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Elmo Stays Safe

How Furry Little Monsters –
and Children – Play Safely



"Oh, hello there! It is I, your favourite furry blue monster.

Did you know that I am a traffic safety hero? And your preschoolers can be, too!

Just share Elmo's safety story!"



Dear Educator,

As an adult responsible for the well-being of children, we know you want the children in your care to stay safe and healthy. Elmo, the adorable little red monster that children already know and love, is here to help!

This storybook – starring Elmo himself – was written to help you involve children in learning and discussion about staying safe while on the go. Combined with the engaging learning activities, *'Elmo Stays Safe'* will help children to think about being a safe pedestrian, identifying safe places to play and travelling safely.

The story covers the importance of:

- Safe pedestrian practices such as holding an adult's hand while crossing the road and waiting for cars to stop and the green man to light up before crossing
- Playing in safe places and treating driveways and car parks like the road
- Travelling safely every time children travel by car (using correct restraints, getting in and out via the safety door)
- Adults modelling safe and appropriate behaviours, such as always wearing seat belts themselves

Throughout the storybook, keep an eye out for Crossing Supervisor Grover icons! They appear to indicate a learning activity that will reinforce a road safety message on that page.

While reading with children and completing the activities on the cards, you can guide children's learning by helping them to reflect on the importance of certain safety practices. For instance, when you see Elmo buckling up, ask why it's a good idea. When Elmo and his mum cross the driveway, ask what they're doing to stay safe.

So...buckle up and enjoy the reading!

Also, please visit www.kidsafesa.com.au/elmo-stays-safe for further Elmo Stays Safe information and resources.

Rise and shine! It was morning time.
Elmo couldn't wait to get to the playground to see his friends.
He couldn't wait to swing on the swings with Cookie Monster.
He couldn't wait to slide down the slide with Abby Cadabby.
He couldn't wait to go up and down on the see-saw with Zoe.



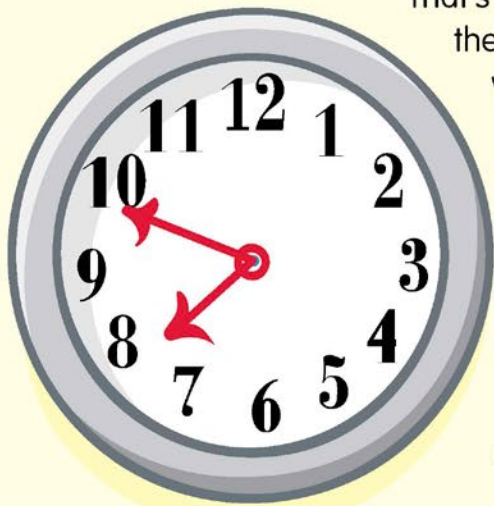


When Elmo got out of bed, he ate breakfast with his Mum and Dad.
They ate cereal. They ate fruit. They drank orange juice.

"Elmo is going to swing on the swings with Cookie Monster,"
Elmo told his Mum and Dad.

"And Elmo is going to slide down the slide with Abby Cadabby!
And Elmo is going to play on the see-saw with Zoe!"





"That's right, Elmo," his Mum said. "But first we have to get to the playground! And you are our furry little red monster, and we want you to stay **safe**. So do you remember, what we do when you get in the car?"

"Yes!" said Elmo. "Elmo sits in the car seat while you buckle me up!"

"You are so clever and safe, Elmo!" said his Mum.

Elmo was happy. He finished his breakfast so that he would have lots of energy to play.

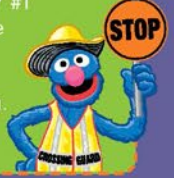


Elmo climbed into his car seat. He fit just right!
But Elmo bounced around as his Mum buckled him in.

"Elmo," Elmo's Mum said. "Are you a furry little red monster or a kangaroo?"

"Elmo is a furry little red monster," Elmo giggled.

Turn to
LEARNING
ACTIVITY #1
for more
road
safety
learning.



"That's right," Elmo's Mum said.

"Now, if you were a kangaroo you could jump around.

But it's not safe to jump around in the car. That's why we buckle up.
You are our furry little red monster, and we want you to stay **safe**."

Elmo stayed very still as his Mum buckled him in. Click!



Elmo felt as safe and as snug as a bug in a rug.
Elmo's Mum was wearing her seat belt to
stay safe too. Elmo looked out the window to
see what he could see.



Elmo saw a stop sign.
Elmo saw a truck.
Elmo saw a bicycle.
Elmo saw a bus.
Elmo heard lots of noises, too.
Vroom, vroom! Beep, beep! Honk, honk! Toot, toot!





Finally, Elmo's Mum parked in the car park near the playground. Elmo couldn't wait to get out of the car and play with his friends!

"What do we do next?," Elmo's Mum asked him.

"Elmo waits for you to help me climb out of my car seat," said Elmo.



Elmo's Mum turned off the car and took the keys out. Then she unbuckled her seat belt and got out of the car. She came around to Elmo's side and opened the door.

"Ready?" she asked him.

"Ready!" Elmo said.

Elmo's Mum unbuckled Elmo from his car seat. Click!

She gave Elmo a big hug as he climbed out of the car seat and out of the car.

"Now hold Mummy's hand in the car park," she said to Elmo. "You are our furry little red monster, and we want you to stay **safe**."

Elmo was so excited about playing with his friends that he almost forgot to hand his Mum his bouncy ball to hold while they crossed the car park.

"What do you remember about car parks?" Elmo's Mum asked him.

"We don't play in car parks!" Elmo answered.





Turn to
LEARNING
ACTIVITY #2 and #3
for more
road
safety
learning.



Then they came to a driveway. They were so close to the playground!
Elmo couldn't wait to play. He wanted to play with the bouncy ball now!

Then Elmo remembered. "A driveway is just like a road," he said to his Mum.

"That's right!" his Mum said. "There could be a car coming in or out. You are
our furry little red monster, and we want you to stay **safe**," said his Mum.

So Elmo's Mum kept the bouncy ball, and Elmo held onto her hand.

It was time to cross the street to get to the playground. Elmo and his Mum waited for the green man to light up before crossing the road.





They stopped, looked both ways,
listened for traffic, and thought about
if it was safe to cross the road.
They knew it was safe when the cars
stopped. They crossed the road
together, holding hands all the way.

Turn to
LEARNING
ACTIVITY #4 and #5
for more
road
safety
learning.



When they got to the other side of the street,
Elmo saw the playground.

"Oh, Elmo sees the playground!
Now it's time to play!" he cried.

"That's right!" Elmo's Mum said, giving Elmo the ball.

"The playground is a safe place for a furry little red
monster to play." She handed him the bouncy ball.



Elmo saw that there were no cars or trucks at the playground.
But there were so many friends! Elmo ran to meet them.

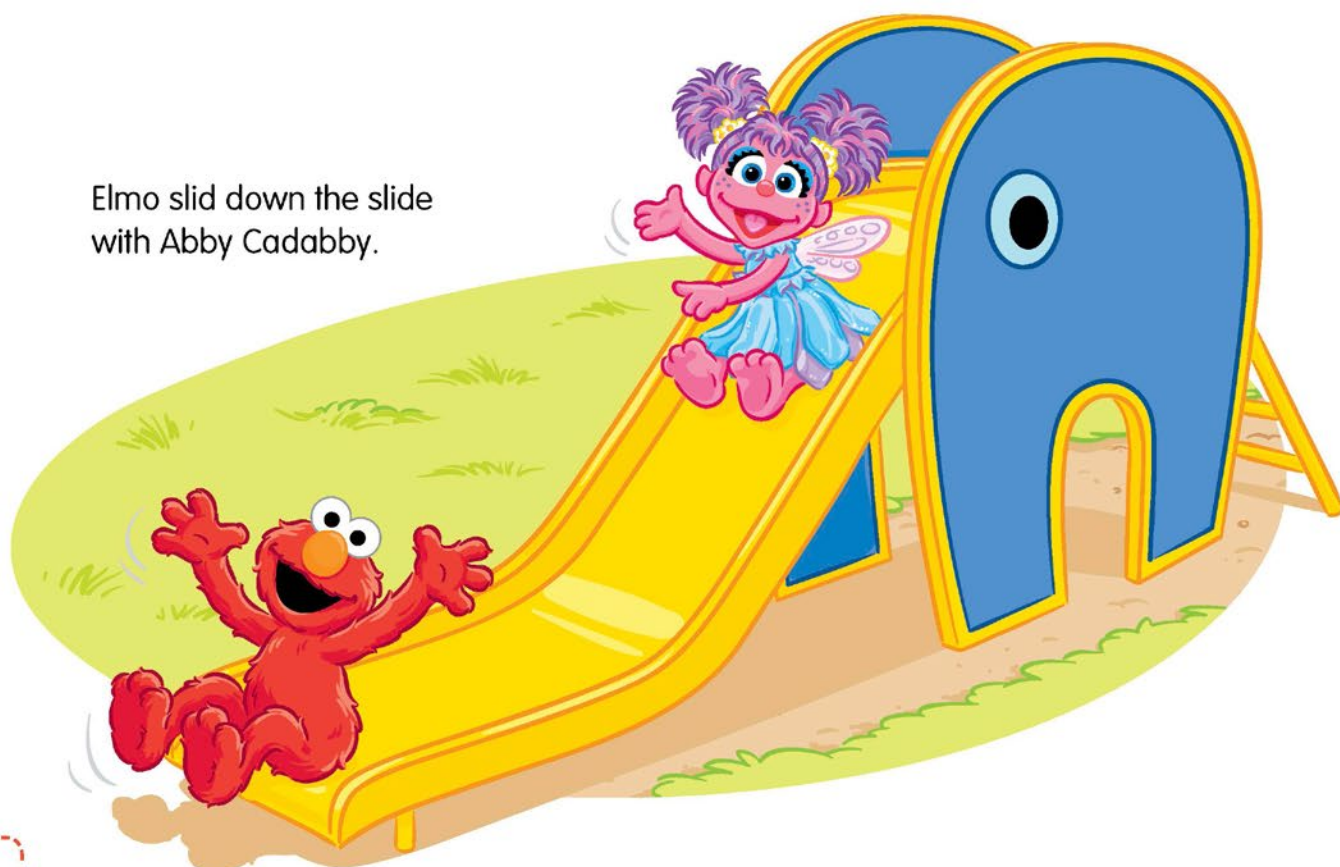
There was Cookie Monster.
There was Abby Cadabby.
There was Zoe.
There were the swings.
There was the slide.
There was the see-saw.
All waiting for Elmo to play!



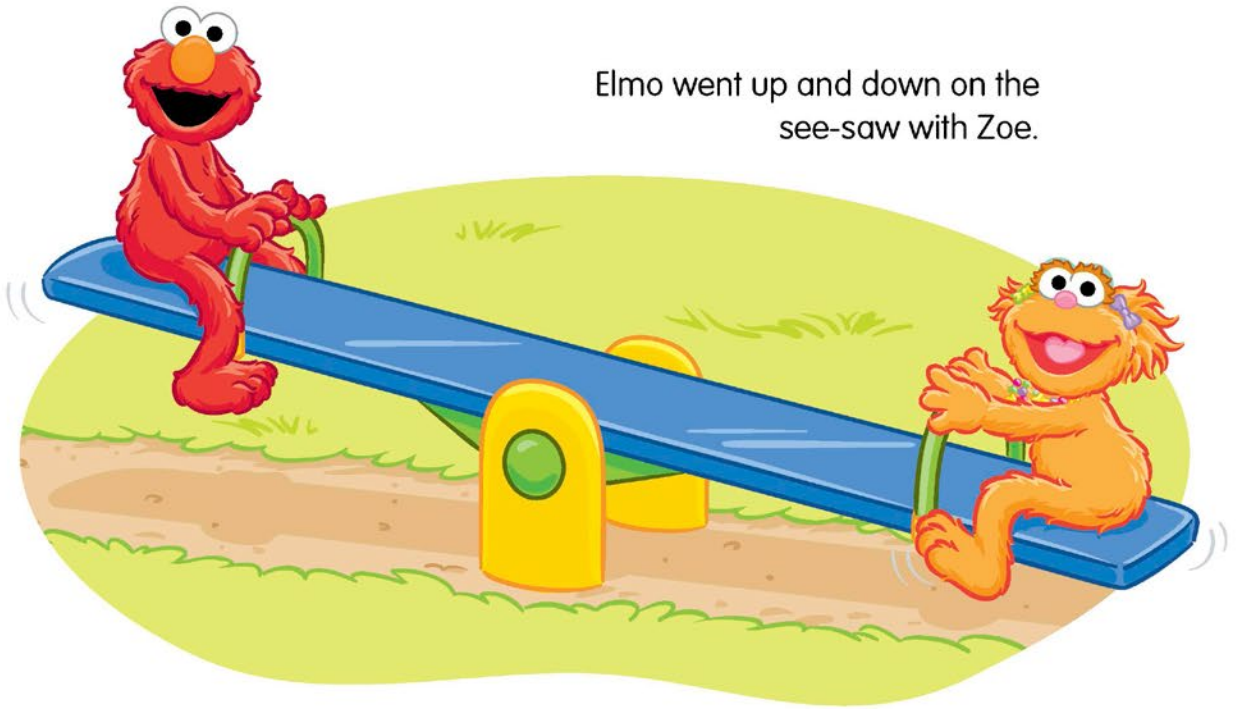
Elmo swung on the swings
with Cookie Monster.



Elmo slid down the slide
with Abby Cadabby.



Elmo went up and down on the
see-saw with Zoe.



Then all of them played together
with Elmo's bouncy ball.



They played and played and played.
They played until they were all tired.

Finally, it was time to go home. Elmo climbed into his car seat, and his Mum buckled him in. Click! Elmo felt as snug as a bug in a rug.

"Elmo had so much fun today, Mummy!" he told his Mum as she drove home.

"Elmo stayed safe, too. Elmo held still so Mummy could buckle him up. Elmo waited for Mummy to come around and get Elmo from the safe side of the car. Elmo held Mummy's hand while crossing the street. Elmo did not bounce his bouncy ball near the driveway or in the car park."

Elmo's Mum smiled. "What else?" she asked Elmo.

"Elmo knows!" cried Elmo. "Elmo is your furry little red monster. And Elmo knows how to stay **safe**."



**"Here are your
ACTIVITY CARDS!"**



