

# Ordering Elephants

Every spring animals come from all parts of the jungle to watch the most exciting event of the year, the jumbo gymnastics. If you ever go there, remember not to stand too close - an elephant on a trampoline is not quite as safe as you might think. At each competition the judges choose the five best jumbo gymnasts and afterwards these five winners parade through the jungle - to great applause from the other animals! The boy elephants always wear blue and the girl elephants wear red. This year there were 2 boy winners and 3 girl winners and they paraded through the jungle in this order :



As you can see the elephants paraded in order girl, boy, girl, boy, girl boy.

Your challenge is to investigate which other orders these elephants could have paraded in. How will you record your answers? How will you make sure you don't repeat any patterns? Record your parade patterns on the back or on a separate piece of paper (make sure it has your name and class on it).

Extra challenge questions:

1. How many parades had the two blue elephants next to each other? \_\_\_\_\_
2. In how many parades were the first and last elephant the same colour? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Are the boy or girl elephants more often the leader? \_\_\_\_\_
4. How many parades are palindromes (the order is the same forwards as backwards)? \_\_\_\_\_



**Return to Mrs Stroud by  
Tuesday 7th June 2015**

