







Elmer
3-4 Nursery Autumn 1 2025

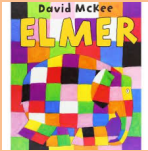

Useful Information	
Author	David McKee
Illustrator	David McKee
Year published	1968
Other titles by this author	Not Now Bernard, Two Monsters, Elmer stories

Tales Toolkit			
	Character- A person or an animal in a story.		Setting- Where the story takes place.
	<i>Elmer is a patchwork elephant who likes to play tricks on the other elephants.</i>		<i>The jungle; it rains there most days.</i>
	Problem- There is another character or a situation that is a problem for the main character.		How the characters manage to sort out the problem and have a happy ending.
	<i>Elmer is fed up with being different to the other elephants..</i>		<i>Elmer disguises himself and tricks the other elephants. They decide to decorate themselves with patterns..</i>

Phrases and repeated refrains from story text	
<i>Children will become very familiar with these phrases and use them in the oral retelling of the story</i>	
There was once a herd of elephants	biggest laugh
not elephant colour	serious, silent, still standing elephants
slipped quietly away	your true colours
over and over	it must be Elmer

Vocabulary – definitions and synonyms	
<i>synonyms are words with the same meaning (or almost the same meaning)</i>	
patchwork	pieces of cloth sewn together to make a pattern
serious	not smiling or laughing (<i>thoughtful, grave</i>)
recognise	to know again someone you have met before (<i>know, spot, recall, remember</i>)
pattern	shapes and colours that are repeated again (<i>design, decoration</i>)
silent	not talking or making a sound (<i>quiet, mute</i>)
parade	to walk around to celebrate (<i>march</i>)



Book Knowledge and Concepts about Print	
Can your child show you the..	
Front Cover 	Back Cover
Spine 	Title 