

Generic Action Bank

Key Connective	Suggested Action
Once upon a time/Long, long ago	Open hands like a book.
Early one morning	Hands to one side of head and pretend to wake up.
Who	Finger circle index finger in air.
First	One finger up.
Next	Two fingers pointed to one side.
But	All fingers on one hand pointed down.
Because	Hands out open palmed.
At that moment/immediately	Point sharply with index finger.
Suddenly	Hands expressively open as if in surprise.
To his amazement	Move index fingers in circles around widely opened eyes.
Unfortunately	Sad face.
Luckily	Thumbs up on both hands.
After/after that	Roll hands over in turning gesture.
So	Roll hands forwards and open as if giving.
Finally	Palms facing audience like a policeman stopping traffic.
Eventually	Both hands on thighs palms down.
In the end	Bow head down.
Happily ever after	Bring hands together as if closing book.

Actions Specific to How Elephants got their Trunks

Elephant/Hugo	Hold flat hands next to ears like elephant's floppy ears.
Trunk/s	Hold droopy arm from face like trunk.
Nose/s	Point to nose.
Curious/curiously	Point to nose and move finger outwards indicating long nose.
Question/s	Use index finger to draw large question mark in the air.
Parrot	Arms move as if flapping wings.
Monkeys	Scratch armpits.
Shout/shouted	Cup hands around mouth.
Crocodile/s	Outstretched arms held together, and then opened vertically.
River	Use index finger to draw wavy line in the air like rippling water.
Snake	Hand to mouth, 2 fingers pointing straight out as forked tongue.
Strange creature	Shrug shoulders, arms bent, palms up, eyebrows raised.
Come closer	Beckon with index finger.
Quick as a flash	Snap fingers.
Pull/ed	Hands mime pulling imaginary rope.
Slipped/slide	Hold palms of hands together and move top hand away from bottom hand in slipping motion
Legs	Point to legs.
Fell back	Lean back .
Almighty splash	Clap hands.
Wrapped	Roll pointed index fingers over in turning gesture.
Shrink/shrunk	Stretch out arms then bring in and wrap round chest.
Think	Point to head
Pick up food	Reach to the ground, snatch imaginary food and raise hand to mouth.
Carry things	Arms in front of chest to mime carrying heavy object.
Splash mud over your head and back.	Extend one arm to signify trunk and mime using to throw water over head.
Laughed	Move shoulders up and down repeatedly.
Angrily	Shake fists
Pushed	Flat hands held side by side and pushing away from body.
Watching	Point to eyes and then point outwards.