that you have completed in these lessons.

In your groups, take turns to complete the following sentences:

- My favourite piece of work was...
- One thing I learned about myself was...
- One thing I learned about another person was...
- I have enjoyed the book *Elephant Me* because...