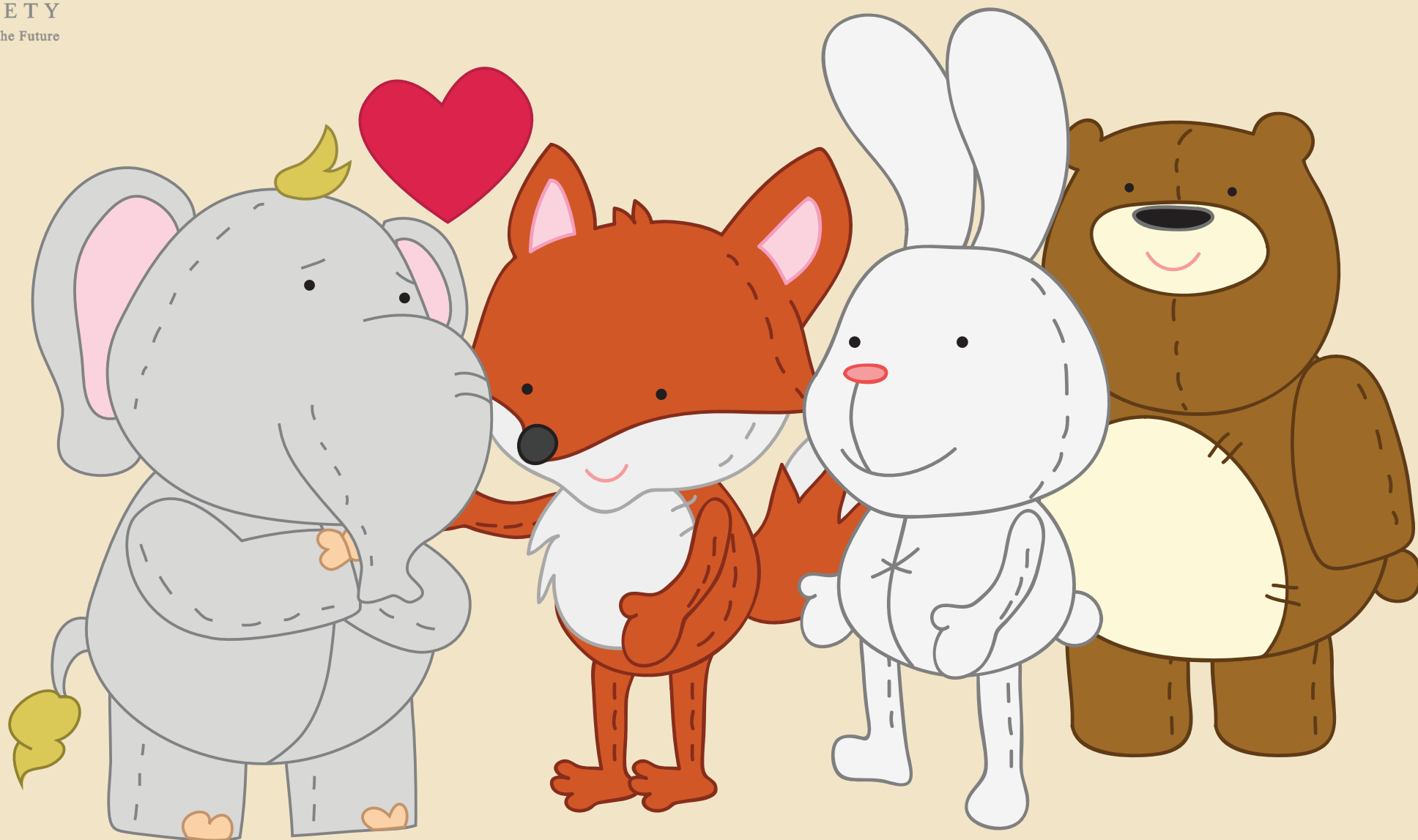


Eli Cares for His Friend



About Choo Choo Train

Choo Choo Train is a series of stories and activities aiming to inculcate good values in five and six-year-old children. Children will learn eight values through 16 stories and activities. The stories will feature Eli the elephant and his friends as they learn about each value.

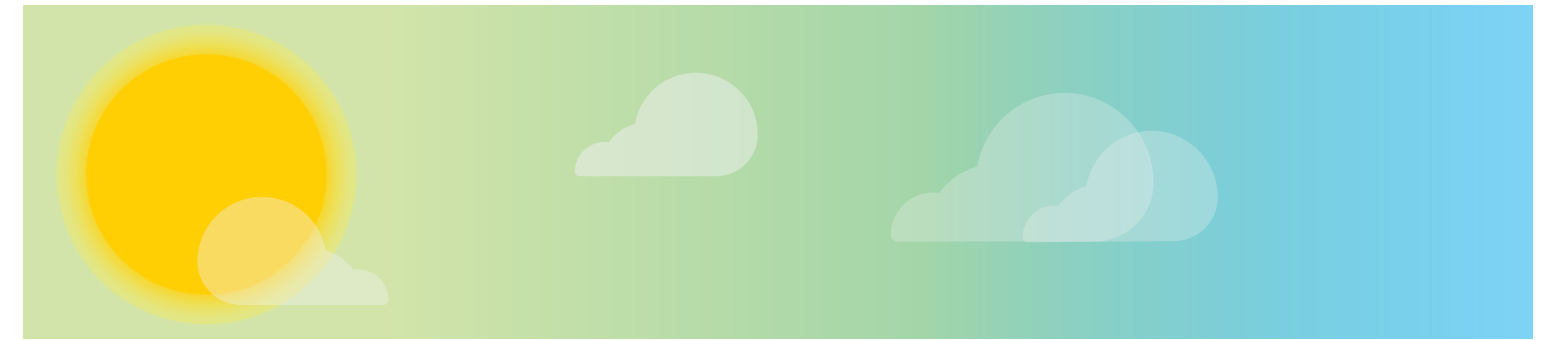
If you are a parent or an educator, there are guided questions at the end of the story that you may ask the children to build their empathy and perspective-taking skills.

Recommended activities are also included for a wholesome experience in learning these values!

About this story

In this story, we will explore the value of compassion. Eli and his friends were playing catching together. Ray felt sick suddenly and vomited. Eli pinched his nose and asked his friends to stay away from Ray. Will Eli show compassion? Read on to find out more.

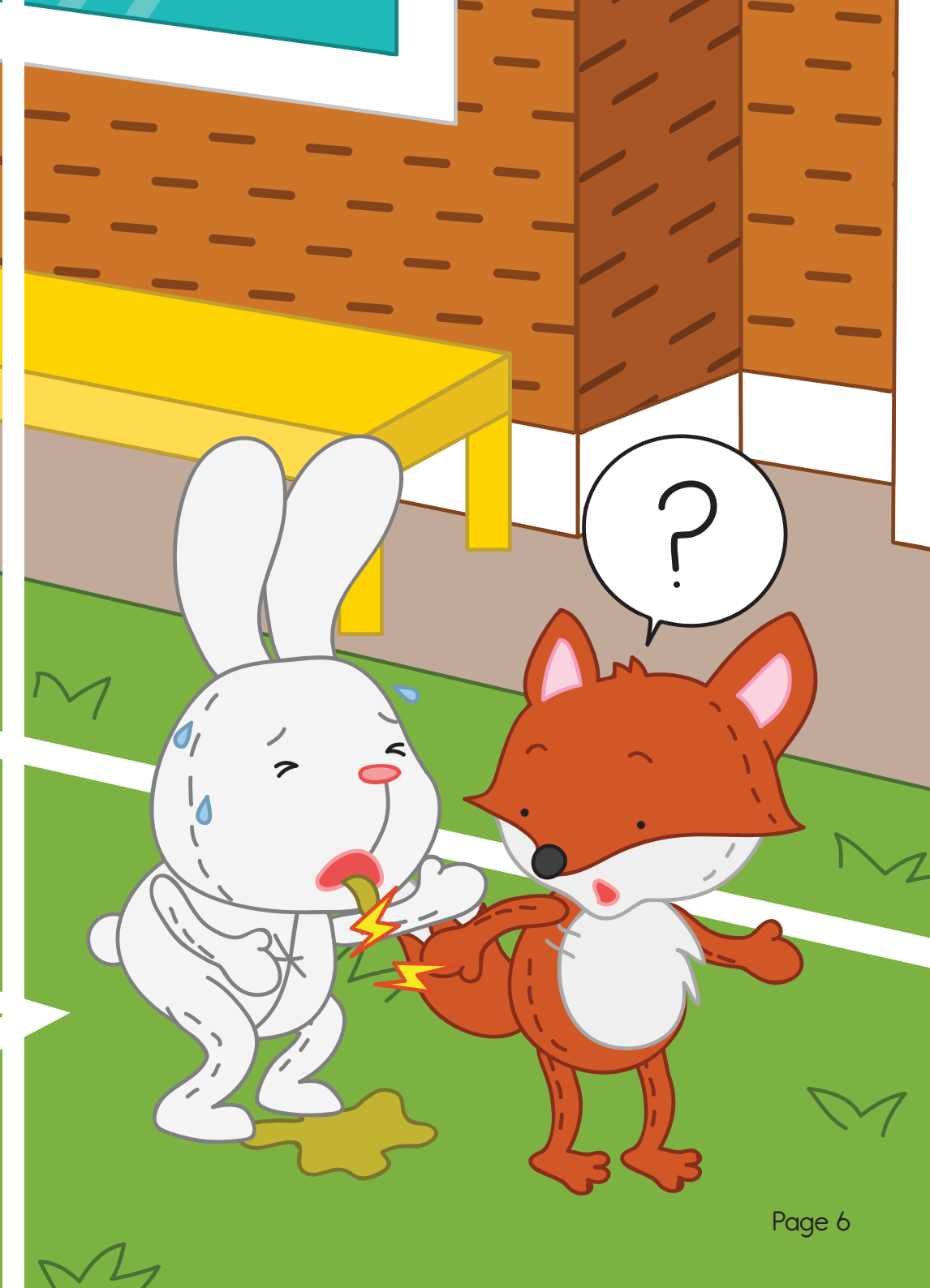




“What a sunny day it is today! Shall we go out and play?”
Eli asked his friends excitedly.

Felix, Bob and Ray nodded happily.

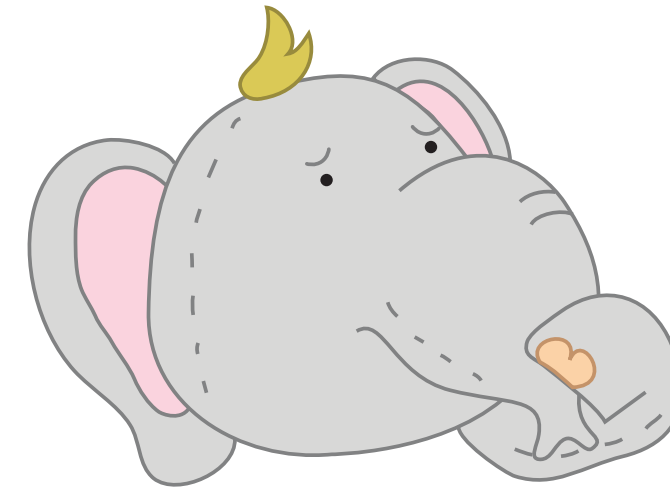
They ran out to the school field to play catching.



While playing, Ray started to feel sick but his friends did not know.

“Run faster, Ray! Come and catch me!” shouted Felix.

Ray tried to run as fast as he could. When he was about to catch Felix, Ray suddenly vomited.



“Eww!!! What’s that?!” shouted Eli as he pinched his nose.

“Are you okay, Ray?” asked Bob as he walked over to Ray and patted his back.

“I feel sick, Bob. My stomach hurts. It is very painful,” Ray said in a soft voice.



“Oh no! Felix and Bob, let’s go before Ray starts vomiting on us. It’s really smelly!” Eli pinched his nose and walked away.

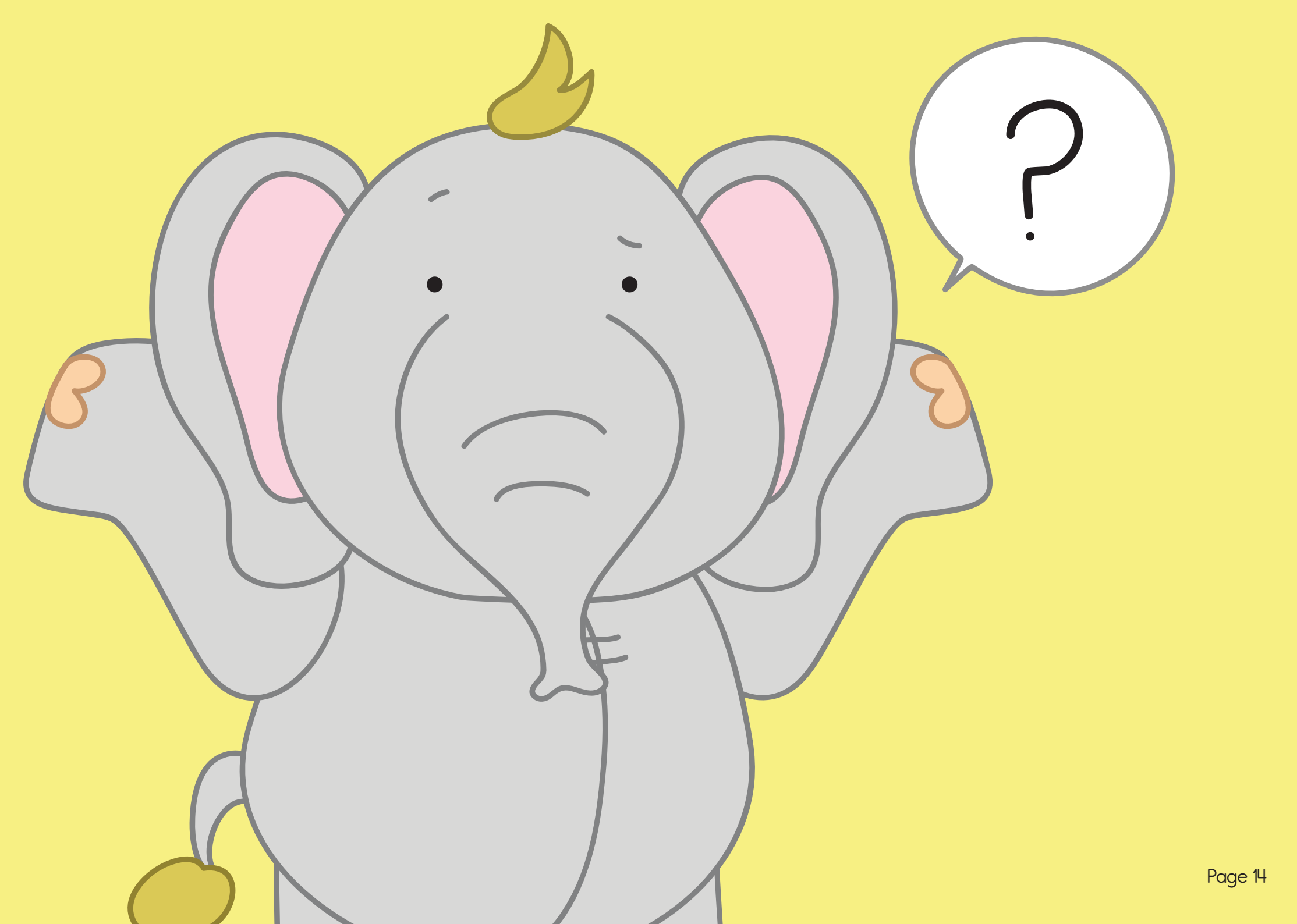
After hearing what Eli said, Ray felt sad and started to cry.



“Eli! That’s not a nice thing to say! Ray is sick and you are making him sad. You are not showing compassion. You should be caring and trying to help!” Bob said angrily.

Bob gave Ray some tissues and a drink of water to make him feel better.

“Don’t worry, Ray. We will help you and bring you to Miss Gina, the teacher,” Bob said as he and Felix helped Ray up, leaving Eli behind.



“Help Ray? Show compassion?” Eli thought to himself, scratching his head.

Eli remembered feeling scared the last time he was sick. “Ray vomited and said he is sick. He must be feeling scared,” Eli said to himself.



“I made Ray cry. He must have felt sad when I said that his vomit was smelly and when I asked the rest to leave him alone,” Eli continued.

“My friends helped Ray, but I did nothing. What can I do to help Ray?” Eli thought.



“I know, I can run to look for Miss Gina so that Ray does not have to walk so far,” Eli said.

Eli started running towards his friends and shouted, “Wait for me!”



“Ray, I am sorry for not showing compassion. I did not think about how you feel or help you when you were sick,” Eli said softly, when he caught up with his friends.

“Yes Eli, I felt scared and sad when I vomited and you asked Bob and Felix to leave me alone,” Ray replied.



“So Eli, do remember to show compassion to others in need. Think about how they feel and offer them a helping hand,” Felix said.

“I will remember to show compassion next time. Now, let me run to look for Miss Gina and bring her here. Ray can take a rest on the chair over here,” Eli said.

“Thank you, Eli” said Ray, as Bob and Felix helped him to the chair.

Eli was glad that he had learnt about compassion that day.

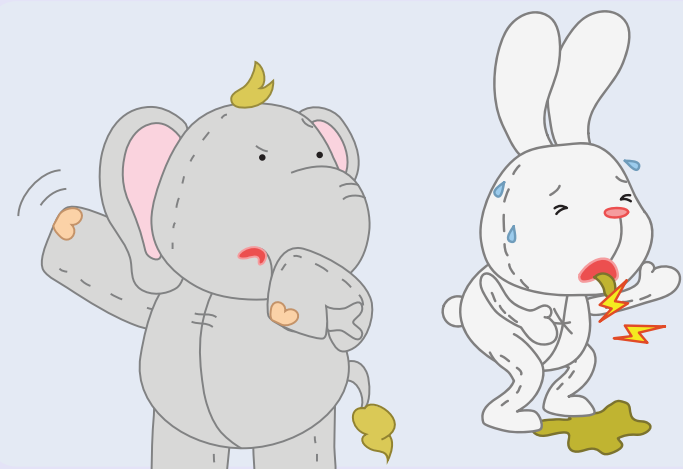


Ask and Discuss

Here are some questions to further the discussion with your child. The suggested responses serve as a guide.

What value does this story teach?

This story teaches about Compassion. Compassion is thinking about how others are feeling and helping them.



What happened in the story?

Ray vomited while he was playing catching. Eli found it smelly and said “ew”. He did not think of how Ray would have felt. Eli had chosen to walk away instead of helping Ray. Bob and Felix thought about how Ray felt. They gave him tissues and a drink of water to make him feel better.

When was Eli not showing compassion? Why do you think Eli did not show compassion?

When he said Ray was smelly and told his friends to go away from Ray. Eli did not show compassion because he had not cared that Ray was feeling sick. He did not think of helping Ray.

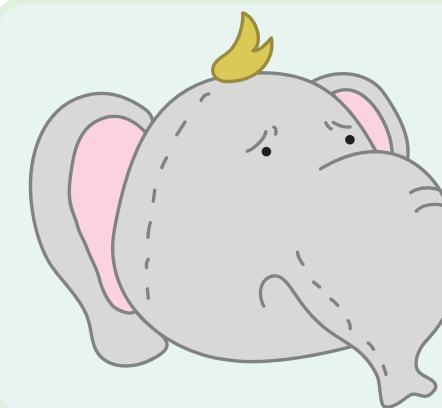
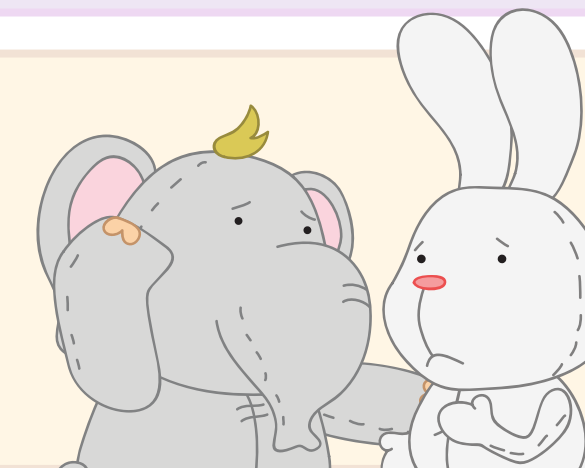


How would you feel if you were Ray and your friend said your vomit was smelly, and did not want to help you?

I would feel very sad. *(Parents/educators can ask children why they would feel this way and what they would do when they feel this way to encourage children to think about their responses to such feelings.)*

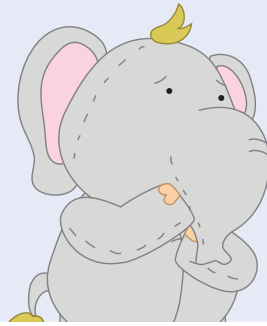
Why should Eli show compassion?

Eli should show compassion so that Ray would not feel scared and alone when he fell sick. He should help Ray feel better.



What would happen if Eli continued not to show compassion?

Eli's friends might think that Eli is not a good friend and stop playing with him in the future. They might also not care or help Eli when he is feeling sick.



Activity: How are they feeling?

In this activity, invite your child to discuss with you how the character in each scenario feels and explore ways to help the characters.



Suggested responses:

1. Bob's Mama feels sad.
2. Knowing that his mama is sad, Bob can show compassion by making her some paper flowers, helping to find a plastic container to put her flowers in, making her a card or pouring her favourite drink to cheer her up.



Suggested responses:

1. Ray feels scared.
2. Knowing that Ray is feeling scared, Eli can show compassion by offering him tissue or water to make him feel better.



Suggested responses:

1. Bob feels sad.
2. Knowing that Bob is feeling sad, Felix can show compassion by sitting beside Bob and listen when Bob talks.



Suggested responses:

1. Felix feels scared.
2. Knowing that Felix is scared, Eli can show compassion by asking Bob to stop.



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ABOUT SINGAPORE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Singapore Children's Society has been helping disadvantaged children, youth and their families in Singapore since 1952. We are an independent and non-profit organisation that relies predominantly on public support for many of our programmes and public education initiatives such as Choo Choo Train.

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