THE BIG FEELINGS EXPLORERS
Episode 27
“Cookie is Excited!”

Written by

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Theme: FOOD
Guest: COOKIE
Emotion: EXCITED
Strategy: COUNT TO 5

First Draft - December 2, 2020

EXT. PLAYHOUSE - DAY

JAD
(to camera)
Hi everyone! We're throwing a pretend mango picnic for our friend Ma'Zooza today.

BASMA
(showing the blanket and decorations behind her)
She *loves* mangoes, and we love her! We're almost ready...Jad, want to go get Ma'Zooza?

JAD
Yeah!

Jad walks off-screen.

BASMA
Only one more mango left to make! What should it be? Hmm! Oh! I can color these mangoes on paper here--

Basma starts to color but then spots some cardboard.

BASMA (CONT'D)
Or wait! I can fold the cardboard like this here--

Begins to half-fold and then sees some yarn.

BASMA (CONT'D)
Wow!! Or I can make mangoes out of yarn!!

She begins to glue some of the yarn together.

BASMA (CONT'D)
Ooooh or what if I used everything together! For the BEST, BIGGEST, MOST COLORFUL mango ever!!!

Basma runs around back and forth between the stations not quite completing anything, but creating a huge gloopy mess. Jad and Ma'Zooza arrive and peer cautiously at the edge of the screen. They trepidatiously walk into the scene.

JAD
Uh, hi, Basma! Look who I have here!

MA'ZOOZA
Mehh--

BASMA
(interrupting)
Ma'zooza!!! Loook!!

She practically throws the mess at her in her frenzy to show her everything

BASMA (CONT'D)
(so fast it's hard to make out dialogue)
You're a great friend and we wanted to show you how much we care about you and we know you care about mangoes so we made you pretend mangoes for a real picnic and--

Chicken (OS)
BA-GAWK!

Basma looks as if she's snapped out of a daze.

BASMA
Oh..oops...I didn't finish making any of the mangos...but ah!

JAD / BASMA
(to each other)
The Big Feelings Alert!

Chicken comes rushing out of the bushes and ZOOMS through frame--

CHICKEN
Bak-bak bak-bak-baaaa-

--then back in, SCREECHING to a halt, panting.

CHICKEN
BA-GAWK!

JAD
(to camera)
Chicken says one of our friends is…

BASMA
...Having a BIG feeling!

JAD
We need to help!

BASMA
We'll be right back, Ma'Zooza! Please enjoy your play picnic in the meantime.

MA'ZOOZA
Mehhhh!

Basma, Jad, and Chicken sing the BIG FEELING SONG. They run into their Playhouse to the GIANT TELESCOPE on top.

JAD/BASMA

Our friend might be sad,
Our friend might be frustrated!
Our friend might be angry or nervous or afraid!
Our friend might feel jealous or determined or excited!
Whatever Big Feeling our friend is feeling, we're here to see what our friend needs!

CHICKEN
BA-GAWK!

Jad humorously tries to swivel to find their friend, only to realize that he's pointing it almost right next door at the Play Theater. He holds the telescope eyepiece to us and the camera pushes in. WE SEE an excited looking COOKIE MONSTER through the telescope.

JAD (V.O.)
It's our friend Cookie Monster! Looks like he's definitely having a Big Feeling.

BACK TO Basma and Jad.

BASMA
(to camera)
Cookie Monster is bouncing up and down like this.
(bounces)
And he's smiling at his friend Elephant like this.
(imitates smile)
And he's saying--

ANGLE through telescope. Cookie Monster is gesticulating wildly at Elephant.

COOKIE MONSTER
(sounds like gibberish)

BACK to Basma and Jad.

BASMA
Woah! He's speaking too quickly for me to understand.

JAD
Let's go find out what he's saying!
(to camera)
C'mon!

Basma and Jad humorously walk in a dramatic slow motion right next door.

BASMA/JAD (REPRISE)
Whatever Big Feeling our friend is feeling, we're here to help see what our friend needs!
Chicken follows right behind, racing through the scene and leaving a feather or two behind her.

X-DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. PLAY THEATER / PLAY AREA - CONTINUOUS

When Basma and Jad arrive, COOKIE MONSTER and Elephant are on stage, preparing for a play. Zoe and Turtle are in the audience, watching. Basma and Jad sit in the audience.

ELEPHANT
Oh no! It's the case of the missing cookie!

Cookie Monster seems to be in his own world, happily clutching a large cardboard cookie.

COOKIE MONSTER
Me find the cookie!

ELEPHANT
Cookie, remember? If you already find the cookie, our play is over! You have to say the *next* line.
Let's try again--Oh no! It's the case of the missing cookie.

COOKIE MONSTER
(to himself, bouncing)
Me find the cookie! Me find the cookie! Me find it!!

JAD
Wow, Cookie, looks like you're having a Big Feeling!

Chicken pulls out a big tome of chicken scratch under her wing, opens it, and flips to a page. She starts reading.

CHICKEN
(reading)
Ba-gawk! Bak-bak…

JAD
(translating)
Chicken says, when you feel great about something wonderful--

CHICKEN
...bak-bak-bak-bok…

BASMA
(translating)
--sometimes, you speak too fast or can't speak at all. And you feel so, so happy.

CHICKEN
...bak-bak-baak. Pe-kaaw!

JAD
(translating)
When you feel bouncy or it's hard to stay still, that's called being "excited."

BASMA
Ohh! Cookie, you must feel the same way I felt.

THOUGHT BUBBLE EXPANDS to show Basma looking excited as she dashes from craft to craft.

BASMA (V.O.)
I was so excited to throw a pretend picnic for Ma'Zooza! I kept moving from thing to thing and thinking and talking so fast...

The thought bubble POPS.

COOKIE MONSTER
(excitedly)
Yes!! Cookie feel fast! And bouncy!

Chicken offers up a helpful explaining wing.

CHICKEN
Bawk bawk-bawk-bawk-bawk. Pekaw!

JAD
Chicken's right. We all feel excited sometimes, and excitement is fun!
But sometimes we need to calm down a little in order to focus.

COOKIE MONSTER
Me not calm...! Me find a cookie!

BASMA
I know how we can calm down! We can all Count to 5.

JAD
Great idea, Basma!
(to camera)
Come on!

Basma demonstrates. She takes an audible deep breath in and releases it.

BASMA
Now let's count from one to five, everybody!

TURTLE
Oooh I love counting!!! I can start!

Camera PANS from Turtle to Basma to Jad to Elephant to Cookie as they count.

TURTLE (CONT'D)
One...

BASMA
...two…

JAD
...three…

ELEPHANT
...four...

COOKIE
...five!

ALL
Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh...

COOKIE
Oooh. Cookie ready for the play, Elephant!
(pause)
Uh-oh. Me got so excited that me bite the cookie prop...

Cookie Monster puts down his cookie prop.

ELEPHANT
(laughs)
Oh no! It's the case of the missing *half-eaten* cookie!

COOKIE MONSTER
Worry not! Me on the case!

ALL
You did it, Cookie! / Yeahh! / Great job!

X DISSOLVE to Jad, Basma, Ma'Zooza, Zoe, and Turtle on their pretend picnic in front of the play stage. There is a new bowl of sliced mangos.

BASMA
Wow Ma'Zooza!! You brought *real* mangoes!!

She bounces up and isn't paying attention to the theater anymore.

BASMA (CONT'D)
Oh! I want to hear the rest of the play but I'm *so excited!!* I should count to 5.
(inhales deeply)
1...2...3...4...5.

Basma takes a deep sigh and sits back down. Everyone focuses on the stage.

COOKIE
(victoriously)
Me find the Cookie!

The audience applauds and cheers as the play ends.