

Ecological Tales from India



Learn about the INDIAN ELEPHANT

Every child in India has met an elephant at least once in his life. Ask students to write about their encounter with the majestic pachyderm.

Where was it? In the street, in a temple, in a zoo...

Did they feed the elephant?

Did they talk to his mahout?

Did they get a chance to go on an elephant ride?

Did they pat the animal? How did his skin feel?

What was the elephant's name?

Did the elephant look healthy?

Was the elephant caparisoned?

Ask your students to read newspapers (or Elephant News on Internet) and collect as many reports about elephants. News are many: herds of elephants straying into human settlements bordering thick forests and destroying crops, wildlife traders smuggling ivory, elephants being hit by speeding trains or trucks, stray elephants injuring villagers, domesticated elephants running amok during festivities and killing people, plans for elephant sanctuaries, increased conflict between people and pachyderms...



Plan an endangered elephant bulletin board.

All the children put their newspaper clippings on the board. You could divide the board in two: one side for news related to domesticated



elephants, and the other for news related to wild elephants. Or you could make a different board for each country where elephants live (India, Burma, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand...)

What do all these news teach them about the condition of elephants in India, Asia or Africa??

Ask your students to write articles about the plight of elephants and post them to children's magazine to increase awareness about the biggest land mammal.