



Picture News

In the Early Years

Speaking and Listening

Development Matters: Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things.

Look at the Picture News poster: What can you see? What do you like about this picture? Where do you think this picture might have been taken? Do you know where elephants in the wild live? Do you notice anything about this elephant? What body parts do elephants have?

Discuss that this elephant doesn't have any tusks.

Think about: What are tusks? Where do you see them on an elephant? Show the children an image of an elephant with tusks (see Google images). What do you think elephants use their tusks for?

Discuss that elephants use their tusks for lots of different things such as to help them dig, to lift things, to take bark off trees to eat, to gather food together and to help defend themselves.

It has been in the news that in one National Park in Mozambique, Africa there is now a lot more elephants that do not have any tusks!

Think about: Do you think it will be harder for elephants without tusks to do all the things that elephants with tusks can do? Why? How do you think they will gather their food and dig?

Question: What do we know about elephants?

Elephants are wild animals that need protecting, that means we need to look after them so that the numbers of them don't go down. The more we know about elephants, the more we can help them to live in the wild.

Think about: What do you already know about elephants? What do we mean when we say they live in the wild? Can you name all the different parts of an elephant?

Look at the **EY Resource**, which tells you more information about elephants.

Think about: Do you like elephants? What do you like about them? What else would you like to find out about them?

Writing: Can you make a class book all about elephants?

Development Matters: Use some of their print and letter knowledge in their early writing. Spell words by identifying the sounds and then writing the sound with letter/s.

Discuss that learning more about elephants can help us to understand how to protect them living in the wild. Let's make a class book all about elephants to help teach other people about them.

Think about: What do you know about elephants? What fact would you like to tell people about? What special body parts do they have? What do they use their trunks or tusks for? What do you like about elephants?

Resources: Drawing and writing proforma (see EY Additional Resource 1), pencils, sound mats, books about elephants

Maths: Can you use the elephants and the spider's web to sing and act out the song 'One Elephant Went Out To Play'?

Development Matters: Learn rhymes and songs. Say one number for each item in order: 1,2,3,4,5. Show 'finger numbers' up to 5.

Teach the children the song 'One Elephant Went Out To Play' (see Useful Song section). Encourage the children to use their fingers as each elephant joins.

Think about: Can you sing the song? How many elephants do we have to start with? How many elephants do we have now? Can you find the number 3 to go with 3 elephants?

Resources: 'One Elephant Went Out To Play' song (see Useful Song section), spider's web and elephants (use play objects or use EY additional Resource 2), plastic numbers up to 5, a number line to 5

Outdoor: Can you move like lots of different animals?

Development Matters: Listen attentively, move to and talk about music, expressing their feelings and responses.

Can you stomp like an elephant? Jump like a kangaroo? Gallop like a horse? Slither like a snake? Crawl like a crab? Hop like a rabbit? Swing like a monkey? Creep like a tiger?

Think about: How does each animal move differently? Can you guess what animal your friend is pretending to be? Can you make music to the beat of the moving animal?

Resources: Musical instruments, images of different animals

Playdough: Can you make an elephant out of playdough?

Development Matters: Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently.

Think about: What part of the elephant will you make first? What shape will you need? How can you mould the dough? What do you need to add to your elephant? What do elephants have?

Resources: Grey playdough, playdough cutter, rolling pins, images of elephants

Useful Song

One Elephant Went Out To Play | Kids Song | Nursery Rhyme | The Kiboomers

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wQf6yWEScB8>