

Strictly No Elephants

Written By Lisa Mantchev Illustrated by Taaeun Yoo

Today is Pet Club Day. There will be cats and dogs and fish, but strictly no elephants are allowed.



R.E.D. Zone

Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, **If you could have any pet, what would it be?** Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an “I wonder” statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder why elephants are not allowed.

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Introduce the concepts of comparison, perspective and persuasion to help the children relate to their meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words in *Strictly No Elephants*

- Strictly: strong enforcement
- thoughtful: showing careful attention
- coax: gently persuade
- minding: being concerned about

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What does the boy do with his elephant?
- What are some of the things the elephant is afraid of?
- Where are elephants not allowed?
- What other animals are not allowed at Pet Club Day?
- What do the boy and his elephant do instead?
- Who is invited to play at the new club?
- What are some of the things friends do for each other?

Do

Friendship Bracelets

You will need: beads, pipe cleaners

In *Strictly No Elephants*, we are shown many times what friends do for friends. Look out for each other, brave the scary stuff and welcome everyone. Talk with your students about friendship and what it means to be a friend.

Make simple friendship bracelets by allowing the students to thread different colored beads on pipe cleaners. This is great for practicing fine motor skills. Encourage the children to trade bracelets. Twist the ends of the pipe cleaners to secure the bracelets around the child's wrist.

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