



Mr. Elephant

Mr. Elephant, when you run,
All 4 your feet go thump, thump, thump
It's because you're heavy, yes you're not light
I hope you never get a fright.

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A feather from a bird comes floating by
It lands on his trunk and makes him feel quite drunk
He looks at the feather with both his eyes
A-ti-shoo, A-ti-shoo ,

Now it's out of sight!

Heavy, light, heavy, light

Elephant is heavy and a feather is light.

Heavy, light, heavy, light

Elephant is heavy and a feather is light.

Earworm activity:

Let them listen to the following pieces of music and say which is the elephant and which the bird.

Saint-Saens	The elephants	Double bass (violin and piano)
Saint-Saens	Birds (Aviary)	Flute and orchestra
Saint-Saens	Cuckoo	Clarinet

The story of Leilah bird and Ethan the elephant.

Just the other day a lonely elephant bull was walking away from the herd. As he was getting old and the other elephants asked him to leave as they sometimes do. Ethan elephant was sad. He realized that he didn't have any friends now.

Somewhere else a mother, father and baby birds were sitting in their nest. The daddy bird explained to the fledglings that it was time to spread their wings and learn to fly, they were all very excited as they had been waiting for this day to arrive. But, little Leilah bird was not excited at all. She was afraid and asked her parents if she could rather stay in the nest. Her parents didn't want to force her so they said yes.

Leilah was very relieved. She was quite afraid of heights, you see?

A little while later Ethan elephant decided the rest under the very tree where Leilah's nest was. He was crying and swaying from one side to the other. He didn't realize that he was bumping against the tree. Leilah was so scared. She crept slowly to the front of the nest and peeped over the edge of it. She was very surprised to see a big, grey rock bumping against the tree.

But she knew that rocks couldn't move or make sounds and felt even more afraid.

She wished with all her heart that she went with instead of staying home alone. She peeped over the edge of the nest again. One of the little fluffy feathers that lines the nest fell over the edge and slowly floated down until it rested between Ethan elephants eyes. He stopped crying and looked t=at the feather with both of his eyes.

The feather slowly moves down his trunk to the very tip of it. Ethan was holding his breath and then suddenly the feather went into his nose and tickled him.

Ethan couldn't stand it anymore. He just had to sneeze. He lifted his trunk. Aaaah, aaaah, aaaah, tishoo he went. He blasted poor Leilah right out of her nest.

Oh my goodness! Leilah thought. What am I going to do now? Then she started fluttering her wings and before she knew what was happening she started flying. She was so very happy and relieved.

She decided to be brave and see what kind of thing the big grey rock was so she flew down and sat on a branch near it.

Ethan elephant opened his eyes and saw the prettiest little bird sitting right in front of him.

“Good morning” he said. “My name is Ethan elephant. I am so sorry about the big sneeze!”

“Hello, my name is Leilah” said the bird. This is the first time I’ve ever seen an elephant. You are quite enormous. But, why were you crying?”

Ethan told Leilah about his herd that asked him to leave and that he didn’t have a single friend now.

“Well, if it is alright with you, I would really love to be your friend. You taught me how to be brave by blasting me out of my nest with that sneeze and now I can fly. My parents are going to be so proud of me. I can’t thank you enough!”

Ethan was so happy to have a friend and at that very moment Leilah’s mom, dad and siblings came flying back. They were very surprised to find her out of the nest and when she told them the story of how Ethan helped her fly they welcomed him to the family. Ethan now had 5 new friends.

Soon Leilah was showing everyone how she could slide down Ethan’s trunk and then he would give a tiny puff and send her flying into the air. This became everyone’s favourite game and they all lived very happily together.