

Hephalumps Big Decision

Hephalump was a very proud Hephalump. He was very proud because Hephalump was the only blue Hephalump that he had ever seen. He was very proud of his deep blue fur, his big flappy ears and his delicately curly trunk. He was so proud that before he did anything he always thought: "If I do this, will it make my beautiful blue fur dirty? Will it make my big flappy ears look untidy? And will it straighten out my delicately curly trunk?"

Hephalump would never do anything that could possibly spoil his good looks. When he was groomed to perfection he was very happy, but if he had even the tiniest spot of mud on his foot he would get very very sad.

One day Hephalump saw a poster stuck to a lamp-post. It said:
"The good looking Hephalump competition! We want to find the best looking Hephalump ever, Come along on Friday at two o'clock."

Hephalump got very excited. "Well I'm bound to win," he said to himself, "I'm by far the best looking Hephalump ever."

So Hephalump went home and spent three days bathing himself, brushing his fur, straightening out his ears, and curling his trunk. At the end of the three days he looked absolutely splendid. By far the best looking Hephalump there could ever be! He was sure to win the competition.

At a quarter to two Hephalump set out for the town hall where the competition was going to be held. On the way he heard some other Hephalumps whispering: "Cor, Look at that Hephalump! He must be going to the competition. He looks so good he's bound to win!" Hephalump felt very proud of himself, very proud indeed.

On his way to the Town Hall Hephalump had to pass the Park gates. He never went in the Park, after all it was far too Muddy for such a smart Hephalump. Hephalump was just passing the park gates when he heard a very loud noise: 'SPLASH' and then a very loud shout: "HELP!" Hephalump paused for a second. What could be going on? He started to walk on when there was another shout: "HELP! HELP!"

Hephalump peered over the Park railings. It was very very muddy in there and he was beautifully clean, more clean than he had ever been before.

"HELP! HELP!" came the shout again.

"I'm sorry," C

called out Hephalump, "but I'm on my way to the best looking Hephalump competition. I can't possibly walk through all that mud."

"HELP! HELP!" came the reply. "PLEASE HELP, I'M DROWNING!!!"

Hephalump looked down at his beautifully clean blue fur. He flicked his very neat big ears, and he thought of all the other Hephalumps that were nowhere near as good looking as him waiting to enter the competition. But then he heard the voice again:

"Please HELP me!" It shouted. "I'm going to drown!"

Suddenly Hephallump made a decision. He quickly turned around and ran through the Park Gates. He ran towards the splashing sound and mud splattered all over his nice clean fur.

When he reached the pond he could see that Mister Pinter, the local Milkman, had fallen in.

"Get me out!" called Mr Pinter. "I've hurt my leg and can't stay up much longer!"

There was nothing for it. Hephallump stepped carefully over the fence around the pond and waded out into the water. Mr Pinter grabbed hold of his trunk and Hephallump pulled him out onto the bank.

"Oh thank you Hephallump! Thank you!" cried Mister Pinter.

Just then a reporter from the local newspaper arrived. He was walking home through the park after he had got very bored while he was at the best looking Hephallump competition. He quickly got out his camera and took lots of pictures of Hephallump and Mister Pinter together.

That evening the front page of the newspaper was taken up with a very large picture of a very very dirty Hephallump. His beautiful blue fur was covered in mud and green slime. His ears were all over the place and his trunk was very straight after Mister Pinter had held on so tightly.

"HEPHALLUMP HERO!" read the headline. In the story it said that Hephallump was the bravest Hephallump ever. Hephallump looked at the picture of the very happy, very smiley Mister Pinter, and Hephallump said to himself:

"Well Hephallump, I think you made the right decision today."

And do you know, Hephallump has never had to pay his Milk bill since!!

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