

ELMO'S WORLD

"VEGETABLES"

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ELMO'S WORLD

"VEGETABLES"

INT. ELMO'S WORLD

ELMO stands in the center of his room.

ELMO

Oh, hello! This is Elmo's World!  
And Elmo's so happy to see you. So  
is Dorothy. Say hello, Dorothy.

DOROTHY swims past.

ELMO (CONT'D)

Guess what Elmo's thinking about  
today? Ya-ta-ta-da!

A <RAT-A-TAT> on the door interrupts him.

He walks over and opens it. In comes a group of vegetables,  
with COLONEL CORN, a military ear of corn, in the lead.

COLONEL CORN

(British)

Mind yourself there, chap!

Elmo steps aside.

ELMO

Wow! Corn! Oh, look!

Colonel Corn is followed by COLLIN FLOWER, ARTY CHOKE, and  
TOM ATO, who each greet Elmo as they pass by.

COLLIN FLOWER

Hello.

ARTY CHOKE

How's it goin'?

TOM ATO

'Tsup, little buddy?

Last of all comes SOUTHERN BELLE PEPPER, a green pepper blonde  
with a string of pearls around her...neck.

SOUTHERN BELLE PEPPER

(Southern)

Hello, young man.

ELMO

Elmo's a monster.

## SOUTHERN BELLE PEPPER

I declare!

She moves past.

ELMO

Have you guessed yet? Corn,  
cauliflower, artichoke, tomato...  
Vegetables! Elmo's thinking about  
vegetables. Vegetables are food  
from plants that grow on the ground.  
Vegetables!

CRAYON WIPE TO:

MONTAGE

Children eating vegetables;

Washing and cooking vegetables;

Tending or picking vegetables in a garden;

Shopping for vegetables; etc.

CRAYON WIPE TO:

INT. ELMO'S WORLD

Dorothy swims around a ceramic pumpkin. Elmo holds a stalk  
of celery.

ELMO

Dorothy's been thinking about  
vegetables too, haven't you, Dorothy?

He puts his ear to the tank.

ELMO (CONT'D)

What's that? Uh-huh. Uh-huh.

He stands up.

ELMO (CONT'D)

Dorothy says that vegetables grow  
all over the world in all different  
shapes and sizes. Wow, Dorothy,  
that's right! What a gal.

Back to the tank, he listens again briefly.

ELMO (CONT'D)

Dorothy has a question.

(MORE)

ELMO (CONT'D)  
 Dorothy wants to know how do you  
 grow a vegetable. Let's ask Mr.  
 Noodle! Oh, Mr. Noodle!

Elmo walks to the window, where the SHADE is down.

ELMO (CONT'D)  
 Hi, Shade! Can you go up, please?

It shoots open. MR. NOODLE is rubbing his nose.

ELMO (CONT'D)  
 Thank you! It's Mr. Noodle. Hi,  
 Mr. Noodle.

Mr. Noodle waves.

INT. MR. NOODLE'S ROOM

Next to Mr. Noodle lies a large planter box full of dirt.

ELMO (O.S.)  
 Mr. Noodle, Dorothy asks: How do you  
 grow a vegetable?

Mr. Noodle seems to know. He searches in his pocket and  
 eventually removes...a banana.

CHILDREN (O.S.)  
 No, that's a banana! A banana's a  
 fruit.

Mr. Noodle tosses it aside and reaches in again, this time  
 revealing...a cucumber!

CHILDREN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
 A cucumber! That's a vegetable!  
 Good job, Mr. Noodle. But a cucumber  
 can't grow in your pocket.

Mr. Noodle looks perplexed.

CHILDREN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
 No, a cucumber grows in a garden. A  
 garden, Mr. Noodle.

Mr. Noodle looks around then hunkers down to peer between  
 his legs.

CHILDREN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
 There's one! There's a garden, Mr.  
 Noodle. Right behind you!

Mr. Noodle turns and examines the garden.

CHILDREN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Yeah, that's it. Now plant something.

He takes the cucumber and tries to shove it into the ground, eventually sitting on top of it to push it in.

CHILDREN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
No, not that way! No, Mr. Noodle.  
You don't plant the whole thing.  
You plant a seed.

He looks up.

CHILDREN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
A seed, Mr. Noodle.

Mr. Noodle stands, reaches deep into his pocket, and produces...a cucumber seed.

CHILDREN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
That's it, Mr. Noodle! Good job.  
Now plant it in the ground. Plant  
it!

Mr. Noodle reaches down, makes a hole with his finger, and plants the seed in the ground.

CHILDREN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Yayyy! Good job, Mr. Noodle. Way  
to go. Now you have to take care of  
it. Take care of the seed, Mr.  
Noodle.

He points at the seed in the ground then seems to understand. Self-satisfied, he turns and sits on the seed to keep it warm.

CHILDREN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
No! It's not an egg, Mr. Noodle.  
It's a seed! You don't sit on seeds--  
you give them sunlight and water.

Mr. Noodle stands and opens his arms wide to let the sunlight come through.

CHILDREN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Yay, sunlight, yeah. Now you're  
doing it, Mr. Noodle.

He puts his hands in his pockets, pleased.

CHILDREN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Now give it water. Seeds need water  
to grow. Give it some water.

He looks around again and sees a hose curled on the ground.

CHILDREN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Use the hose! The hose!

He steps inside the hose's curl and tries to pick it up. It gets caught around his leg and, trying to extricate himself, he gets more and more entangled.

CHILDREN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Not that way! Oh no! Look out, Mr.  
Noodle! Go the other way--the other  
way!

Mr. Noodle understands and soon gets out of the hose, carefully removing his leg. He walks over to the garden box and points the hose at the ground. Nothing happens.

CHILDREN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Turn it on! Turn the water on, Mr.  
Noodle, the water!

Perplexed, Mr. Noodle scratches his head. He looks under the hose and all around trying to find the switch. Then he looks directly in the nozzle.

CHILDREN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
No, Mr. Noodle!! Look out!!

It's too late. A blast of water sprays Mr. Noodle's face.

CHILDREN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Aaaah!! Oh no!! Mr. Noodle!! Are  
you all right?

Mr. Noodle stumbles backwards, pointing the hose in the air. Water rains down on him. It also comes down on the garden, watering the seed.

CHILDREN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Look, Mr. Noodle, you're doing it!  
You're watering the garden!

He's amazed.

CHILDREN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Yes, you're doing it! You're watering  
the vegetable!

Mr. Noodle realizes what's going on and puffs up with pride, wet face notwithstanding.

ELMO (O.S.)  
Very good, Mr. Noodle. That's how  
you grow a vegetable.

INT. ELMO'S WORLD

ELMO

Thanks, Mr. Noodle! Thanks, Shade.

Mr. Noodle waves and Shade draws down. Elmo turns and walks over to Dorothy.

ELMO (CONT'D)

And now Dorothy wants to ask someone else. How do you grow a vegetable?

CRAYON WIPE TO:

INT. DOROTHY'S ROOM

A CHILD is standing next to Dorothy's cage with a small planter, a shovel, a watering can, and a bean. The child demonstrates the following actions while describing them.

CHILD

Dorothy, this is how I plant a vegetable seed. I find a spot in a garden or a box like this, then I dig a little hole like this, then I put the seed inside and gently cover it up, like this. I put it in the sunshine and give it lots of water, like this.

We pull back to see a SECOND CHILD with a planter with a full-grown bean plant.

SECOND CHILD

And then, after a long time, the plant grows up and makes vegetables, like these beans. And that's how you grow a vegetable, Dorothy.

INT. ELMO'S WORLD

ELMO

Wow, thank you, kids. And now, Elmo will ask a baby.

He walks over to a BABY, which is holding a toy shovel.

ELMO (CONT'D)

Hi, baby. Hello. How do you grow a vegetable?

(Beat)

Ha, ha, ha, ha. Thank you, baby.

He walks away.

WIPE TO:

INT. ELMO'S WORLD

Elmo gnaws on a large carrot.

ELMO

Mmmm, Elmo just loves carrots. Mmmm.

He chews a bit more.

ELMO (CONT'D)

Now, Elmo has a question for...doo-  
doo, doo-doo...you! Yes, you! How  
many peas do you see in this pea  
pod? Let's count them.

A cartoon pea pod moves into the frame in front of Elmo. It  
opens little by little, revealing small smiley-faced peas.

ELMO AND CHILDREN

One...two...three...four...five...  
six...seven. Seven peas!

The peas pop out and bounce out of the frame while Elmo dodges  
them.

ELMO

Jumping jellybeans, those peas sure  
are bouncy. Must be a little tight  
in there. Good counting, everybody.

The pod scoots away too. Elmo walks to one side.

ELMO (CONT'D)

But Elmo still wonders, who--besides  
Elmo--eats vegetables?

The DRAWER grows up like a plant out of the ground and emits  
a steady <CRUNCHING> sound.

ELMO (CONT'D)

Oh. It sounds like somebody's eating  
vegetables inside Drawer right now.  
Is anybody eating vegetables in  
theeeeeere?!

Drawer springs open, pushing Elmo off screen. A letter flies  
out of the drawer and fills the screen.

## MONTAGE

There is the picture of a tree; when Elmo speaks, a head of lettuce appears in front of it.

ELMO (O.S.)  
Does a tree eat vegetables?

CHILDREN (O.S.)  
No.

A person with a plate of salad appears, sitting under a tree.

ELMO (O.S.)  
But you can eat a vegetable under a tree.

A glass of water appears; when Elmo speaks a bunch of green beans appears.

ELMO (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Can a glass of water eat vegetables?

CHILDREN (O.S.)  
No.

A person with a plate of beans and a glass of water appears.

ELMO (O.S.)  
No, but you can drink a glass of water while you eat vegetables.

A robin appears; when Elmo speaks a head of broccoli appears.

ELMO (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Does a bird eat vegetables?

CHILDREN (V.O.)  
No.

EXT. SESAME STREET - DAY

BIG BIRD is holding a head of broccoli.

ELMO (O.S.)  
He does if he is Big Bird.

Big Bird takes a bite of broccoli.

BIG BIRD  
Oh, I just love nice fresh vegetables,  
don't you? They're so delicious.

He walks away, chewing.

INT. ELMO'S WORLD

The letter goes back inside the Drawer, which closes. Elmo walks back into frame.

ELMO  
Thanks, Drawer. And now...

The COMPUTER leaps into the frame.

COMPUTER  
Elmo's got mail! Elmo's got mail!  
Elmo's got mail!

ELMO  
Oh, Elmo got an e-mail. Let's see.

He reaches for the mouse.

ELMO (CONT'D)  
Hey, a mouse can eat vegetables too!

He clicks on the mouse and a picture of COOKIE MONSTER appears on the monitor.

ELMO (CONT'D)  
Oh look! Elmo's friend Cookie Monster sent Elmo e-mail.

He clicks on the mouse again.

COOKIE MONSTER  
Hi, Elmo! Me Cookie Monster!

E-MAIL MESSAGE

COOKIE MONSTER  
Me write you an e-mail, Elmo, to tell you all about that yummiest of all foods--VEGETABLES!

Cookie Monster throws several vegetables in the air.

COOKIE MONSTER (CONT'D)  
Now, me know, me know. Me *Cookie* Monster. Me not *Vegetable* Monster. Me like cookies. And me still like cookies, Elmo--cookies are good for dessert sometime--but vegetables... ahhh...

He holds up an entire stalk of celery for emphasis.

COOKIE MONSTER (CONT'D)

Vegetables are just as yummy as a cookie and healthy too, with vitamins, to make a monster grow up strong and big.

(sad)

So me love cookies... and me love vegetables... But cannot eat both. And then...

(brightening up)

Me have brilliant idea. Me make...

He reaches below the frame and comes up to reveal his stalk of celery squeezed between two chocolate chip cookies.

COOKIE MONSTER (CONT'D)

VEGETABLE COOKIE SANDWICH!! Me love it! Yum, yum, yum, yum, yum!

He devours the sandwich while the e-mail's time runs out.

INT. ELMO'S WORLD

Cookie Monster's picture goes back inside the envelope on the monitor and the Computer hops off.

ELMO

Wow, that's some sandwich. Thanks for the e-mail, Computer! Elmo's friend "McKay" knows a lot about vegetables too. She went to the market with her mom and told Elmo all about it.

CRAYON WIPE TO:

INT. NEW YORK CITY APARTMENT - DAY

A nine-year-old GIRL named "McKay" (real name to be substituted) puts on her jacket with her MOTHER.

MCKAY (V.O.)

The farmers' market was open in the fall when it's cool outside because that's when most the fruits and vegetables are harvested.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY STREET - DAY

McKay and her Mother walk down the street.

MCKAY (V.O.)

All the farmers from all around the state brought the food they grew so that we could buy it.

EXT. UNION SQUARE - DAY

They arrive at the Union Square Farmers' Market, and survey the entire scene. McKay's actions parallel her narration.

MCKAY (V.O.)

The market was like a big fair. All of the farmers worked together. There were lots of booths and each one was selling something different. There were more kinds of fruits and vegetables than I'd ever seen before. There were all different kinds of apples and pears, peaches and apricots. And there were hundreds of vegetables, like celery, asparagus, spinach, okra, eggplants, pumpkins, squash, potatoes, and yams. The farmers explained the differences between the different types of potatoes to us. I never knew there were so many different kinds of corn. They weighed it and put it in a bag, and we even got to shuck it ourselves. After we bought all our fruits and vegetables we had a special treat: homemade potato doughnuts and fresh apple cider. Yum!

McKay plays on the playground.

MCKAY (V.O.) (CONT'D)

What a great day.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY STREET - DAY

McKay and her Mother walk away with their bags.

MCKAY (V.O.)

I want to come back to the farmers' market every year.

CRAYON WIPE TO:

INT. ELMO'S WORLD

Elmo's hands are full of vegetables.

ELMO

Wow, there are so many different kinds of vegetables. Elmo wonders where he can learn more about them.

The TELEVISION grows up out of the floor.

ELMO (CONT'D)

Oh, yeah! He can watch the Vegetable Channel. Thanks, Television! Turn yourself on.

The Television nods and turns itself on.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

It's the Vegetable Channel: all vegetables, all the time.

TITLE: THE VEGGIE CHRONICLES

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

And now, Parker Parsnip in "The Veggie Chronicles."

EXT. FIELD (ANIMATED) - DAY

PARKER PARSNIP, woman in a pith helmet, stands in the middle of a field of grass.

PARKER

Vegetables have been around a really, really long time. Way back when vegetables were new they looked a lot different from today.

A giant vegetable appears in the field behind her.

PARKER (CONT'D)

And the folks who ate them looked a little different too.

A DINOSAUR jumps up and bites into the vegetable.

DINOSAUR

Mmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmm. <CRUNCH, CRUNCH>

A group of CAVEMEN with spears runs up.

DINOSAUR (CONT'D)

<YELP!>

The Dinosaur runs away. The Cavemen stop and dig into the vegetable.

PARKER

Vegetables were some of the first things people ever ate.

CAVEMEN

Mmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmm. <CRUNCH, CRUNCH>

PARKER

And they've just kept on eating...

EXT. AGORA (ANIMATED) - DAY

Parker stands next to a group of ancient GREEKS in togas, munching away at various vegetables.

PARKER

...And eating...

INT. MEDIEVAL CASTLE (ANIMATED) - DAY

Parker stands next to a MAN kneeling to be knighted. The KING is attempting the business with a long asparagus stock, while the QUEEN chows down on various veggies.

PARKER

...And eating...

EXT. PLYMOUTH COLONY (ANIMATED) - DAY

Parker stands next to the assembled PILGRIMS and NATIVE AMERICANS gathered for the first Thanksgiving, chowing down on pumpkins, corn, and other vegetables.

PARKER

...And eating.

EXT. FIELD (ANIMATED) - DAY

Parker stands to the side of a lone CAVEMAN sitting on a rock, staring at the ground.

PARKER

But they found that to eat the stuff they had to grow it first, so they invented agriculture: farming and gardening and things. Vegetables don't grow on trees, after all.

As Parker describes the subsequent inventions, they each appear, quickly expanding into vast farms, cities, railroads, and highways.

PARKER (CONT'D)

They invented shovels for digging, buckets for carrying water, canals, aqueducts, tillers, and threshers. From Eli Whitney's cotton gin all the way up to the little doohickey that puts stickers on apples, agriculture changed the world.

(MORE)

PARKER (CONT'D)

And today all the food we eat comes  
from farms and gardens, sent across  
the globe for folks like us to eat.  
That makes me feel like singin'!

Parker jumps out of frame

EXT. BARN (ANIMATED) - DAY

She lands in a pile of vegetables in front of a barn and  
starts holding them up and eating while singing.

PARKER

(sings)

*Dig, dig, crunch--do the vegetable  
bop!*

*Sun, sun, munch--I like to do it a  
lot!*

*With a munch and a crunch I can eat  
a bunch for lunch!*

*'Cause when it's time to crunch I do  
the vegetable bop!*

(spoken, mouth full)

Mmmmmmmmmmmmmmm. <CRUNCH, CRUNCH>

Until next time, I'm Parker Parsnip!

Happy eating! <CRUNCH>

TITLE: A SPINNING GLOBE WITH FLYING VEGETABLES

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Coming up next on the Vegetable  
Channel: "A Bean Grows in Brooklyn,"  
followed by "A Separate Peas" and  
"For Whom the Bell Pepper Tolls."

INT. ELMO'S WORLD

The Television stops playing and hops away.

ELMO

Thanks, Television. Thank you!

Wow. Elmo wants to learn more about  
vegetables.

A sound of a <DRUM SET>--brushes on a high hat--begins.

ELMO (CONT'D)

Huh? What's that?

Elmo walks to the door and opens it. Outside stands a BEET  
POET: a red beet with a French beret, sunglasses, and a  
goatee.

ELMO (CONT'D)

Oh, hi. Who are you?

The Beet Poet comes inside, the door closing behind him.

BEEET POET

I'm a Beet Poet, cat, ya dig?

ELMO

Oh, you're a vegetable! Elmo is learning all about vegetables.

All of the other vegetables return.

ELMO (CONT'D)

And who are these?

BEEET POET

More vegetables, daddy-o. This here's Colonel Corn.

Colonel Corn bows stiffly.

COLONEL CORN

I say, good day, chap.

ELMO

Hello.

BEEET POET

And Collin Flour.

COLLIN FLOWER

Hi there.

ELMO

Hi.

BEEET POET

And Tom Ato.

TOM ATO

How's it goin'?

ELMO

Hiya.

BEEET POET

And Arty Choke.

ARTY CHOKE

'Tsup?

ELMO

Hi.

Southern Belle Pepper comes forward, clearing her throat.

SOUTHERN BELLE PEPPER

<AHM>

BEET POET

And allow me to introduce Southern Belle Pepper.

SOUTHERN BELLE PEPPER

I have always relied on the spices of strangers.

ELMO

Oh, Mr. Beet Poet, Mr. Beet Poet, Elmo has a question. How many vegetables should Elmo eat every day?

BEET POET

I'll tell ya in a poem. Listen good: I hope you dig my poem just like you can dig a tater, 'Cause if you don't pay attention then I won't repeat it later. Everyday as you grow up I'll tell you just what to do: Be sure to eat your vegetables, about a cup or two.

ELMO

Oh, one or two cups!

BEET POET

That's right--eat yummy vegetables, 'cause you can never beat 'em. And plus there are so many ways that you can choose to eat 'em.

Elmo points off screen.

ELMO

Oh, look! Dorothy is imagining some different ways that Elmo can eat vegetables right now!

A thought bubble appears above Dorothy's head and grows to fill the screen.

EXT. MOUNTAIN TOP - DAY

Elmo, bundled in a heavy coat, sits atop the peak eating a dishful of creamed corn.

ELMO (V.O.)

Dorothy is imagining Elmo eating  
creamed corn on top of a mountain.  
That looks nice and warm. Mmmm.

EXT. MARATHON - DAY

Elmo in track gear runs down the street, munching on a carrot.

ELMO (V.O.)

Oh, and now Elmo is running in a  
race, getting extra energy from that  
yummy carrot. How handy!

BEEET POET (V.O.)

Yeah man, vegetables can go anywhere  
and help you do anything.

A crowd <CHEERS> as Elmo crosses the finish line.

INT. ELMO'S WORLD

The thought bubble shrinks back above Dorothy's head and  
disappears. Everyone is now gathered around the piano.

BEEET POET

So who wants some veggies?

The others all cheer and talk at once:

TOM ATO

I'd love some spinach.

COLLIN FLOWER

I hope some will turnip soon.

ARTY CHOKE

Could I peas have some peas?

SOUTHERN BELLE PEPPER

Does anyone have a sweet potata?

COLONEL CORN

Frankly, my dear, I don't have a  
yam.

ELMO

Dorothy wants us to sing "The  
Vegetable Song" because Dorothy loves  
vegetables. So does Elmo. Here we  
go!

He plays the piano as they all sing.

ALL

(sing)  
*Vegetables, vegetables, veggie  
 vegetables.  
 Vegetables, ve-vegetables, veggie  
 vegetables.*

INT. MR. NOODLE'S ROOM

Mr. Noodle dances along with his flowing hose and cucumber.

INT. ELMO'S WORLD

ALL

(sing)  
*Vegetables, vegetables, veggie  
 vegetables.  
 Vegetables, ve-vegetables, veggie  
 vegetables!*

Elmo stops playing as the music switches to his THEME SONG.

ELMO

Say goodbye, Dorothy!

Dorothy swims past.

ELMO (CONT'D)

Say goodbye, vegetables.

ALL

Goodbye!

Elmo starts to dance.

ELMO

(sings)  
*Doo doo doo-doo. Doo doo doo-doo.  
 Dah dah doo wah dah, doo doo wah  
 dah.*

ALL

(sing)  
*That's Elmo's World!*

IRIS OUT. THE END