

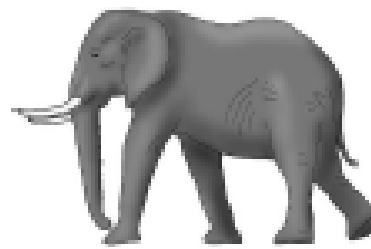
## ALL ABOUT ELEPHANTS

Use these facts about elephants to answer the questions below.

The world's biggest land-living animal is the elephant.

There are two types of elephant: the African Elephant and the Indian (or Asian) Elephant.

### **African Elephant**



Elephants eat plants, not meat. This means they are known as *herbivores*.

Male and female African Elephants have tusks but only the male Asian Elephant has tusks. They use their tusks for digging for water under the ground, scraping bark off trees and occasionally fighting.

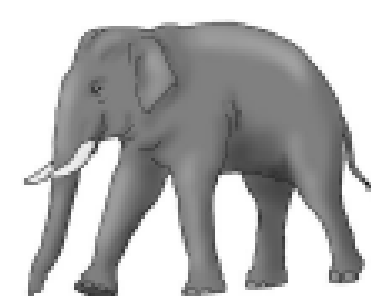
Elephants' ears are large and thin. Flapping them helps to keep the elephant cool. They also enable elephants to hear each other's calls up to 5 miles away.

Tusks can be up to 3 metres long and they keep on growing for the whole of the elephant's life, which can be as long as 60-70 years.

The African Elephant is bigger than the Indian or Asian Elephant, with bigger ears. Its skin is grey and more wrinkly than the Indian Elephant's. African Elephants have two finger-like tips at the end of their trunks, whereas the Indian Elephant has one. The Indian Elephant's back is more rounded and humped.

An elephant uses its trunk (which can be 2 metres long) to lift up food, suck up water then pour it into its mouth. An adult needs to drink around 200 litres of water every day. It also uses it like a snorkel, holding its trunk above water when it is swimming.

### **Indian Elephant**



Being so big and powerful, elephants have no real predators, although lions will sometimes pick on weak ones or babies, if they get the chance. The main threat is from ivory poachers.

Female elephants are called cows. They have babies (known as calves) when they are about 12 years old and they are pregnant for 22 months.

1. What is the other name for an Indian Elephant?

\_\_\_\_\_ 

2. What does herbivore mean?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Which type of elephant does not have tusks?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Write down **two** ways in which having large ears are useful to elephants.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. The writer describes three ways that elephants use their tusks. What are they?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Compare African and Indian Elephants. Write **A** for African and **I** for Indian after these facts.

These elephants are bigger \_\_\_\_\_

These elephants have larger ears \_\_\_\_\_

Their skin is more wrinkly \_\_\_\_\_

Their trunk has one finger-like tip \_\_\_\_\_

They have a rounded back \_\_\_\_\_