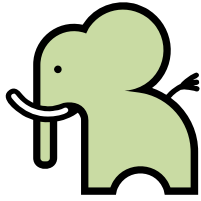


The Elephant Stops Trying



A boy was visiting the zoo with his mother. They came across an elephant tied to a pole with a rope, surrounded by a low wooden fence. The little boy was amazed that an animal so large could be so tame.

"Why doesn't the elephant escape?" the boy asked the zoo caretaker. The caretaker revealed that 20 years ago, this elephant arrived at the zoo as a baby. At first, it would try all ways to escape. It would charge against the fence, or try to break the rope. Being only a baby, the elephant was not able to break free. It struggled for some time without success. Eventually, it stopped trying to escape and accepted its condition as just fate.

"Today," the caretaker said, "though the baby elephant has grown into a big adult elephant, he has never once tried to escape again. In his own eyes, he is still the baby elephant he used to be."

The trouble is not that we do not try but that we do not try AGAIN!

