Rescuing Nelson

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Illustrations by Julian Bruère



Rescuing Nelson

Level 17
Running Words 366 **Text Type** Narrative
Curriculum Areas English (Literacy, Literature, Language); Science (Biological Sciences)

Retelling to Encourage Critical Thinking About the Content

Ask each student to retell the story in their own words.
Record the retelling for further discussion and reflection.

Questions to Reinforce Meaning and Stimulate Discussion

Literal

1 What happened when Nelson tried to suck up water in his trunk and put it in his mouth?
2 Why did the elephants like to roll over in the mud?
3 Why did Nelson want to keep playing in the mud?
4 What happened when Nelson tried to walk back to the other elephants?

Inferential

5 Why did Nelson's mother put mud on his back?
6 Why was Nelson scared when he couldn't get out of the mud?
7 Why did Nelson's grandmother get down on her knees to help him?
8 How did all the other elephants feel when Nelson was rescued?

Links with Other PM Guided Reading Books

Level 17	Narrative	*Nelson, the Baby Elephant*
Level 17	Narrative (Fable)	*Why Frogs Croak*
Level 17	Narrative	*Little Dinosaur Escapes*
Level 18	Information Report	*Elephants*

For Review Only

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Nelson, the baby elephant,
loved going down to the waterhole
with his family.

His mother showed him
how to suck up water
with his trunk
and put it in his mouth.



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But when Nelson tried to do it,
the water went everywhere!

He was only a baby,
and it was hard for him
to make his trunk work.
But, like all elephants,
he loved playing in the water.



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The dry days grew hotter and hotter.

One very hot morning,
Nelson's wise old grandmother
took all the elephants
past the waterhole,
and down to a mud pool.



For Review Only

One by one,
the elephants lay down in the mud
and rolled over.
A good coat of mud
would stop the sun
from burning them.



For Review Only

Nelson's mother
put mud on his back
with her trunk.



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When the elephants stood up,
they had mud on their legs,
and mud on their sides,
and mud on their backs,
and mud on their heads.



For Review Only