

Act-Along Story

When you read each bolded action word or phrase, encourage children to participate by acting out the movement along with you.



Elmo **jumps** up and down. He is so excited! Today is the day he gets to take care of the class hamster, Spotty. When it is time,



Elmo **pets** and **feeds** him. Elmo **pulls** him out of his cage and puts him on the ground. Spotty **runs** through the room. Spotty **runs**

around a corner. Spotty does not come back. Elmo **feels frustrated!** Elmo has a problem. Elmo needs to find Spotty. First,

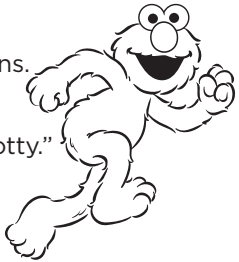


Elmo takes **three slow, deep breaths**. Then Elmo **thinks**, “What’s Elmo’s problem? Elmo’s problem is that he lost

Spotty.” Then Elmo thinks, “What are some plans Elmo can use to find Spotty?” Elmo comes up with three plans.

“Elmo can chase after Spotty,” he **thinks**. “Elmo can call for Spotty,” or, “Elmo can put out some food for Spotty.”

Now it’s time for Elmo to do something. It’s time for him to try a plan. Elmo is determined. He will try and try until he finds



Spotty. Elmo decides to call for Spotty, but Spotty does not come. “That plan did not work,” says Elmo. Elmo is persistent. He tries again.



Elmo decides to chase after Spotty. Elmo **looks** in each room. He **looks** under a table, he **climbs**



over a chair. Elmo can’t find Spotty. That plan did not work, either. Elmo goes back to the cage and fills a bowl full of

Spotty’s favorite food. Spotty comes back! He **runs** right to Elmo.



“It worked!” says

Elmo, **jumping** up and down. Elmo is **ecstatic!** Hooray!