

ELEPHANTS

ELEPHANTS



ELEPHANTS

LESSON PLAN

Day One: Physical Traits

Objective: The students will be able to describe the physical characteristics of an elephant.

LESSON PLAN: DAY ONE

Introduction (10 minutes):

Explain to students that you will be learning about elephants this week. Today you will be learning about the physical characteristics of an elephant. Ask students if they know what physical characteristics are and explain that they are what the elephant looks like.

Show students the pictures of elephants below and tell students that there are many different species of elephants.

ELEPHANTS

DIAGRAM OF AN ELEPHANT

Directions: Use the words below to label the elephant.

•tail •ears •legs
•trunk •tusks

ELEPHANTS

LESSON PLAN

Week at a Glance:

- Day One: Physical Traits
- Day Two: Behavior
- Day Three: Habitat
- Day Four: Diet
- Day Five: Conservation

ELEPHANTS

FACT VS OPINION

Directions: Read each statement and choose whether it is a Fact or opinion.

- Elephants are very kind animals and their large ears are very cool! **FACT OPINION**
- Elephants are the largest animal in the world. **FACT OPINION**
- Elephants live in large groups called herds. **FACT OPINION**
- Elephants are smarter than any other animal. **FACT OPINION**
- Elephants are herbivores because they only eat plants. **FACT OPINION**

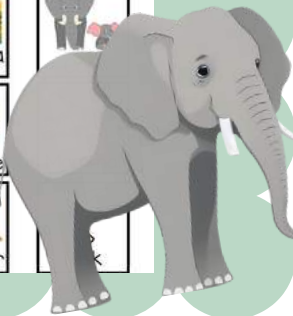
ELEPHANTS

ELEPHANT BEHAVIORS

ELEPHANTS

ELEPHANT VOCABULARY MATCH

| | |
|-----------|----------|
| Savanna | Elephant |
| Herbivore | Elephant |
| Predator | Elephant |



A COMPREHENSIVE FIVE DAY UNIT ALL ABOUT ELEPHANTS!

Includes lesson plans, graphic organizers, craft ideas, projects, comprehension questions and more!

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT



ELEPHANTS

LESSON PLAN

Week at a Glance:



Day One: Physical Traits

Day Two: Behavior

Day Three: Habitat

Day Four: Diet

Day Five: Conservation



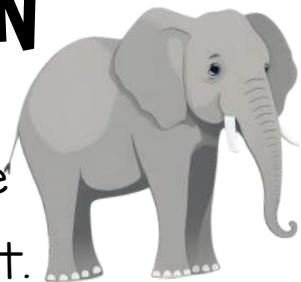
ELEPHANTS



LESSON PLAN

Day One: Physical Traits

Objective: The students will be able to describe the physical characteristics of an elephant.



LESSON PLAN: DAY ONE

Introduction (10 minutes):

*Explain to students that you will be learning about elephants this week. Today you will be learning about the physical characteristics of an elephant. Ask students if they know what physical characteristics are and explain that they are what the elephant looks like.

*Show students the pictures of elephants below and tell students that there are many different species of elephants.



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Lesson (15 minutes):

- *Show students video from National Geographic Kids -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fk3VdpuFx0Q>.

- *Label the parts of an elephant using the activity sheet attached below.

- *Read "Elephants" from National Geographic. Discuss physical traits of the elephant that students notice.

- *Complete the "Elephants can, have, are" activity sheet with students below.

Independent Work (15 minutes)

- *Students will use the "Elephant Adjectives" activity sheet below and use adjectives to describe the physical traits of an elephant.

Closing (5 minutes)

- *Go over "Elephant Adjectives" sheet with students as a class or in small groups.

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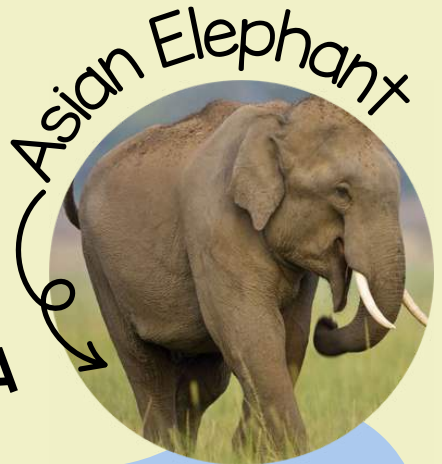
**AFRICAN FOREST
ELEPHANT**



BORNEO ELEPHANT



Indian Elephant



Asian Elephant

**AFRICAN SAVANNA
ELEPHANT**

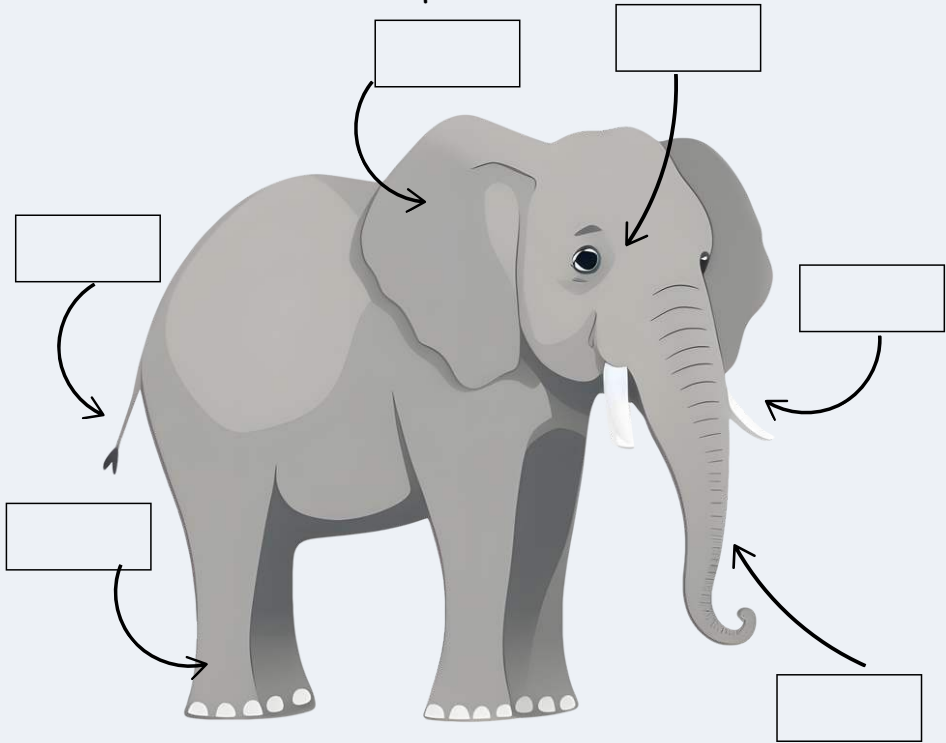


**Species
OF
elephants**

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DIAGRAM OF AN ELEPHANT

Directions: Use the words below to label the elephant.



*tail

*ears

*eyes

*trunk

*tusks

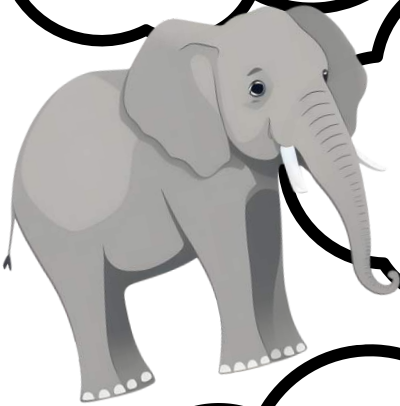
*legs

ELEPHANTS

can

are

have



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Elephant Adjectives

Name: _____

Directions: An adjective is a describing word. Fill in the blank with an adjective that describes the physical traits about an elephant.

AN ELEPHANT HAS.....

_____ skin

_____ legs

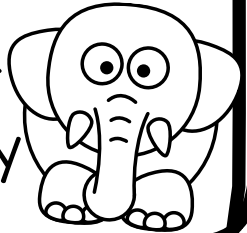
_____ tusks

_____ ears

a _____ tail

a _____ trunk

a _____ body



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LESSON PLAN

Day Two: Behavior

Objective: The students will be able to identify behaviors of elephants including how they communicate and their family structure. Students will be able to recognize that elephants are mammals.



• • • • •

LESSON PLAN: DAY TWO

Introduction (10 minutes):

*Tell students that today's lesson will be all about different behaviors of elephants. Main behaviors to identify - how elephants communicate, elephants live in family groups called herds, elephants are mammals.

*Read "The Truth About Elephants" by Maxwell Eaton. Questions to discuss during/after reading - What is the most interesting thing you learned about elephants? How do elephants use their trunk? How do they use their ears? In what ways were they able to communicate?

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* Lesson (15 minutes):

*Use information from the book to discuss various behaviors of animals. Write information below using the “Elephant Behaviors” activity sheet.

*Remind students what the difference between a fact and opinion is. Give an example like “Vanilla ice cream is white” is a fact. “Vanilla ice cream is the best ice cream” is an opinion. This will guide students when they complete their independent work.

Independent Work (15 minutes)

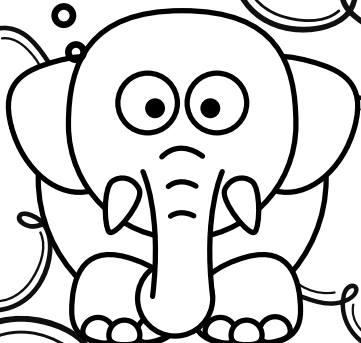
*Students will independently complete the fact and opinion activity worksheet attached below.

Closing (5-10 minutes)

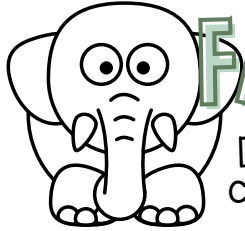
*The teacher will give students an index card. Tell the students to come up with their own fact and opinion about elephants - include one of each.

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ELEPHANT
BEHAVIORS



ELEPHANTS



FACT VS OPINION

Directions: Read each statement and choose whether it is a fact or opinion.

1

Elephants are very kind animals and their large ears are very cute!

2

Elephants are the largest land animal in the world!

3

Elephants live in large groups called herds

4

Elephants are smarter than any other animal.

5

Elephants use their trunks to cool themselves off on a hot day.

FACT

OPINION

FACT

OPINION

FACT

OPINION

FACT

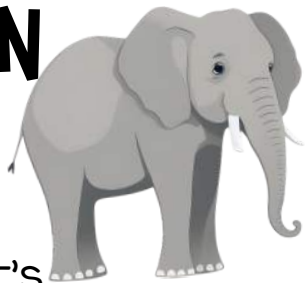
OPINION

FACT

OPINION

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LESSON PLAN



Day Three: Habitat

Objective: The students will be able to describe the key characteristics of an elephant's habitat.

LESSON PLAN: DAY THREE

Introduction (10 minutes):

*Tell students that today's lesson is all about where elephants live, also known as their habitat. Ask students what they think elephants need in their habitat to survive.

*Show students video from Nat Geo Wild - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Aw6GkiCvcWs&t=26s>

*Ask students what they noticed in the habitat of elephants - grass, water, trees desert, mountains, forests. What countries did they discuss? (Asia, Africa, etc.)

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Lesson (15 minutes):

- *Students will read/scan article about elephants and highlight key information about their habitat.

Article - <https://a-z-animals.com/animals/elephant/>

- *Students will share with the group an interesting fact they learned about the elephant's habitat.

- *Complete "Elephant Unscramble" activity sheet with small groups on words that are associated with an elephant's habitat.

Independent Work (15 minutes)

- *Students will independently use the activity sheet attached below to draw the elephant in a habitat. Then, write three to four sentences describing what they drew and identify other places elephants could live.

Closing (5 minutes)

- *Students will share their pictures and writing with small group or partner.

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ELEPHANT HABITAT UNSCRAMBLE

Directions: Unscramble each word where an elephant may live.

S V A N N A A

L N D A G S S R A S

D S E R T S E

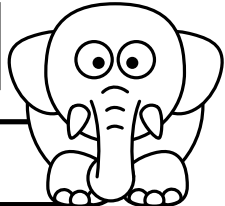
R A F I C A

L N A D W T E S

S I A A

S R F O E T S

M N U O A I T N



ELEPHANTS

ELEPHANT HABITAT UNSCRAMBLE

Answer Key

S V A N N A A

Savanna

L N D A G S S R A S

Grasslands

D S E R T S E

Desert

R A F I C A

Africa

L N A D W T E S

Wetlands

S I A A

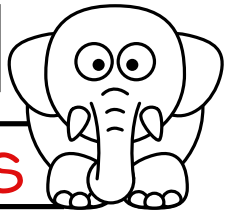
Asia

S R F O E T S

Forests

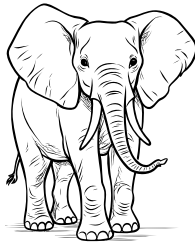
M N U O A I T N

Mountain



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ELEPHANT HABITAT



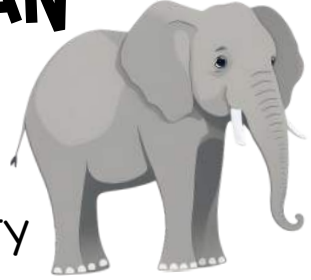
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LESSON PLAN



Day Four: Diet

Objective: The students will identify that elephants are herbivores and eat a variety of plants.



LESSON PLAN: DAY FOUR

Introduction (10 minutes):

*Explain to students that today we will be learning about what elephants eat. Ask students if they can make a prediction about what they think elephants eat. Have you ever seen an elephant at the zoo? What did you notice they were eating?

*The teacher will read "Smudge the Littlest Elephant" book. Questions to ask while reading - What "snack" are the elephants stopping to eat? How did the elephants find their food? How much food do they need to eat to stay healthy? Do you think they eat the same thing every day?

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Lesson (15 minutes):

*Go back to article that was used earlier this week. Find and underline information about the elephant's diet. Discuss various foods that elephants eat.

Article - <https://a-z-animals.com/animals/elephant/>

*Complete "Vocabulary Square" activity sheet together on the word "herbivore." Write the definition, a sentence and draw a picture that goes with the word.

Independent Work (10 minutes)

*Students will complete the "An Elephant's Diet" comprehension questions independently based on what they learned from the lesson.

Closing (5 minutes)

*Review answers to the comprehension questions from the activity sheet as a class.

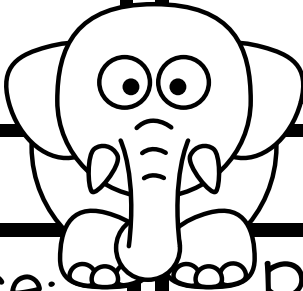
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vocabulary square

Word:

herbivore

Definition:



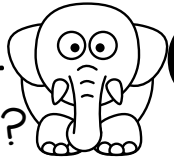
Sentence:

Picture:

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AN ELEPHANT'S DIET

Name: _____



1. What does "herbivore" mean?

2. What do elephants eat?

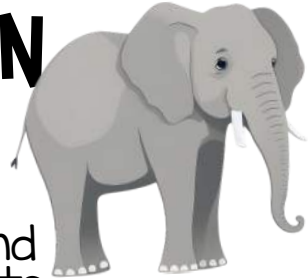
3. How much do elephants need to eat?

4. How do elephants find their food?

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LESSON PLAN



Day Five: Conservation

Objective: The students will be able to define conservation and identify ways to keep elephants safe.



LESSON PLAN: DAY FIVE

Introduction (10 minutes):

*Tell students that today they will be learning about what challenges elephants face and how to help keep them safe. Define conservation as taking care of animals and their habitats to keep them healthy and safe!

*Ask students to brainstorm what challenges they think elephants face in their environment. Identify challenges like losing their habitats with people cutting down trees, hunting elephants for their tusks, and not enough food or water.

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Lesson (15 minutes):

*Ask students how they can help keep elephants safe. Make a "Conservation Pledge" on a poster as a class identifying ways to help (recycling, spread awareness, support charities that help elephants, etc)

*In small groups, students will complete the "Vocabulary Matching Game". Cut out each card and match to the correct definition. Students can also play a memory matching version where they turn over all of the cards, lay them out, then turn over two at a time to find the match.

Independent Work (20 minutes)

*Elephant Craft:

Materials - poster,
scissors,
glue, magazine



Instructions:

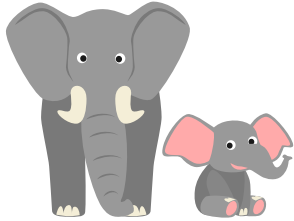
- *Trace outline of an elephant onto poster. Cut out outline.
- *Cut strips of magazine paper.
- *Glue onto elephant poster. They will extend over the edges of the poster.
- *Turn poster over to the back and trim the edges to match the outline.

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ELEPHANT VOCABULARY MATCH



Savanna



Calf



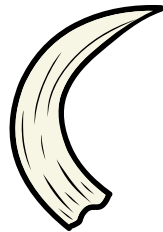
Herbivore



Mammal



Predator



Tusk

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ELEPHANT VOCABULARY MATCH

A large,
grassy,
flat area
of land

An animal
that only
eats plants

A long
pointed
tooth

A baby
elephant

A warm
blooded
vertebrate
that feeds
its babies milk

An animal
that hunts
for other
animals