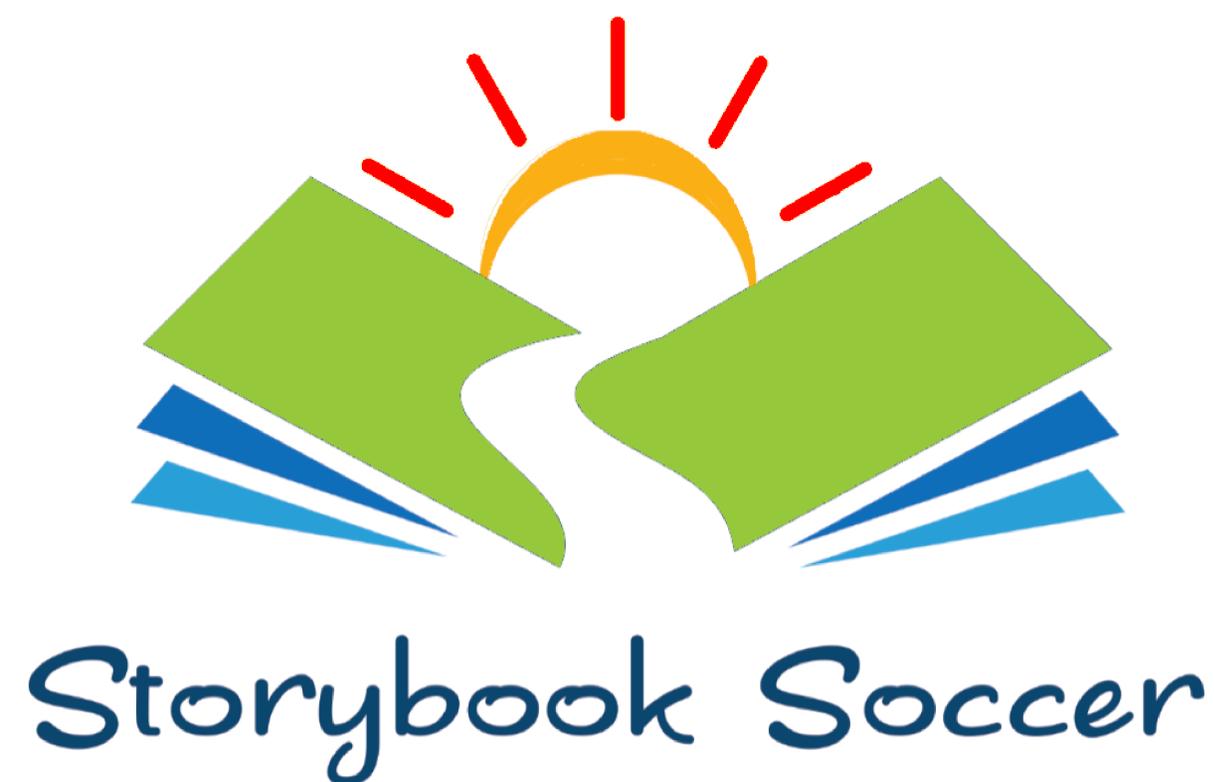


We have a team of players, parents, coaches, children's book authors, educators and coaching directors at all levels who support the preparation and editing of each story.

The stories are created with a specific target audience of kids 3-5 years old.

Visit [storybooksoccer.com](http://storybooksoccer.com) to purchase, download and print more stories. We will release a printable new story every week from Storybook 1 beginning Monday March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

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For 3-5 Year Olds



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## SET UP - Important Info!

We usually start with free goal scoring for the first 10 minutes to expend surface energy of the players. You can use anything to create goals, two shoes can be a goal. Make four of them (1 big step wide) on each side of a very large square. The large square should be around 15x15 big steps but use what ever space you have. Do make 4 goals. Explain to kids that to score a goal, one must kick the ball through any pair of shoes. Tell them they can score on any of the created goals. Don't allow them to just go on one goal. The more balls the better but be ready to contain them as young players will lose focus. Having a starting place and return place for all balls is a good idea.

This story should take 45 minutes or more if properly paced. Read though the whole page, including activities, to the kids prior to activity. Ask players to sit or stand and do underlined action, from that page, 1 action at a time, for 1 minute each or more.

The underlined action/skill listed is the base skill. Start with that in the open space to develop understanding. After they do it well, ask them to do the action through any of the four goals, don't allow them to go on just one goal. After they show they can do it comfortably, ask them to do the action and shoot prior to reaching the goal, again not on one goal only. Asses where your players are at and give them plenty of time for trial and error. Your demonstration and your happy and playful voice is the main motivator. Overly focused correction will not work. Your goal is high repetition so they may experiment and see what works best for them. Let them discover their strengths. This is the basis of a creative player.

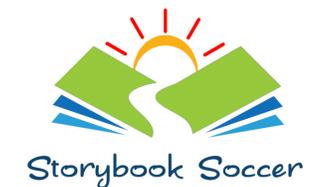
These levels of each action/skill allow you to move the player up as you re-read the story the story to players over time. DON'T give all levels in the first minute, the first time you story tell. DO start at the base skill and save level changes for the next time out. There will be lots of chances to get them to the shot so take your time so they are good at the action/skill first. Many underlined activities can be done one first with one foot then the other. Make sure you focus on experimentation on favorite and non favorite foot.

When you are ready to turn the page or bring active players back to the storybook, use the phrase "LETS SEE WHATS NEXT." While standing and doing activities, keep kids spaced out as much as possible and remind to keep head up to reduce collisions. While sitting kids can get handsy with each other, start early to remind them to keep hands to themselves. Kids of this age have a hard time identifying physical field boundaries, show them early and often. Be patient and positive while reinforcing, understand development takes a long time:)

Be Patient with Kids, DON'T over correct, DO let them see what works for them, you will be surprised.

# THE END

We hope you and yours  
enjoyed the story:)



Thank you for reading this story  
to this child or these children.

We are pleased and honored to  
be part of your day and this  
child's development.

Stay healthy!

Visit [storybooksoccer.com](http://storybooksoccer.com) for  
more stories

# Storybook Soccer

## The Lonely Elephant



## Storyteller Notes

This is a standing and moving Action Page  
with no ball.

Stand on one leg and balance

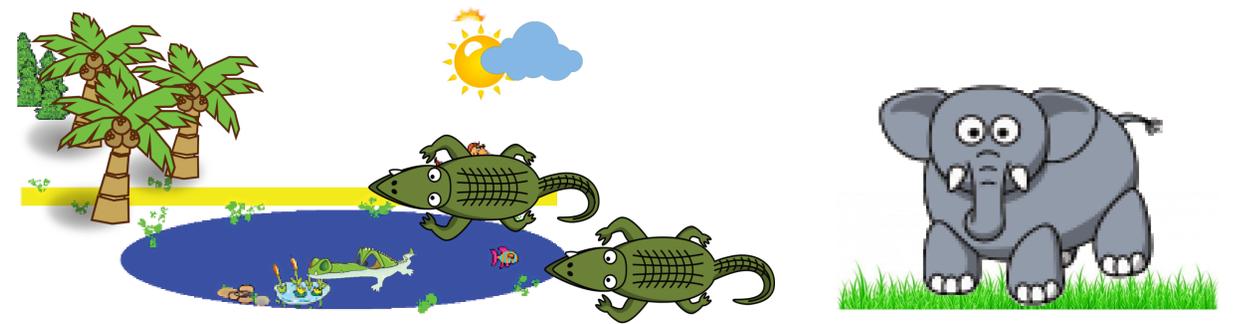
Stand on the other leg and balance

How long can you stay up?

Ask kids what does an elephant do? Put your nose to your shoulder and swing that same arm as trunk. Can swing side to side and up and down, trumpet loud!

Thumpy immediately charged the Alligators!  
BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! The Alligator's eyes got big at the sight and sounds of the Elephant charging at them.

They looked at each other and quickly ran for the safety of the nearby pond. All of the scared Animals watched in amazement as the frightened Alligators slithered away.



The Animals stared at Thumpy as he slowly turned to walk back into the jungle. One of the Monkeys stepped forward and kicked a ball to Thumpy and said, "Where are you going? Would you like to play soccer with us?" Thumpy turned, smiled and kicked the ball back. All the Animals cheered and shouted "Let's Play Soccer!"



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## Storyteller Notes

This is a sitting and Resting Page without a ball.

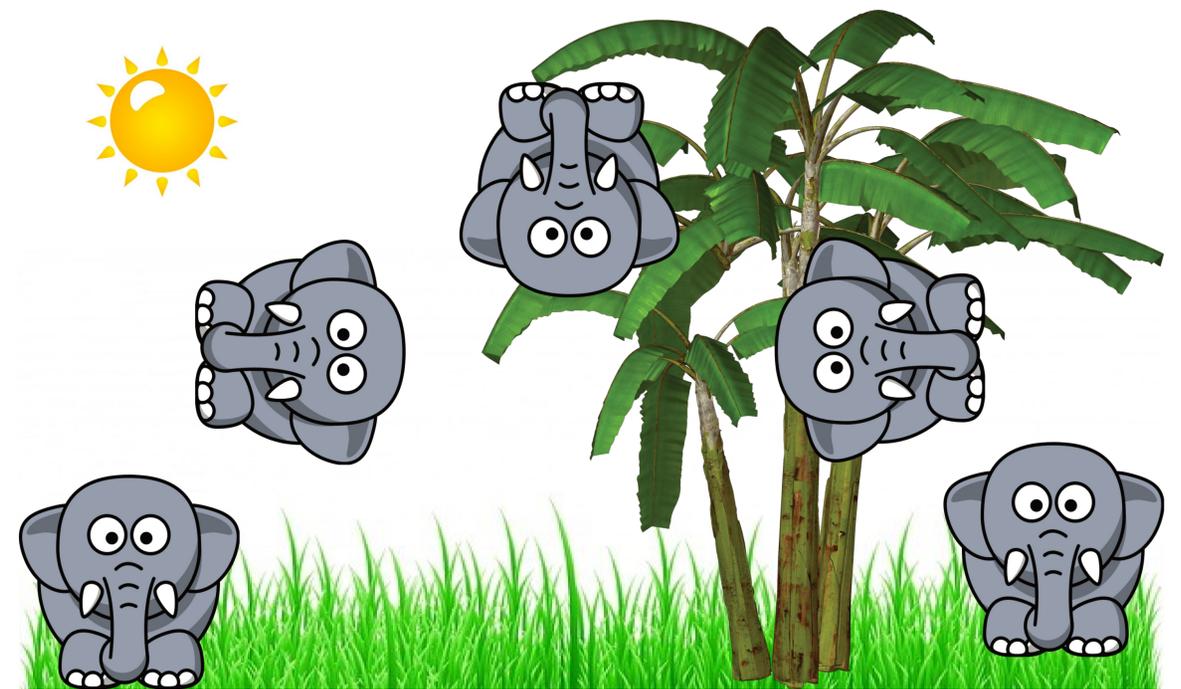
Read slowly and finish to the story.

BOOM BOOM BOOM with hands pounding on the ground  
and Elephant trumpeting

Ask the kids what is the meaning of the story

Elephant actions to celebrate finish

Far away lives an Elephant in the jungle.  
This Elephant smiles and loves to run and  
play. This Elephant's name is Thumpy.  
Thumpy has big ears and a trunk for a  
nose. Thumpy is no ordinary Elephant.  
Thumpy loves to:



Roll around

Jump back and forth

Stand on one leg and balance

Swing his trunk and trumpet

Run like a Crazy Elephant!

## Storyteller Notes

This is a sitting and Resting Page with no ball.

Read slowly with emotion

To teach skipping — select foot, step-then hop on that foot, switch feet - step and hop on it, switch feet step hop, switch feet step-hop, repeat.

Have players pound open hands on ground to mimic  
BOOM BOOM BOOM

Have kids do elephant trunk swings and trumpets!

This time, Thumpy's trunk dragged on the ground as he walked back into the jungle. Maybe he was too different to play with the other animals he thought. As Thumpy walked away he heard lots of loud GROWLS coming from the jungle. Thumpy turned and ran towards the sounds. He came around a corner and found...



All the Animals were surrounded by a large group of toothy Alligators!

“GRRRRRRR,” growled the Alligators!

“Oh My,” yelled the Animals.

## Storyteller Notes

This is a sitting and resting page with no ball

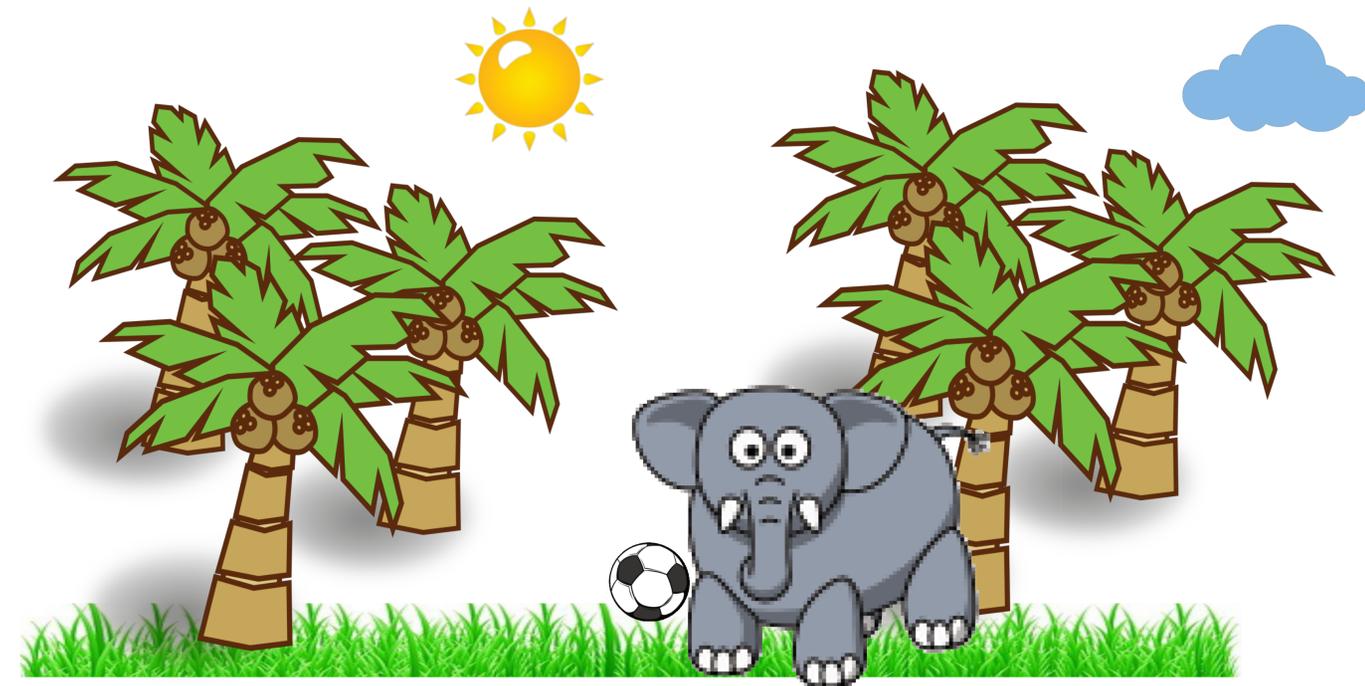
Read slow and with emotion and dramatic pauses.

Ask players what they think will happen before you turn the page

What will Thumpy do?

Get responses

Thumpy likes to play his games, but it was no fun playing alone. So he decided to find others who like to play soccer, too.



Thumpy began to skip and laugh while looking for other animal friends in the jungle.

**BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!**

are the sounds of his very large feet

pounding on the ground!

Thumpy swings his trunk and trumpets!

## Storyteller Notes

This is a standing and moving Action page with a ball on the field

Read through whole page

When completed ask players to get a ball

Do each activity listed for one minute, all of these activities start with the ball in the hands.

Remember to do favorite and non favorite foot, thigh, etc.

Ball in hands start, then kick out of own hands then run with it, first favorite foot, then try non favorite foot

Use hands to bounce ball off thigh or chest, the ball drops to ground and they dribble with it, fast.

Put ball between feet while standing and jump repeatedly while holding ball.

If you return to the book mid page or go get a drink, reread whole page to players prior to restarting on field

Rereading page provides reinforcement for the players.

Thumpy wasn't a scaredy cat. He was running along when he saw a group of Panda Bears playing with their soccer balls.

The Pandas were using the tops of their paws to dribble and kick it

The Pandas were rolling the ball through their legs with their front paws

The Pandas were holding the ball between their back paws and jumping



Thumpy ran to the Pandas, **BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!** and said, "That looks like great fun, may I join you and be your friend?"

**"NO WAY"** said the Pandas, "You are too big and scary to be our friend. Please go away!"

## Storyteller Notes

This is a standing and moving Action Page with a ball.

Point toe and use top of foot to dribble and shoot,  
try favorite for 1 minute then try non favorite

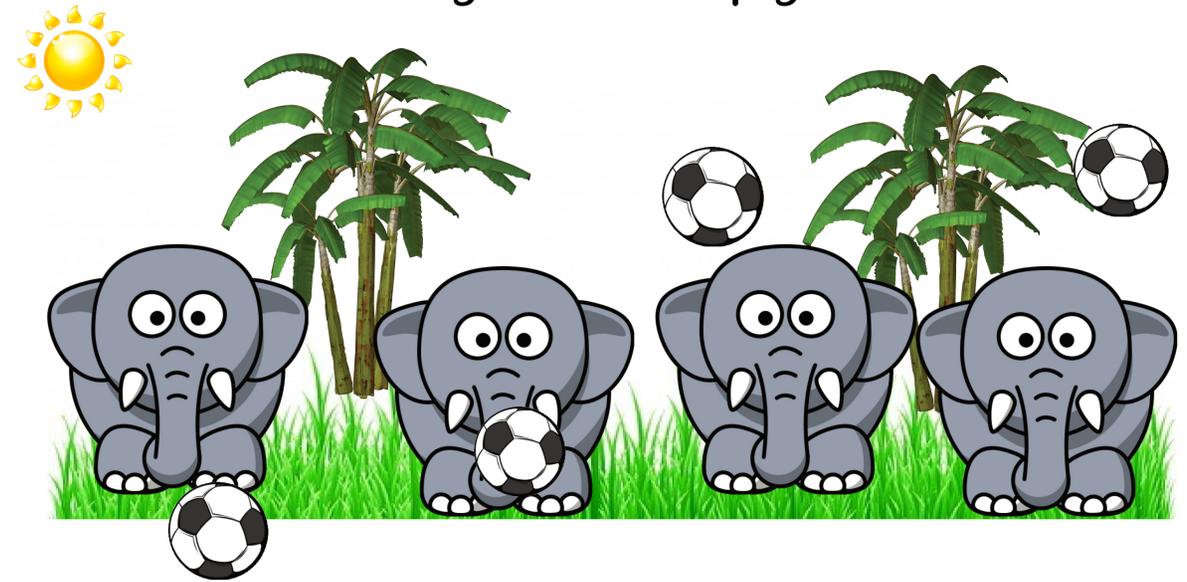
Use hands to roll ball in and out of feet in

figure 8 pattern

Hold ball between feet and jump.

At least 1 minute each activity or until they tire.

As Thumpy runs in the jungle with a soccer ball, he bounces it on parts of the body. Thumpy likes to:



Bounce it on the thigh, let it drop, and run with it

Bounce it on the chest, let it drop, and run with it

Kick it with the foot from hands and run with it

Little throws and catches, try it running

Throw the ball in the air, let it bounce and catch it

Bounce it hard on ground and catch it

## Storyteller Notes

This is a standing and moving Action Page with a ball.

Cones serve as rocks-kick ball past cone jump

over cone

Carry ball and bounce it and catch it while

moving forward as fast as possible

Running around waving arms in air

can do anything

Throw ball high, let it bounce then catch it

BOOM BOOM BOOM with hands and trumpet!

Elephant actions



Thumpy hung his head and walked back into the jungle. Thumpy thought about it and decided he wasn't going to allow Monkeys to keep him down. He was soon skipping through the jungle again. He came across a group of Jungle Cats playing!



The Jungle Cats were rolling a ball with the bottom of their paws!

They rolled it: Forward, Backward, and Sideways

The Elephant charged up to the Jungle Cats BOOM! BOOM! BOOM! and said, "That looks like fun, may I be your friend and play with you?" "NO WAY" said the Cats as they ran away, "You are too big and scary to play with us." Thumpy again hung his head and walked away.

## Storyteller Notes

This is a standing and moving Action Page with a ball.

Roll ball around field with bottom of foot

Always do favorite then non favorite foot

1 minute rolling forward

1 minute rolling backward

1 minute rolling sideways and side to side

BOOM BOOM BOOM with hands on ground

And Elephant trumpet!

After a while Thumpy comes across a group of Monkeys playing. The Monkeys were:



Kicking a ball and jumping over rocks

Carrying the ball in hands and bouncing it

Running around like Wild Monkeys

Throwing a ball high into the air!

Thumpy jumped up and down and ran toward the Monkeys. BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!

“You look like you are having great fun, may I join you?” said Thumpy. “NO,” said the Monkeys as they jumped up and down.

“You are too big, loud, and scary to play with us. Please Go!”

WATER

BREAK!!