

Name _____

Elephants – Main Idea

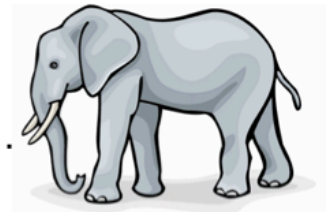
Directions: Write the letter of the main idea in the blank.

Optional: In addition, the main idea may be circled or highlighted. Supporting details may be underlined.

7. _____

Elephants have body parts that have helped them adapt to their **environment**. Their ears, trunks, and tusks are important for survival. The large thin ears of the African elephant and the smaller thin ears of the Asian elephant are filled with a network of blood vessels. The blood circulating through the ears helps cool down the elephant in the warm climates in which it lives. The tusks of the African elephant and the male Asian elephant are used to find food and dig for water in the ground. The trunk of the elephant brings food and water to its mouth. Using its trunk, an elephant can tell the size, shape, and temperature of objects. An elephant can also use its trunk as a snorkel to breathe while it swims in deep water. Some scientists believe an elephants' trunk has 100,000 muscles, but not one bone.

- a. Elephants live in hot climates.
- b. Elephants use their trunks as snorkels.
- c. Elephants have special adaptations to help them survive.
- d. Elephants flap their ears to cool down.



8. _____

Elephants are the largest mammals living on land. They have no predators in nature. However, their survival is threatened. In the wild, lions will try to attack small or weak elephants, but the greatest danger to elephants comes from men who hunt and kill them, taking only the tusks and leaving the **carcasses** behind. Those hunters are called poachers because they will even hunt on land set aside for the protection of elephants. The other danger to elephants comes from man again, as he changes the elephants' environment by clearing or claiming the land for human developments.

- a. The elephants' survival is being threatened by man.
- b. Lions hunt weak or small elephants.
- c. People are claiming the elephants' habitat.
- d. Elephants are hunted for their tusks.



Name _____

Monkeys – Main Idea

Directions: Write the letter of the main idea in the blank.

Optional: In addition, the main idea may be circled or highlighted. Supporting details may be underlined.

9. _____

Monkeys are intelligent mammals. There are 260 different species of monkeys around the world. Most monkeys have tails and live in trees, although some like the baboon live on the ground and are territorial. Most monkeys have similar diets. They will eat fruit, leaves, seeds, nuts, flowers, eggs, insects, spiders, and small animals. They travel together in groups called troupes to find food during the day. All monkeys can use their hands and feet for moving through the trees and holding onto the branches and some monkeys can also use their tails. Some monkeys have webbed toes and can swim across the river to find food or to avoid predators. All monkeys are important to the spreading of seeds and the **pollination** of flowers.

- a. Monkeys are different from each other.
- b. Monkeys are mammals.
- c. Monkeys share common characteristics.
- d. Monkeys travel in groups.



10. _____

Monkeys live in groups and need to communicate with each other. They do so through vocalizations, gestures, expressions, and body movements. Want to start a fight? Be a monkey that stares at another monkey. To avoid fights, monkeys will be vocal using all manner of sounds such as barks, screams, and grunts. Showing the teeth or pulling the lip up to show the teeth is a sign of anger and warning since one of the monkey's defenses is to bite. Monkeys also use their heads to show aggression. They will jerk their heads or bob them up and down. To make peace after fighting or to show affection, monkeys will groom each other every day. This not only bonds the monkeys together with good feelings, it also keeps them clean of dirt, dead skin, and **parasites**.

- a. Monkeys are very noisy.
- b. Monkeys stare to pick a fight.
- c. Monkeys bite as a means of defense.
- d. Monkeys communicate in many different ways.



Capuchin Monkeys – Main Idea

Directions: Write the letter of the main idea in the blank.

Optional: In addition, the main idea may be circled or highlighted. Supporting details may be underlined.

11. _____

Capuchin monkeys are the small brown monkeys with white faces that come from the rainforest in Brazil. Capuchin monkeys forage for food such as fruit, insects, leaves, small birds, and frogs by swinging from tree to tree. They live and sleep in the trees and will only come down to find fresh drinking water. Still, some are captured by humans. Some are captured because they are easy to train to do tasks that would help a handicapped person. Some are wanted as pets. Some are trained to be used in entertainment and movies. Some are eaten as meat by the local people. In addition to humans, jaguars and birds of prey are predators of Capuchin monkeys.

- a. Capuchin monkeys live and sleep in trees. b. Capuchin monkeys eat meat and plants.
c. Capuchin monkeys are small and brown. d. Capuchin monkeys have many predators.



12. _____

Capuchin monkeys can be trained to help the handicapped. People with spinal chord injuries may not be able to move their arms or legs. Quadriplegics can't move their arms or their legs. The monkeys that will become their helpers have been raised in a human home since they were infants to be **socialized**. After much training, the Capuchin monkey helps the handicapped person around the house by doing jobs such as microwaving food, washing the person's face, and opening a drink bottle for the person. The monkey becomes the person's hands.

- a. Quadriplegics cannot move arms nor legs. b. Capuchin monkeys can be trained for handicapped people.
c. Capuchin monkeys like to help people. d. Some monkeys are raised by humans.