The Little Elephant That Could

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Little Elephant inspires us not to give up if a job is important.
So does the new President of the United States of America.
This book is dedicated to Barack Obama.

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Walter Schaller. Thank you!
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ยืมผ้าห่ม แล้ว มองผ่านธีราทมุย
“I hope it stops raining soon,” said Pai. “If the road gets too muddy, we can’t drive up the mountain to Ban Pu Sung.”

“We must get up that mountain!” answered Sone. “The kids are waiting for us. And they’ve never had books before!”
The rain stopped just as they reached Ban Tin Pu. “Ban Pu Sung is at the top of the dirt road,” said the driver. “But I don’t think I can drive up that mountain.”

“You’ve got to try,” insisted Sone. “More than a hundred kids are waiting for us.”

The driver turned the truck and started up. The truck went fast at first, then slower, and slower. Soon, it stopped.
"I can't do it," said the driver. "Look, the road gets even steeper up ahead. Let's wait until dry season, then try again." Carefully, he drove the truck backwards, back down the hill to Ban Tin Pu.
អត្ថប្រយោជន៍បានសរសេរថា "អាន់ថ្នាំបង្កើតកូននារីនិងស្លក្រវចនៈ" ដោយអេីវេស។
"ស្រីសំរាប់មួយយ៉ាងអង្ករកូននារីចុះដំណើរការបាន!"

អតីតអង្ករបង្កើតពុលនិយោជនៈ។ "អាន់ថ្នាំបង្កើតដំណើរការ? បើយុទ្ធសាស្ត្រីកូននារីដែលគ្រប់គ្រងការពារជីវិតយុវជនីកម្មុយប៉ុណ្ណោះ និង នៅក្នុងការប្រការប្រការនៃអាតូន។ អាន់ថ្នាំបង្កើតដំណើរការ និយោជនៈ ដើម្បីងាយស្រោមសម្រាប់កុម្មុយ ឬព័ត៌មានបន្ទាប់ពីប្រការប្រការសម្រាប់អាតូន។ អាន់ថ្នាំបង្កើតដំណើរការ និយោជនៈ ដើម្បីបើកសិទ្ធិសង្ឃឹមកុម្មុយ ឬព័ត៌មានបន្ទាប់ពីប្រការប្រការសម្រាប់អាតូន។ អាន់ថ្នាំបង្កើតដំណើរការ និយោជនៈ ដើម្បីបើកសិទ្ធិសង្ឃឹមកុម្មុយ ឬព័ត៌មានបន្ទាប់ពីប្រការប្រការសម្រាប់អាតូន។ អាន់ថ្នាំបង្កើតដំណើរការ និយោជនៈ ដើម្បីបើកសិទ្ធិសង្ឃឹមកុម្មុយ ឬព័ត៌មានបន្ទាប់ពីប្រការប្រការសម្រាប់អាតូន។ នាធី ឬអាន់ថ្នាំបង្កើតដំណើរការ និយោជនៈ ដើម្បីបើកសិទ្ធិសង្ឃឹមកុម្មុយ ឬព័ត៌មានបន្ទាប់ពីប្រការប្រការសម្រាប់អាតូន។ នាធី ឬអាន់ថ្នាំបង្កើតដំណើរការ និយោជនៈ ដើម្បីបើកសិទ្ធិសង្ឃឹមកុម្មុយ ឬព័ត៌មានបន្ទាប់ពីប្រការប្រការសម្រាប់អាតូន។ នាធី ឬអាន់ថ្នាំបង្កើតដំណើរការ និយោជនៈ ដើម្បីបើកសិទ្ធិសង្ឃឹមកុម្មុយ ឬព័ត៌មានបន្ទាប់ពីប្រការប្រការសម្រាប់អាតូន។
The staff talked together. “We can’t wait until dry season,” Yuphin insisted. “The children are waiting now!”

A mahout came over. “Do you remember me? I saw your problem. My elephant is too old to work hard, and there’s not much work for elephants these days anyway. Most of the time, she stays home with her baby. But if you can all walk up the trail, maybe she can carry the books.”
��态收缩淋巴细胞和呼吸道细胞。淋巴细胞和呼吸道细胞被认为是免疫系统的一部分，对维持身体的健康和防御外来病原体至关重要。状态收缩淋巴细胞和呼吸道细胞的活动是通过免疫应答过程来调节的，免疫应答是机体在遇到病原体时所做出的防御反应。状态收缩淋巴细胞和呼吸道细胞的活动可以分为三个主要阶段：识别、活化和效应。识别阶段是指病原体被识别并呈递给免疫细胞的过程；活化阶段是指免疫细胞接收到信号后，开始活化并准备做出反应的过程；效应阶段是指免疫细胞做出反应，清除病原体的过程。状态收缩淋巴细胞和呼吸道细胞在免疫应答过程中起着关键作用，它们的活动是维持机体健康和抵御病原体入侵的重要环节。
They put the books on the elephant’s back and started up. It was hard work. Everybody slipped sometimes. Even the elephant slipped. But they kept going.

Then they got to the steep part. Pai and Sone tried to go first. But it was too slippery.

“Let the elephant go first, then walk in her footsteps,” said the mahout. But the elephant slipped too. Her muscles were old. She tried her best but she couldn’t climb up that mountain. Finally, the mahout said, “I’m sorry, she can’t make it.” Sadly, they all turned and went back down.
The baby elephant had been watching. “Let me try,” she said.

“You’re too young,” said the mahout. “You’ve never done anything like this.”

“I can try,” said Little Elephant. “This is important. Every day, I see the children enjoying the books you brought to this village. Please, let me try.”

The mahout shook his head.

Then the mother elephant spoke up. “Let her try. She’s bigger and stronger every day. I think she can do it.”

At last the mahout agreed, and they put the books on Little Elephant’s back.
The boxes looked small. Little Elephant was surprised that they were so heavy! But she was determined to carry them up the mountain.

Together, they all started up. The road was still slippery, but they all reached the steep section. Little Elephant looked for a good spot to put her foot. She took a step. Then she took another step, and a third step. “Klush, Klush,” went Little Elephant’s feet as she pulled each one from the mud.

But then, she slipped. She tried again, and slipped again. She tried a third time, and again she slipped. Finally the mahout said they would have to give up. Sadly, everyone walked back down.
អាចពិនិត្យមានការសង្កេមប្រឈមប្រាស់គឺការបញ្ចប់ការដែលយោង។ ដែលមិនអាច
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There were many unhappy faces when they arrived back at Ban Tin Pu. But Little Elephant wouldn’t give up. “This is important,” she said. “There’s another trail. It’s an old trail, too narrow for trucks. It’s even too narrow for my mother. But maybe we can make it.”

Little Elephant led them to the trail, and they started up. They went over dead trees, under low branches, and between narrow rocks.

But this trail, too, grew steeper and more slippery. Pai and Sone used vines to pull themselves up, but the vines broke when Little Elephant tried to use them. Finally, they had to go back down.
Now, everyone was even sadder when they arrived back at Ban Tin Pu. But Little Elephant wouldn’t quit. “This is too important to give up,” she said. She thought for a few minutes, then she had an idea:

“The steep section is very short. Two of you can go up using the vines. Tie a rope to the tree above. Then I’ll pull myself up on the rope, and everybody else can follow.”

One more time, they all started up the mountain. Pai and Sone pulled themselves up the steep part and tied a rope to the tree. Then Little Elephant and everyone else was able to climb up.
The trail became easier. They stopped at a waterfall to wash off, and soon they arrived at Ban Pu Sung. “Slosh, slosh” went Little Elephant’s feet as she walked through the water.
A small wooden bridge crossed the river to the school. “Boom Boom,” went Little Elephant’s feet as she crossed the bridge.

When they heard that sound, all the children ran out of the school and cheered. “We didn’t think you’d come,” said the teacher. “It’s so slippery, we thought you would give up.”

“This was too important to give up,” answered Little Elephant.

The children cheered again. Little Elephant was a hero.
The book party began.
Siphone described how he had asked his village elders to tell their favorite stories, then he wrote the stories on paper, and they became a book.
Pai gave a brief art lesson, and there was time to draw.
Sone and Linda led the games outside. The most popular game was the one where the tooth decay monsters try to find a fresh tooth to eat.
Sengdao organized the tug of war. The girls’ team was losing – until someone remembered that Little Elephant was a girl, too.
Yuphin explained that if books get wet or dirty or torn, then some people will never get to read them.
Siphone read from a book.
Finally, everyone got to choose a book of their own – their very first book!

As she watched their faces, Little Elephant was proud that she had not given up.
ក្នុងពេលនេះអ្នកបានទទួលបានការពន្យល់ពីស្ថានភាពដែលមាននៅក្នុងប្រទេសសមាជីដែលមានសមត្ថភាពមួយច្រើនដែលអាចប្រែប្រួលបាន។ ក្នុងជីវិតការងាររបស់អ្នកដែលមានសារធាតុមួយច្រើនដែលអាចប្រែប្រួលបាន។ ក្នុងការងាររបស់អ្នកដែលមានសារធាតុមួយច្រើនដែលអាចប្រែប្រួលបាន។ ក្នុងការងាររបស់អ្នកដែលមានសារធាតុមួយច្រើនដែលអាចប្រែប្រួលបាន។ ក្នុងការងាររបស់អ្នកដែលមានសារធាតុមួយច្រើនដែលអាចប្រែប្រួលបាន។ ក្នុងការងាររបស់អ្នកដែលមានសារធាតុមួយច្រើនដែលអាចប្រែប្រួលបាន។
The school got a box of books, so the students could trade their book for a different one after they read it.

Finally it was time to go. “Boom, Boom,” went Little Elephant’s feet as she crossed the bridge.

“Boom, Boom,” shouted all the children as they waved goodbye.

And from that day on, everyone called Little Elephant “Boom-Boom,” which means “books” in Lao.
Meet Boom-Boom

Boom-Boom the elephant helps Big Brother Mouse carry books to villages that we cannot reach by the road or river. We believe it’s the only time in history when an elephant and a mouse have been such good friends.

There are still many children in Laos who have never seen a book. Will you help Boom-Boom and Big Brother Mouse take books to more children in more villages?

We want to reach them. But we can’t do it without your help. Because Boom-Boom works for peanuts – but our printer won’t.

www.BigBrotherMouse.com
Chittakone Vilaipong illustrated this book. He learned to draw by himself, and has enjoyed doing it since third grade. He began illustrating books after winning an art contest that Big Brother Mouse sponsored three years ago, when he was 14 years old. This is the ninth book he has illustrated; others include Dinosaurs, New Improved Buffalo, Funny Letters, The Jungle Boy, and Doctor Dolittle. Chittakone says, “I’m always happy when I’m drawing. I enjoy drawing even if something won’t be sold or published.”

Sasha Alyson, the author, is a retired book publisher and writer. He first visited Laos in 2003 and never saw a book written in Lao. So he moved here and started Big Brother Mouse. He is now a volunteer adviser to the project, as we work to publish more books, and to make them available in rural villages.
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