

# *Anthony The Awesome Action Elephant*



You're too big to go skiing. Rock climbing? In your dreams. You want to be a famous Hollywood actor? Ha! Sounds like a disaster. You're too funky and chunky. Anthony the elephant was only 11 but all he heard his whole life was no no no. You can't go. You're too slow. You can't do this. You can't do that. But you can give us your hat, we'll use it as a trampoline or fill it with water to make it a jacuzzi. You see. The kids liked to make fun of Anthony cause he was much bigger than all his other animal friends. The discouragement never ends. Don't get me wrong, they like him! They just didn't boost his self-esteem, and they never wanted him on their school team.

One day Anthony got tired of sitting around on his big elephant butt. Time to shine, and strut he said in the mirror. And his adventures were nuclear. That month Anthony went bike riding and sword fishing! He went hang gliding and bungee jumping! He bought a skateboard and soared all over town, super fast. His friends couldn't believe it when their big animal buddy zoomed right past.

And the next day. In a momentous display. Guess who was the first pick for playing dodge ball? That's right. Everyone wanted Anthony on their team! Cause the players on his side cheered, while the other side screamed. Holy cow! That elephant moved like Michael Jordon. Wow! He dodged and weaved and ducked and jumped. And when he threw that ball with his great big trunk, all you could hear was a THUNK! As it whacked some other kid in the head or body. It was a painful glory. Anthony was a one man show. Sorry, a one elephant show. And for the first time in his life, he was also a hero.

Anthony learned an important lesson that school year, and that was to ignore his fear. And not listen to anyone else, cause the only thing that could ever stop him, was himself.