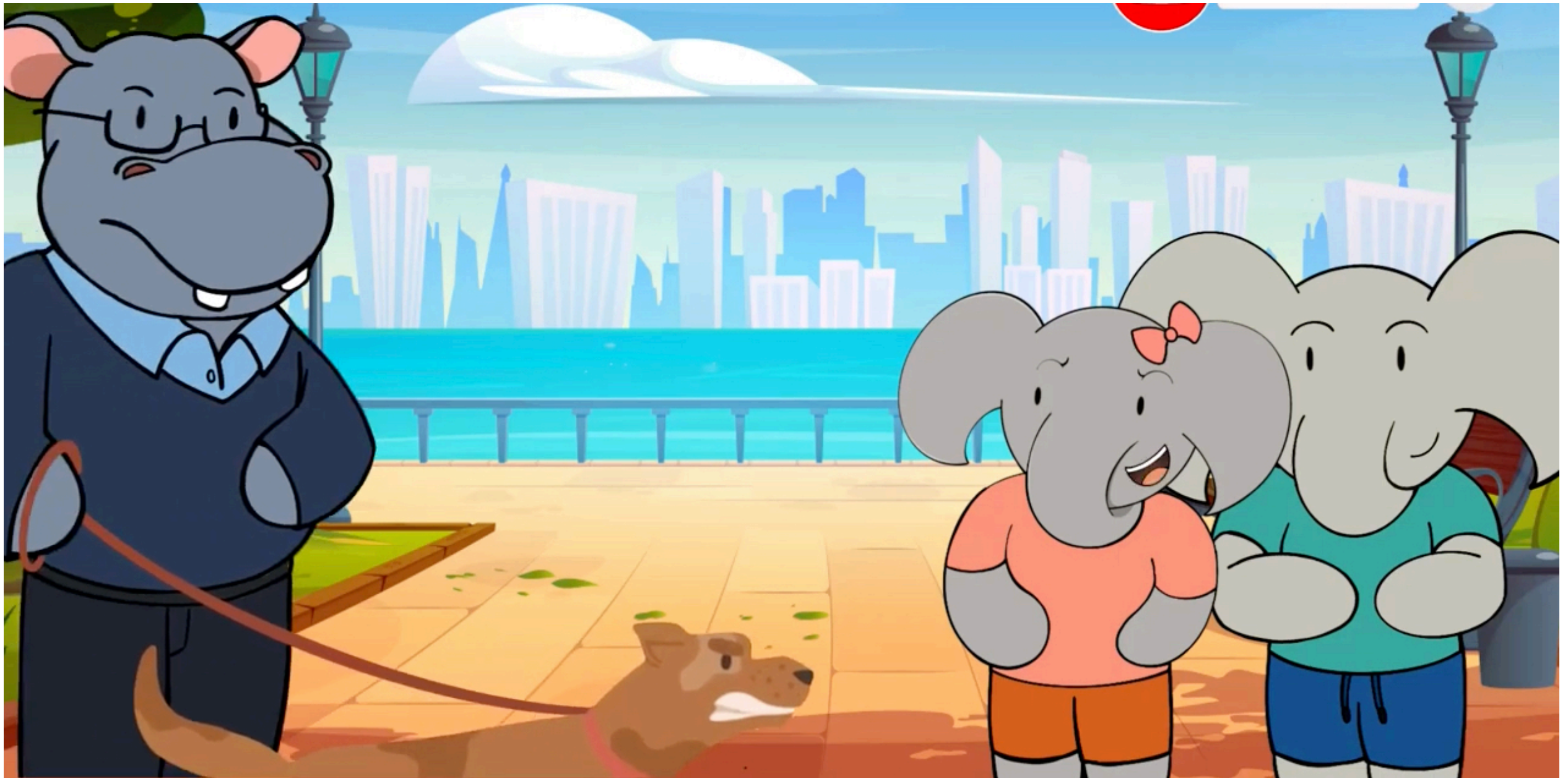






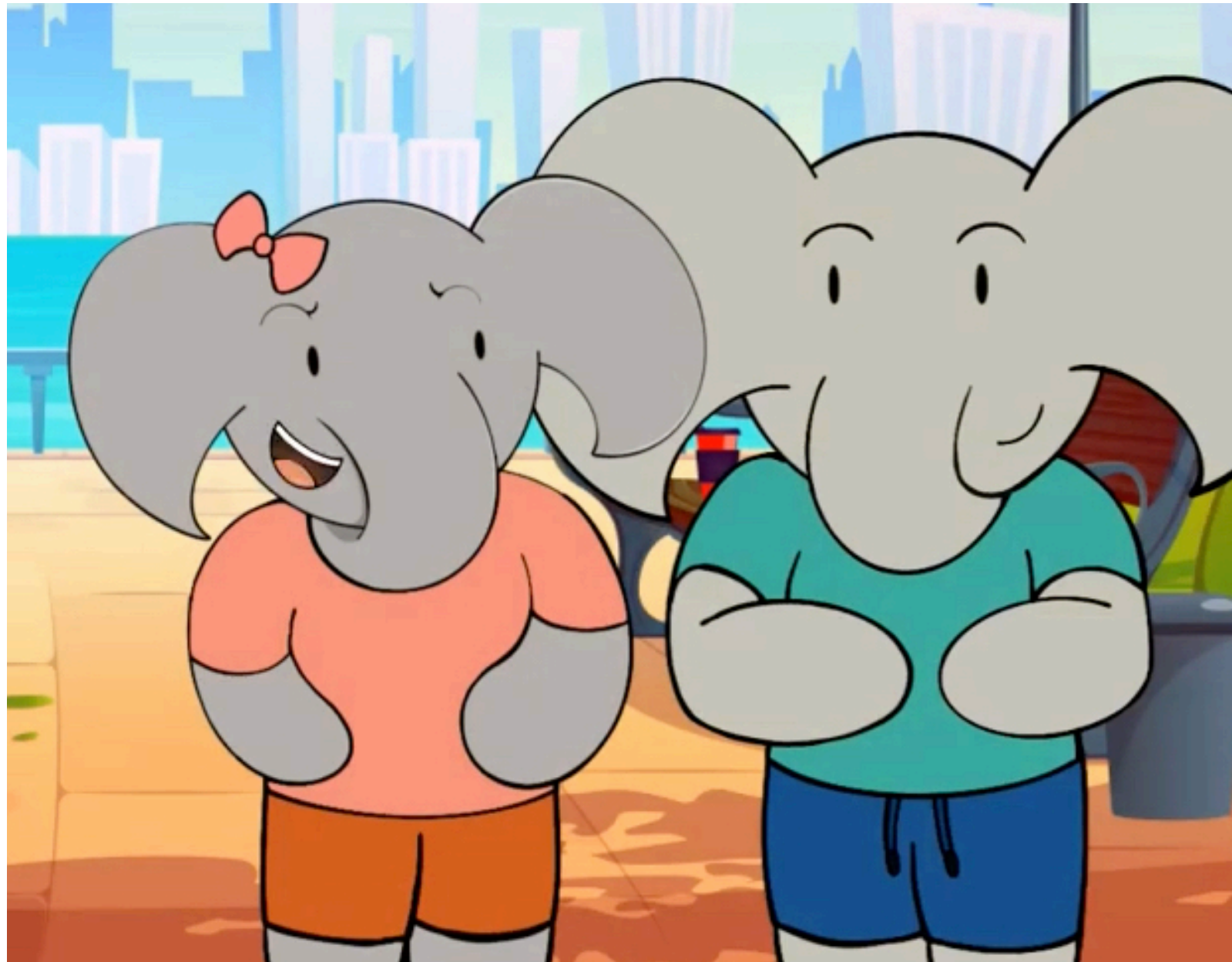
Gentle Hands With Dogs That Are Not Yours
From Autism Behavior Services, Inc.



“Oh wow,” Isa says. “What a cute puppy.” She goes to pet it.



This is a bad idea! The dog gets scared and attempts to bite Isa.



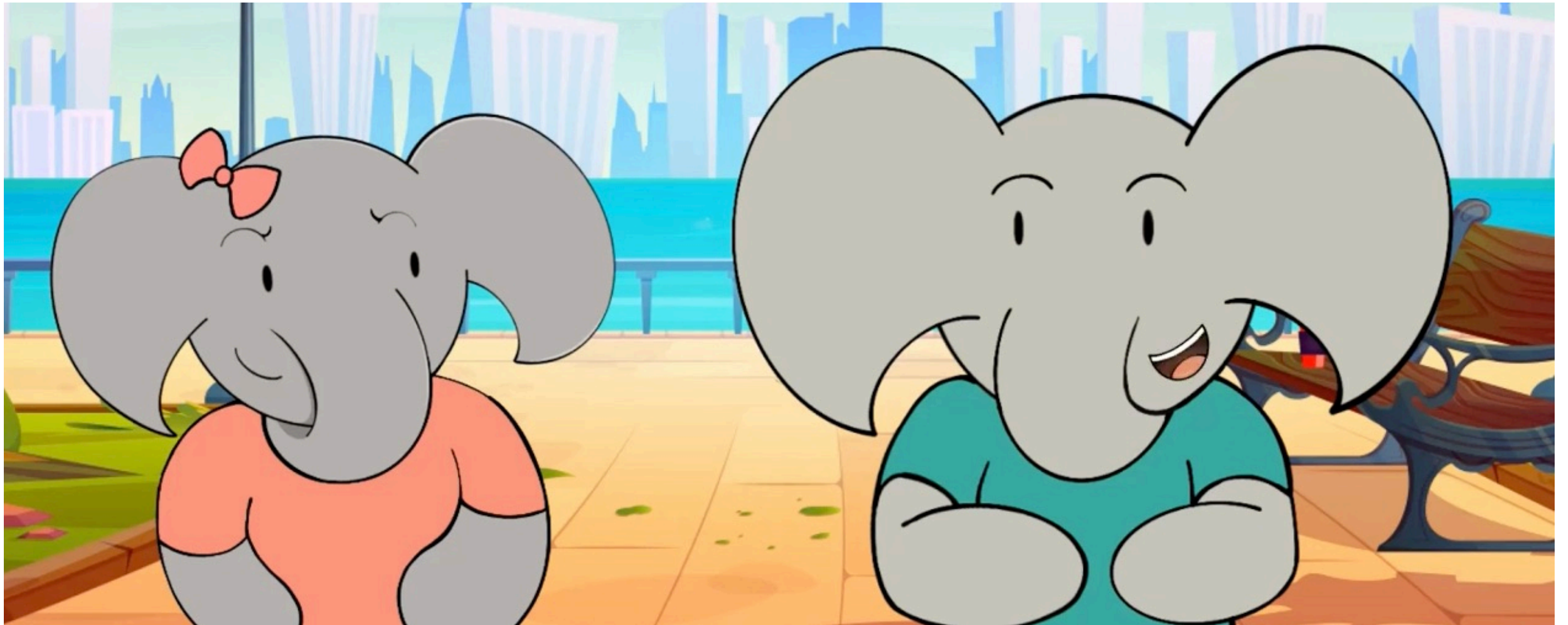
“That was scary, Rowan! Why did the dog do that?” Isa asks



“As cute as they are,” Rowan says. “Petting animals you are not familiar with is a big NO-NO.”



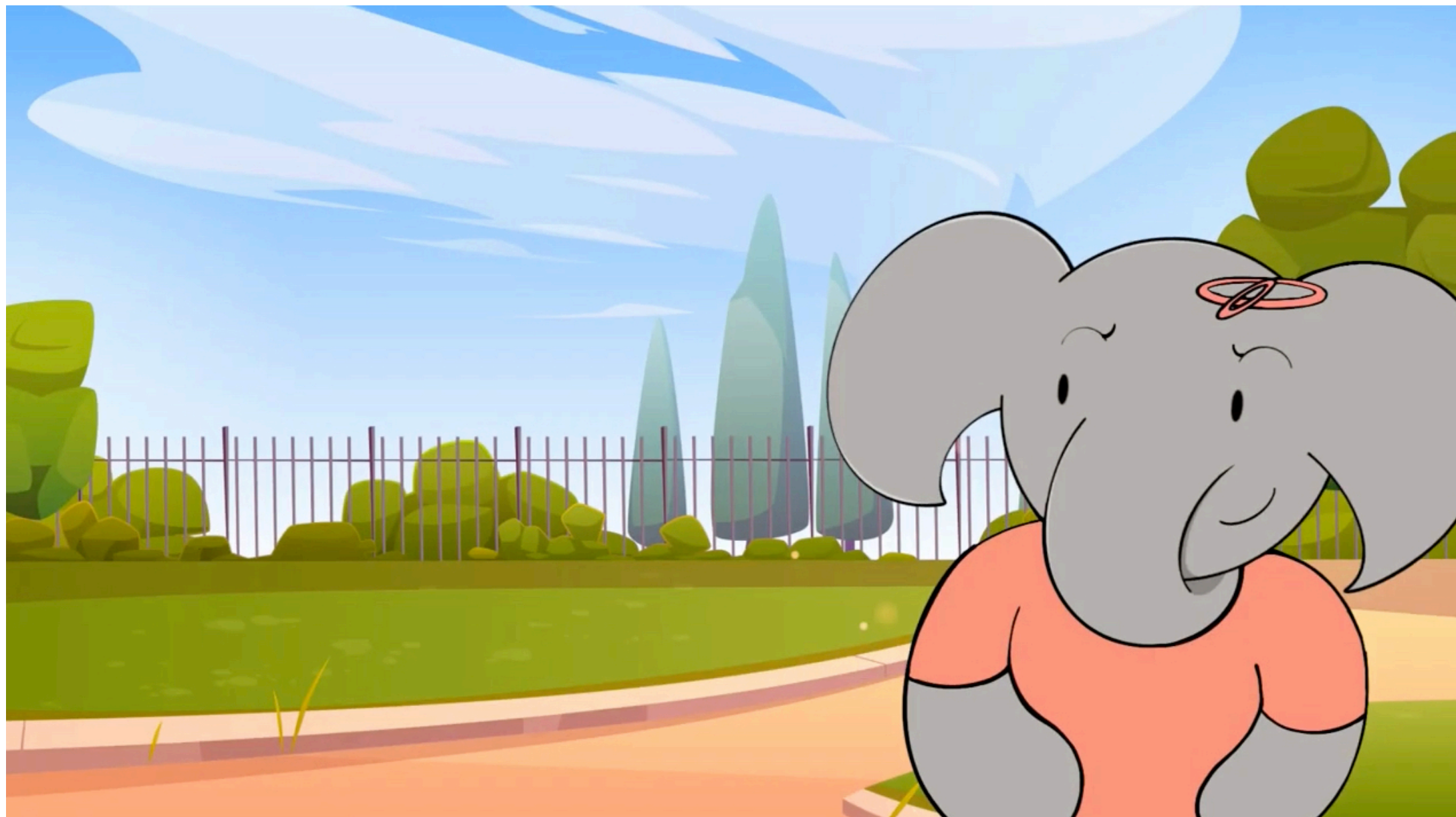
“We are often many sizes bigger than the animals we’re trying to pet. When they don’t know us their first instinct is to get us away and defend themselves.”



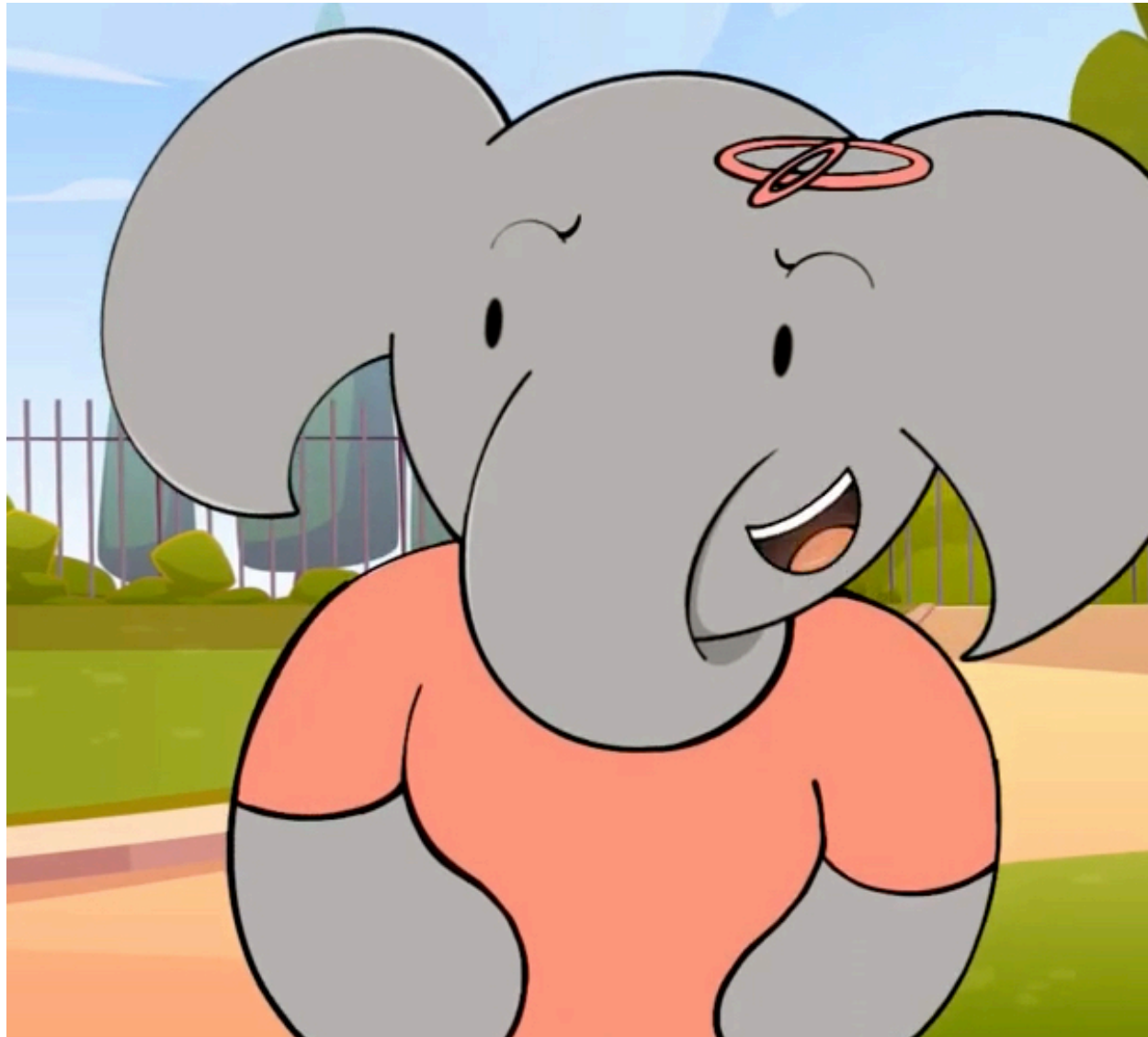
“This is why it’s better to stay away from unknown animals. Whether they are with their owners or not.”



“It’s natural to want to pet dogs because they are so cute and little,” Rowan states. “Do you remember what happened to Grandma Rowena?”



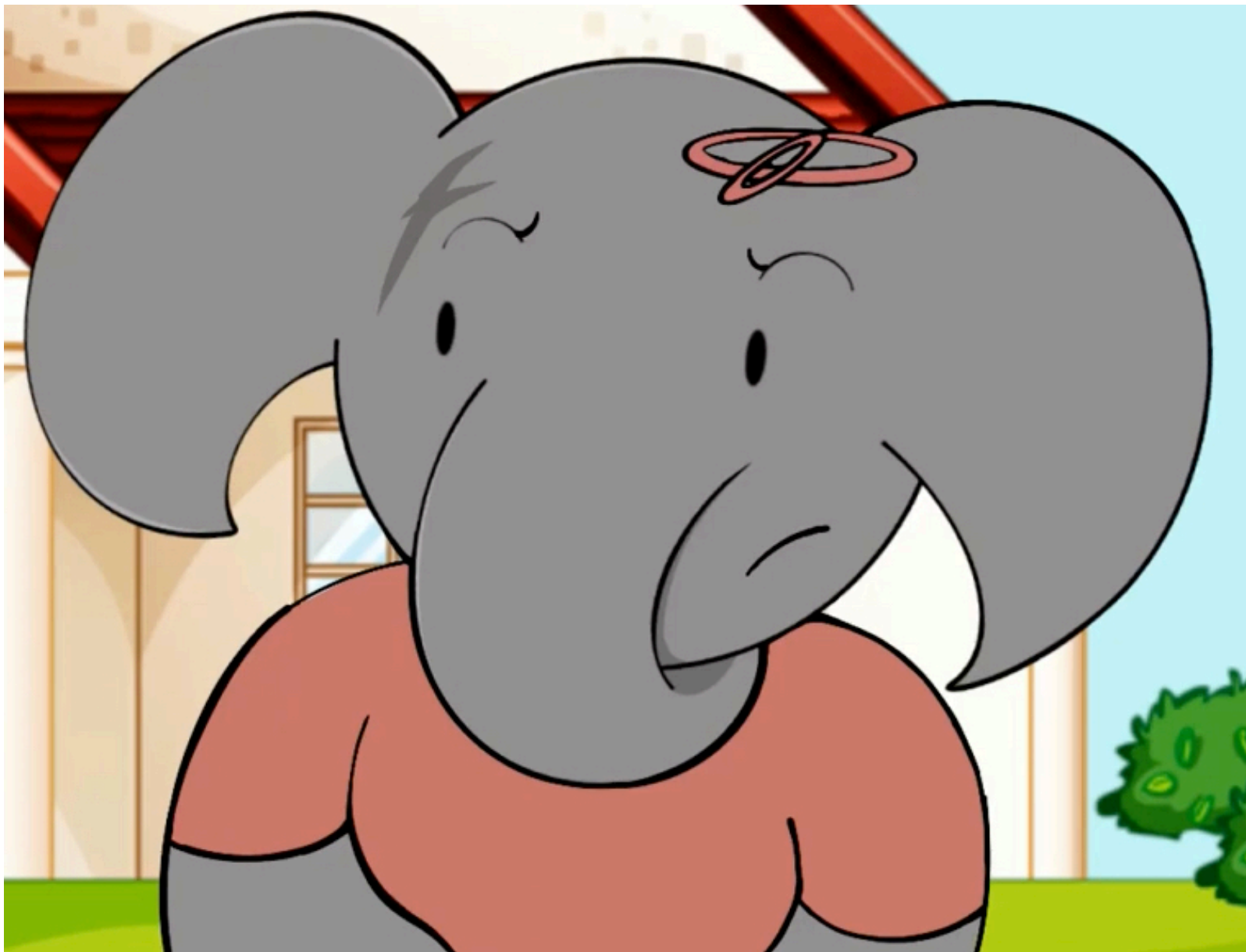
One day she was walking down the street and saw a small dog.



“Oh you’re cute!” Grandma Rowena said.



“When she went to pet it,” Rowan continued. “The dog got scared and it lunged forward and bit her in the face!”



“From that day forward, our grandma had a scar on her face, and she still has that scar to this day.”



“As excited as we get to see a new dog, we should NEVER approach it. After all, we don’t know anything about the dog. It could be sick and have a disease that it could pass on if it bites us.”



“It’s always better to stay away from a dog you don’t know, whether it’s loose or not. Tell your parents or a trusted adult and they can help you and even call Animal Control if necessary. Never approach a dog you don’t know.”



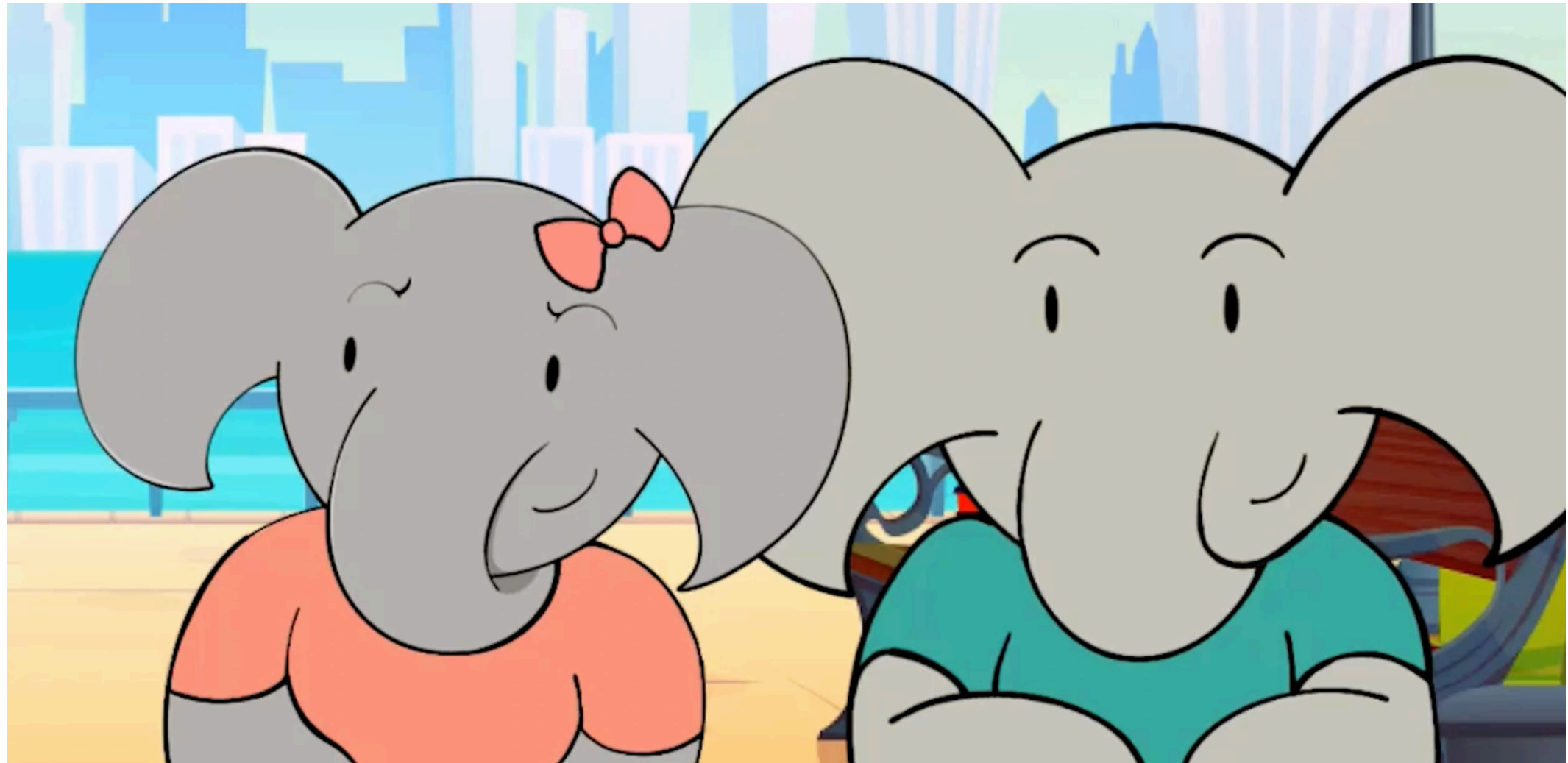
“Oh wow,” Isa says later when they see another dog. “What a cute, little puppy!”



“You can pet her if you like,” Mr. Hippo says. “She won’t bite.”



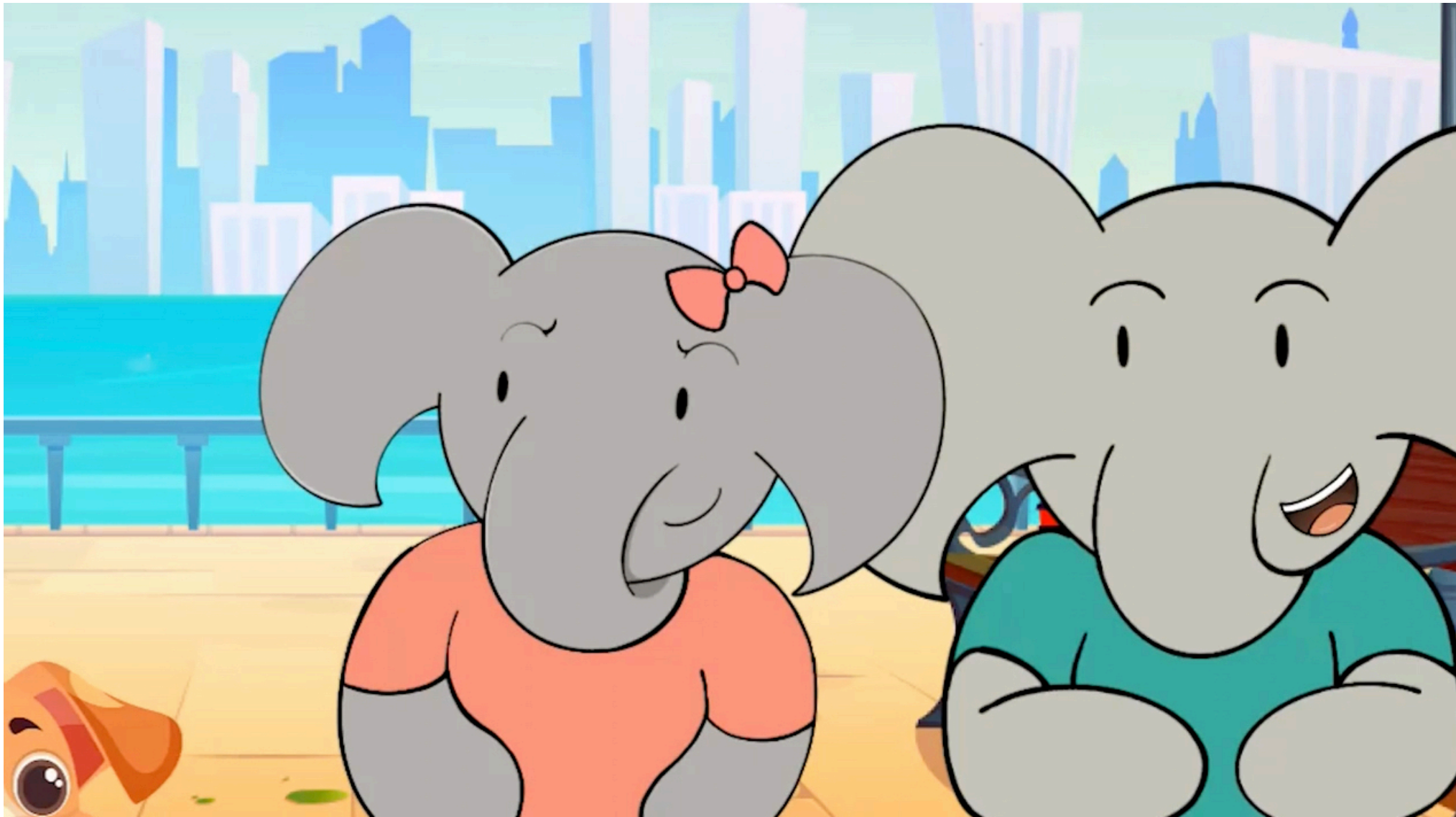
Meanwhile the cute little puppy
continues to bark.



As much as Isa wants to pet the dog, she remembers her big brother Rowan's good advice.



“I think I’m okay admiring her from afar.”
Isa states.



“Great job, Isa!” Rowan exclaims.



“Thanks Rowan,” she says. “With animals you don’t know, it’s always better to be safe than sorry.”

WH Questions?

- 1) Who almost got bit at the start of the story?
- 2) Should we approach dogs we don't know?
- 3) How do we know Isa learned something at the end of this story?



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1-855-581-0100



