

Read the information below, which explains further details about the study. How does this week's story make you feel? Do you think enough is being done to protect elephants?

Why are elephants being born without the ability to grow tusks?

Usually, both female and male African elephants have tusks. A new study believes that poaching is the cause of lots of tuskless elephants living in Gorongosa National Park in the country of Mozambique, Africa.

During a war in the country, that lasted for 15 years until 1992, up to 90% of Mozambique's elephant population was killed, mainly for their ivory tusks. Elephants without tusks were normally left alone by hunters, so this made it more likely they would breed and pass on the tuskless feature to their offspring.

Mozambique, Africa



What is being done to protect elephants?

It is estimated that there are over 50 campaigns and organisations around the world working to protect elephants.

- **The WWF (World Wildlife Fund)** – improves elephant protection and management by providing equipment and training to anti-poaching teams; promoting the creation of new protected areas and improving the management of existing protected areas.
- **Wildlife Insights** – is an artificial intelligence project between organisations including WWF, ZSL (Zoological Society of London) and Google. Camera images can be uploaded by the public and machine learning technology automatically identifies what species are in there and analyses their data.
- **Youth 4 African Wildlife** - works with young people in the hope that they'll become global conservation ambassadors. It offers conservation internships for people from all over the world.



Gorongosa National Park