

Story of Babar (Family Program, All Ages)

Description of Program

Do you love elephants? Is your favorite elephant Babar? Then join the celebration for the 80th birthday of *The Story of Babar*, the first book about the little elephant. Our celebration includes stories, crafts, and games.

Program Plans As guests arrive, have stations set up for them to do crafts, activities, and games. Give them cards to put a sticker on at each station to encourage them to try everything (see sample). If they fill the card, they will receive a small prize. After 10-15 minutes, gather the group for the reading of *The Story of Babar* and any other Babar series or other elephant books. Include rhymes, prop stories,

and songs about elephants. Following story time, do group crafts and games. End the program with snacks.

Stories

- Beeler, Selby. *How Many Elephants? A Lift-the-Flap Counting Book*.
- Brunhoff, Jean de. *The Story of Babar*.
- Kasza, Keiko. *When the Elephant Walks*.
- Levitin, Sonia. *When Elephant Goes to a Party*.
- Schwartz, Amy. *How to Catch an Elephant*.
- Paxton, Tom. *Engelbert the Elephant*. Illustrated by Steven Kellogg.

Songs/ Fingerplays/ PowerPoint

- “One Elephant Went Out to Play” (sometimes also called “The Elephant Song”) , *WeeSing Animals, Animals, Animals*
- “One Elephant” from *The Big Book of Stories, Songs, and Sing-Alongs* by Beth Maddigan.
- Elephant Rhyme: Make elephants to use on flannel board or use with elephant finger puppets.

One Elephant

One elephant went out to play,
Upon a spider’s web one day.
He had such enormous fun,
That he called for another elephant to come.
[repeat 2,3,4,5)

Last verse:

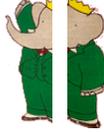
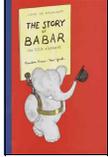
Five elephants went out to play,
Upon a spider’s web one day.
They pranced and they danced and they put on a show
‘Til all of the elephants had to go. (Altered by Mary Marshall)

Craft Ideas

- Create elephant masks
- Print a clipart elephant on cardstock (pattern included). Give the children markers, crayons, scrap paper, and other embellishments to dress and decorate the elephants as King Babar or Queen Celeste.
- Elephant Paper Bag Puppets [<http://www.dltk-kids.com/animals/mbagelephant.htm>]
- Create Babar Family Puppets. Mount decorated elephants on craft sticks to use as puppets.
- Color pages.
- Color and cut puzzle printed on card stock
http://www.coloring-book.info/coloring/coloring_page.php?id=12

FUN & GAMES

Choose games, crafts, and activities. After completing each, collect a sticker to put on the matching space. Collect at least 5 different stickers and you will receive a prize.

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|  |  |  |
| Pin the Crown | Coloring Pages | Matching Cards |
|  |  |  |
| Babar Buckets | Babar Puppets | Dress Babar & Celeste |
|  |  |  |
| Babar Puzzle | Read a book | Elephant Puppet |

Activities or games

- **Babar Buckets:** Decorate 5-6 bucket-sized containers with illustrations of Babar and his family. Play "Bozo Buckets" by having the children toss peanuts, candy circus peanuts, or a small stuffed elephant into the buckets, trying to hit the last bucket with King Babar.
- **Musical Babar Game:** Have everyone sit in a large circle. To the music of "One Elephant," pass a stuffed Babar toy around the circle. When the music stops, the person holding Babar is out. The last one left wins the Babar toy or another prize.
- **Pin the Crown on Babar:** Create a large drawing of Babar without his crown or purchase a poster with Babar (www.allposters.com). Play like "Pin the Tail on the Donkey" using a crown.
- **Teach simple French words using matching cards with words in English and French and an illustration to match the word.**
- **Elephant Game from WeeSing:** Play "One Elephant Went Out to Play." Have one child walk around like an elephant and then when you call out "elephant," the child chooses another child to be an elephant. Repeat until all the children are elephants.

Snacks

Animal crackers, orange circus peanuts.
Make an elephant shaped cake

Prizes & Giveaways

Jungle or Zoo animals pencils, stickers, or small toys

Resources (online & book)

Boteler, Alison. *Disney Party Handbook*. New York: Disney Press, 1992 [ideas for a Dumbo party that can be adapted for a Babar program]

Coloring Pages: <http://www.funncoloring.com/babar-19.htm>

Maddigan, Beth. *The Big Book of Stories, Songs, and Sing-Alongs*. Westport, CT: Libraries Unlimited, 2003.

