

A Modest Man

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. Ben Franklin _____.

- A went to college
- B had to work at a young age
- C had a wealthy father

2. Ben's brother taught him to _____.

- A read and write
- B be a printer
- C write for a newspaper

3. Do you think Ben made the right choice when he ran away?
Give your reasons.

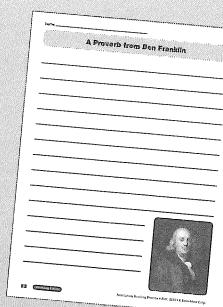
4. Besides his work as a printer, what other things did Franklin accomplish?

5. Ben taught himself by reading a lot. Do you think that fact may have led him to print *Poor Richard's Almanack* for other people? Explain.

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

The noblest question in the world is, "What good can I do in it?" How does this proverb apply to Franklin's life?



Elephants Live Together

Level 1

Words to Know list, Reading Selection, and Reading Comprehension questions

Elephant Families

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence.

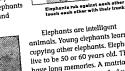
Elephant Families

Adorable elephants live together in a herd. They all take care of each other. The leader of the herd is an old mother elephant called the matriarch. The other elephants are one-sisters, aunts, cousins, and babies. They travel together because it keeps the family from danger. Adult male elephants go off to live on their own and start families.



Elephants Are Intelligent

Elephants are intelligent animals. Young elephants learn by copying other elephants. They like to play with sticks and stones. They have long memories. A matriarch can remember where her herd will find water again. The herd will follow her there. She can also remember the names of her friends and the place she was born.



Elephants Get Along

Elephants get along so well with each other with low rumbling sounds. Some rumbles sounds are so deep that people cannot hear them. Elephants have to feel the rumbles in their feet if they want to greet each other by touch. They also hit their trunks and feet. If danger approaches, they may run to call their herd. The herd elephants circle around the belligerent elephant.



Elephants Are Social

Other animals do not understand elephants. But a lion might try to attack a herd or a baby. If this happens, the deepest and most powerful rumbles sound. They also hit their trunks and feet. The members pack themselves around the herd. The flaps ears out wide. This makes the ears look even larger. Then the lower head and changes the sound in a big cloud of dust.

Elephants Live Together

Want to Know
Elephant Families

African
mustache
male
intelligent
memories
dry spell
rumbling
approaches
attack
trumping

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Elephants Live Together

Level 2 ■ ■

Words to Know list, Reading Selection, and Reading Comprehension questions

An Elephant Herd

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence.

An Elephant Herd

African elephants travel in herds. All of the elephants in the herd take care of each other. The largest male elephant is the matriarch. She is the mother. The other elephants in the herd learn from her how to defend the group. Elephants go off to live on their own and start families.

Elephants are intelligent animals with long memories. They learn from their parents and from living a long time. Elephants can live 50 or 60 years old. A mother elephant will move somewhere to find water if it is dry. Her herd will follow her. She can also even remember where she used to come across a watering hole.

Elephants talk to each other by making sounds. Some rumbling sounds are made when a person's ear cannot hear them. Other sounds are made when the herd stops. The adult mothers keep their ears to one side so they can hear the sounds. The adult elephants circle around the young elephants to keep them safe. They help the young ones with their mothers as they grow. At ten years old, the young ones usually outrun elephants. However, a lion might try to catch a sick elephant or a baby. If this happens, the elephants make trumpeting sounds and charge at the lion with their trunks. The mustache pads on the trunks between the lion and the herd's trunks. She runs her ears close to her trunk so even longer than the others. She charges the enemy in a big cloud of dust.

The herd follows the matriarch.

Words to Know

An Elephant Herd

African
matriarch
appears
mature
intelligent
memories
dry spell
rumbling
approaches
usually
attack
trumping

60 Elephants Live Together 1B

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Elephants Live Together 1B

Level 3 ■ ■ ■

Words to Know list, Reading Selection, and Reading Comprehension questions

How Elephants Live

How Elephants Live

Elephants are the largest land animals alive today. African elephants live in tightly family groups called herds. All of the elephants in the herd have one leader, the matriarch. The leader of the herd is an old female elephant. She is the matriarch. A herd may contain anywhere from a tight or noisy group of 10 elephants, to a loose group of 300 elephants. The matriarch becomes the leader because she has learned to feed her herd from experience.

The elephants learn by watching and copying other elephants, and from life. Baby elephants stay with their mothers until they are fully grown, at least 15 years old. Elephants can be 50 or 60 years old.

Elephants are intelligent animals with long memories. They can smell, see, hear, taste, and touch. A matriarch can remember where water was found in the past, and she can lead her herd to it. She can also remember which other elephants to play with, and which ones to avoid.

Elephants move slowly, so they do not need to run very fast. They are not built for speed. When they do run, they run short distances. Elephants can run as fast as 25 miles per hour.

Elephants talk to each other with low rumbling sounds—rumble calls. These calls help elephants stay close together when they are running. They also help them find their mothers, fathers, brothers, mothers to call to them, and feet, and tails, and ears, and backs, and bottoms to them.

Other animals usually cannot attack elephants. However, it is the might of a female elephant or a baby. The female, the adult, or the young ones stomp around the baby elephant. The baby elephant has sound waves with their trunks. These loud trumpeting sounds will scare away most predators. The lion and the bear. She flaps her ears, she makes herself look even larger. Then the lower her tail and changes the enemy in a big cloud of dust.

Want to know
How Elephants Live

African
female
matriarch
approaching
intelligent
memories
dry spell
rumbling
unable
soles
usually
attack
trumpeting

How Elephants Live Together #10

National Geographic Books for Kids

Elephants Live Together #10

Assemble the Unit

Reproduce and distribute one copy for each student:

- Visual Literacy page: The African Elephant, page 61
 - Level 1, 2, or 3 Reading Selection and Reading Comprehension page and the corresponding Words to Know list
 - Graphic Organizer of your choosing, provided on pages 180–186
 - Writing Form: Elephant Facts, page 62

Introduce the Topic

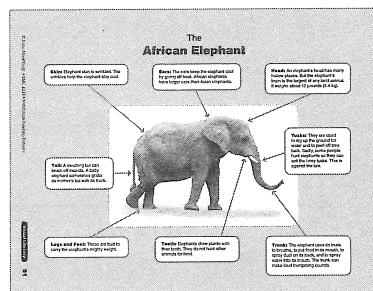
Review the labeled elephant photo with students. Explain that elephants are the largest land animals in the world. Many people are working to protect elephants because they are losing their habitats.

Read and Respond

Form leveled groups and review the Words to Know lists with each group of students. Instruct each group to read their selection individually, in pairs, or as a group. Have students complete the Reading Comprehension page for their selection.

Write About the Topic

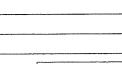
Read aloud the leveled writing prompt for each group. Tell students to use the Graphic Organizer to plan their writing. Direct students to use their Writing Form to respond to their prompt.



Visual Literacy

Name _____

Elephant Facts



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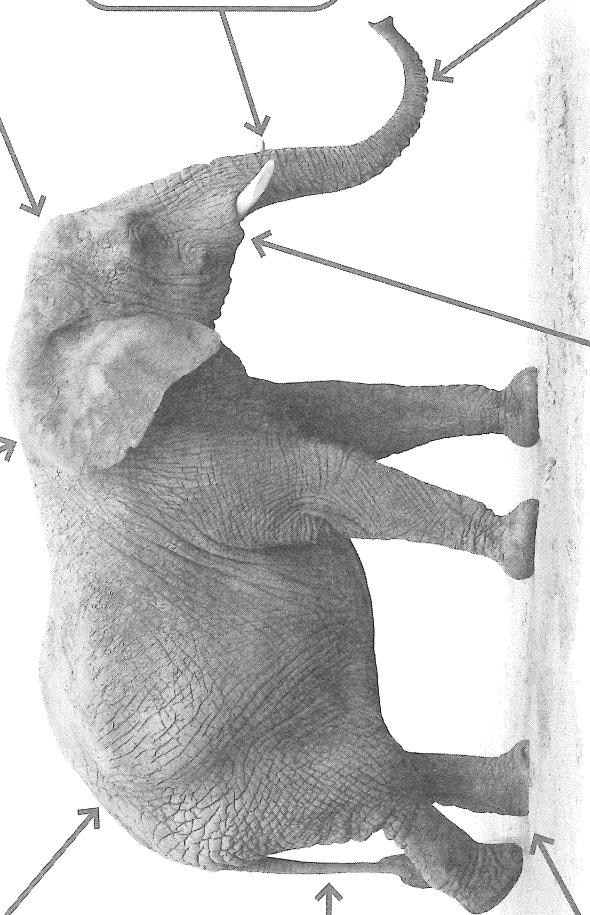
Writing Form

The African Elephant

Skin: Elephant skin is wrinkled. The wrinkles help the elephant stay cool.

Ears: The ears keep the elephant cool by giving off heat. African elephants have larger ears than Asian elephants.

Head: An elephant's head has many hollow places. But the elephant's brain is the largest of any land animal. It weighs about 12 pounds (5.4 kg).



Tail: A swishing tail can brush off insects. A baby elephant sometimes grabs its mother's tail with its trunk.

Legs and Feet: These are built to carry the elephant's mighty weight.

Teeth: Elephants chew plants with their teeth. They do not hunt other animals for food.

Trunk: The elephant uses its trunk to breathe, to put food in its mouth, to spray dust on its back, and to spray water into its mouth. The trunk can make loud trumpeting sounds.

Elephant Facts



Words to Know

Elephant Families

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Words to Know

An Elephant Herd

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Words to Know

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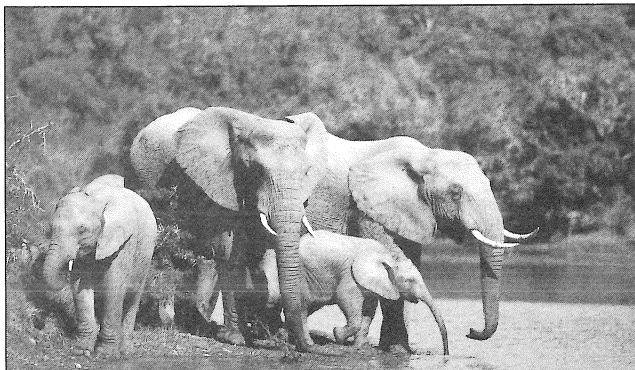


Elephant Families

African elephants live together in a herd. They all take care of each other. The leader of the herd is an old mother elephant. She is the matriarch. The other elephants are daughters, sisters, cousins, and babies. They follow the matriarch because she guards the family from danger. Adult male elephants go off to live on their own and start families.



Elephants rub against each other and touch each other with their trunks.



Elephants sip water through their trunks and spray it into their mouths to drink.

Elephants are intelligent animals. Young elephants learn by copying other elephants. Elephants live to be 50 or 60 years old. They have long memories. A matriarch can remember where to find water even in a dry spell. The herd will follow her there. She can also remember the safest place to cross a fast-moving river.

Elephants talk to each other with low rumbling sounds. Some rumbling sounds are so deep that people cannot hear them. Elephants have lots of feeling in their skin. So they greet each other by touch. They use their trunks and feet. If danger approaches, mothers flap their ears to call their babies. The adult elephants circle around the babies.

Other animals do not often attack elephants. But a lion might try to attack a sick elephant or a baby. If this happens, the elephants make loud trumpeting sounds. They also hit the ground with their trunks. The matriarch puts herself in front of the herd. She flaps her ears out wide. This makes her look even larger. Then she lowers her head and charges the enemy in a big cloud of dust.

Elephant Families

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. A matriarch _____.
 (A) is the youngest adult male
 (B) lives on her own
 (C) keeps the herd from harm
 2. The fact that elephants have long memories shows that they _____.
 (A) take care of each other
 (B) are intelligent
 (C) are a family
 3. Give an example of an adaptation, or feature, that helps elephants stay alive.
-
-

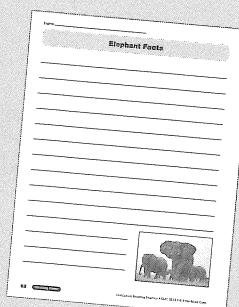
4. From which paragraph can you infer that elephants need a water supply? Write a sentence from the paragraph to support your answer.
-
-

5. If you were a scientist, which feature of elephants would you like to study?
-
-

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Imagine you are a baby elephant. Write about one day in your life. Give details that tell about life in a herd.



An Elephant Herd

African elephants travel in a herd. All of the elephants in the herd take care of each other. The leader of the herd is an old mother elephant. She is the matriarch. The other elephants follow the matriarch because she knows how to guard the family if danger appears. Adult male elephants go off to live on their own and start families.



The herd follows its matriarch.

Elephants are intelligent animals with long memories. They learn from other elephants and from living a long life. Elephants live to be 50 or 60 years old. A matriarch can remember where to find water even in a dry spell. The herd will follow her there. She can also remember the safest place to cross a fast-moving river.

Elephants talk to each other with rumbling sounds. Some rumbling sounds are so deep that people's ears cannot hear them. If danger approaches, the rumbling stops. Everyone is on guard. Mothers flap their ears to call their babies to them. The adult elephants circle around the baby elephants to keep them safe. Baby elephants stay with their mothers until they are fully grown at ten years old.

Other animals do not usually attack elephants. However, a lion might try to attack a sick elephant or a baby. If this happens, the elephants make trumpeting sounds and hit the ground with their trunks. The matriarch puts herself between the lion and the herd. She flaps her ears out to make herself look even larger. Then she lowers her head and charges the enemy in a big cloud of dust.

An Elephant Herd

Fill in the circle to complete the sentence. Then answer questions 3, 4, and 5.

1. Being part of a group helps elephants _____.
 A travel a long distance
 B defend themselves
 C live on their own
 2. Two of the sounds made by elephants are _____.
 A trumpeting and rumbling
 B remembering and guarding
 C charging and flapping
 3. Explain how memory is an adaptation, or feature, that helps elephants stay alive.
-
-

4. What is the main idea of paragraph 3?
-
-

5. Write a sentence or two about what you think is most interesting about elephants.
-
-

Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Imagine you are a matriarch. Write about one day in your life. Give details that tell about life in a herd.



How Elephants Live

Elephants are the largest land animals alive today. African elephants live in tight family groups called herds. All of the elephants in the herd take care of each other. The leader of the herd is an old female elephant. She is the matriarch. A herd may have as few as eight or as many as 100 elephants. The other elephants follow the matriarch because she knows how to keep them safe from approaching danger.

Elephants learn by watching and copying other elephants, and from life. Baby elephants stay with their mothers until they are fully grown at about ten years old. Elephants live to be 50 or 60 years old. Elephants are intelligent animals with long memories. In a dry spell, a matriarch can remember where water was found in the past. The herd will follow her there. She can also remember the safest place for baby elephants to cross a fast-moving river.



The herd has followed its matriarch across a river.

Elephants talk to each other with low rumbling sounds. Some rumbling sounds are so deep that people are unable to hear them. Elephants hear sounds with their ears, the soles of their feet, and even their trunks. They also greet each other by touching with their trunks and feet. If danger approaches, mothers flap their ears to call their babies to them.

Other animals do not usually attack elephants. However, a lion might try to attack a sick elephant or a baby. If this happens, the adult elephants circle around the baby elephants. The adults make loud trumpeting sounds and hit the ground with their trunks. The matriarch puts herself between the lion and the herd. She flaps her ears out to make herself look even larger. Then she lowers her head and charges the enemy in a big cloud of dust.