

NATIONAL SIMULTANEOUS STORYTIME

21 May 2014



National Simultaneous Storytime activity ideas

- Draw your favourite character from the book and make stick puppets. Put on a puppet show!
- Ask children to write their own story – Eric had elephants living in his house but if you could have any animal living in your house what animal would it be?
- Dress up – have a competition for best dress up on the day. Encourage children (and adults!) participating in your NSS events to dress up with costumes, masks and hats.
- Elephant activity ideas
- Download this count and colour sheet from the author's website.
- Download and print an elephant mask from the author's website or have the children make their own.
- Write a poem about elephants.
- Have an elephant discussion. Have you ever seen an elephant? What do you know about elephants? Read elephants facts and quiz students. Elephant activities from National Geographic
- Ask event participants, how many elephants that can find in this book?
- [Elephant jigsaw puzzle](#)
- Get crafty! Make colourful elephants with children, decorate part of library or classroom with them.
 - [Paper elephant tutorial](#)
 - [Paper elephant](#)
 - [Elephant mobile](#)
 - [Trumpeting elephant](#)
- Make a day of it, have an elephant themed day at school, hold an event in the library for students, learn facts about elephants, take part in elephant activities all day.
- Read the book in assembly and have each class do a performance on elephants.
- Plan an excursion for your class and read *Too Many Elephants in this House* at your local zoo!
- After reading the book ask the children start a discussion:
 - What would you do if you had too many elephants in your house?
 - What might you build or make for them to live in?
 - Where might they fit? Use your imagination!
 - Can you draw a new place for the elephants to live?



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Songs & Rhymes

- [Eletelephony](#) from DLTK
- [At the Zoo](#) from DLTK
- [One Elephant](#) from DLTK
- [An Elephant Walks Like This and That](#) from DLTK

Author & illustrator resources

Other books by Ursula Dubosarsky and Andrew Joyner include:

- *The Terrible Plop* by Ursula Dubosarsky, illustrated by Andrew Joyner
- *Yobbos do Yoga* illustrated by Andrew Joyner
- *Boris* illustrated by Andrew Joyner
- *What's the Matter Auntie May?* illustrated by Andrew Joyner
- *The Sway* illustrated by Andrew Joyner
- *The Word Spy* by Ursula Dubosarsky
- *The Carousel* by Ursula Dubosarsky
- *The Game of the Goose* by Ursula Dubosarsky

Links

- Read Andrew Joyner's [account](#) of illustrating the book.
- Watch this [interview](#) with the book's author Ursula Dubosarsky.
- Check out [Ursula Dubsarsky's website](#).
- Check out [Andrew Joyner's website](#).

Story Matches — Books with similar themes or categories

- *Mr. McGee and the Elephants* by Pamela Allen
- *Little Elephants* by Graeme Base
- *The Elephant and the Bad Baby* by VipontElfrida
- *TingaTanga Tales: Why Elephant has a Trunk* by TingaTinga Tales



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Publicity ideas

- Invite a VIP guest to be a reader at your NSS event. You can use the NSS letterhead to write your invitation letter.
- Invite the media. The media loves colourful, feel-good stories and being in the paper, on a news website or even on the television news can be a lot of fun! With your NSS posters and balloons, your VIP guest reader and your group dressed up in masks and costumes there will be lots of moments to create a positive media story. Use your networks or build new connections with your local media outlets to help us promote literacy and reading to Australian children. Check our [resources](#) page for some handy hints.
- Don't forget to send photos and newspaper articles from your local media to events@alia.org.au.



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