

## **The Blind Elephant**

There once was a female elephant who was strong and clever, but one day she became quiet ill, and even though she recovered she was now blind. Being a survivor, she learned to walk slowly using her trunk as a guide for every step. She taught herself how to eat, how to cross rivers, how to be independent within her own world of darkness. The other elephants noticed that all of the young elephants stopped following their own mothers and were now following the blind female. The herd grumbled among itself about why the foolish youngsters would follow a blind creature, until an old male spoke. "Have you not noticed how she moves through the forest with confidence and strength? She walks with dignity and determination. Who would not follow such a leader?"