

Extract 1

There was once a herd of elephants.
Elephants young, elephants
old, elephants tall or fat or thin.
Elephants like this, that or the other, all
different but all happy and all the same
colour. All, that is, except Elmer.

Elmer was
different.

Elmer was
patchwork.

Elmer was yellow

and orange

and red

and pink

and purple

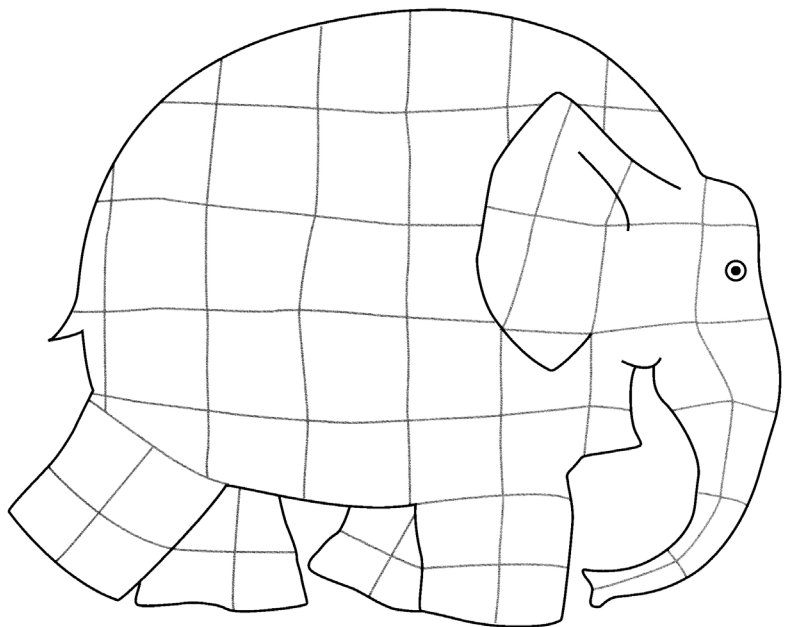
and blue

and green

and black

and white.

Elmer was *not*
elephant colour.

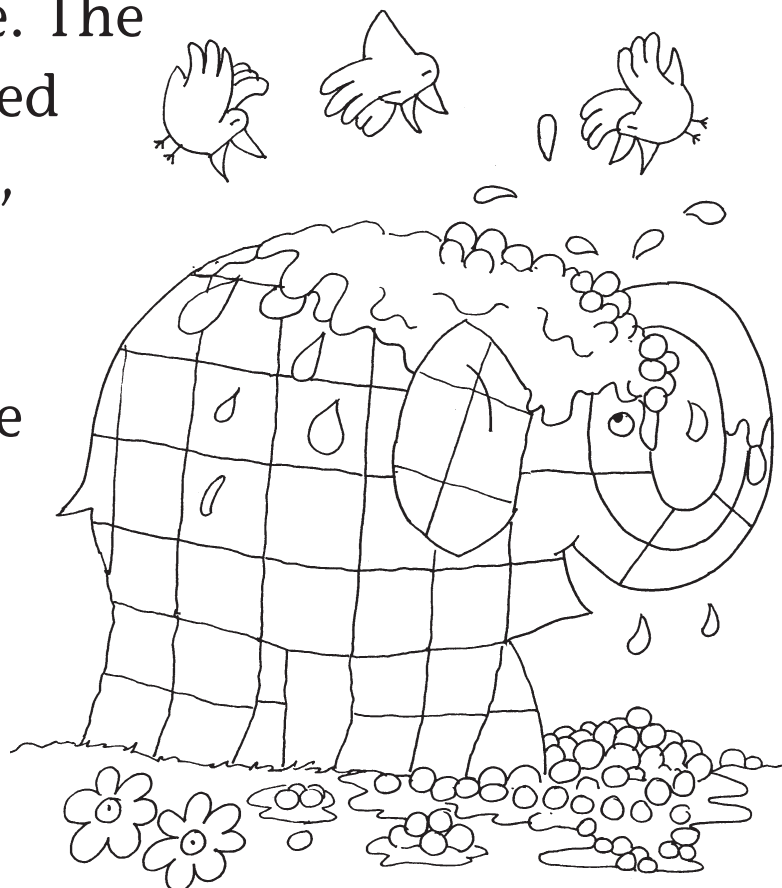


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Extract 2

After a while Elmer felt that something was wrong. But what? He looked around: same old jungle, same old bright sky, same old rain cloud that came over from time to time and lastly same old elephants. Elmer looked at them.

The elephants were standing absolutely still: Elmer had never seen them so serious before. The more he looked at the serious, silent, still, standing elephants, the more he wanted to laugh.



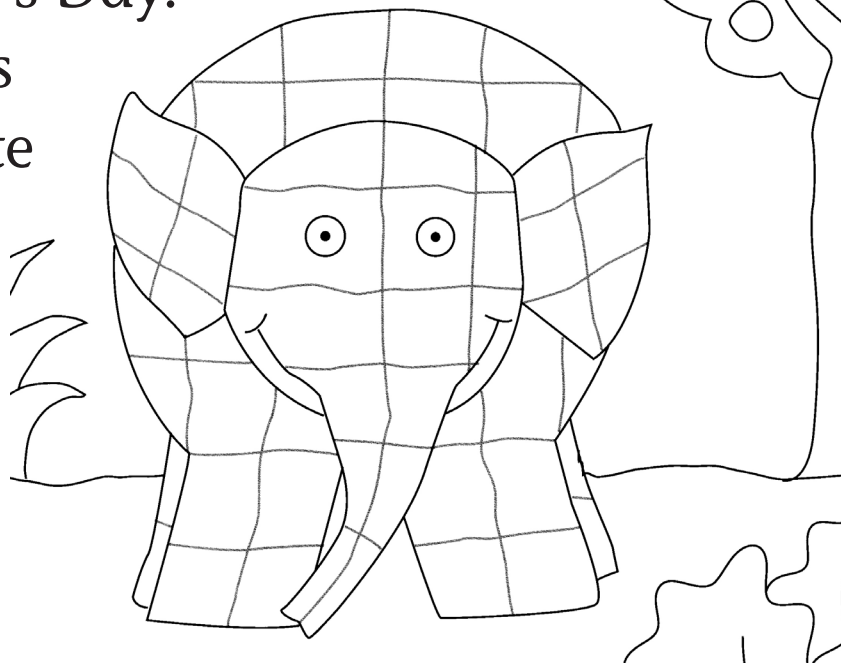
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Extract 3

As they laughed, the rain cloud burst and when the rain fell on Elmer his patchwork started to show again. The elephants still laughed as Elmer was washed back to normal. “Oh, Elmer,” gasped an old elephant. “You’ve played some good jokes, but this has been the biggest laugh of all. It didn’t take you long to show your true colours.”

“We must celebrate this day every year,” said another. “This will be Elmer’s Day.

All elephants must decorate themselves and Elmer will decorate himself elephant colour.”



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