

Where do elephants live?

This lesson will introduce students to the countries where African and Asian elephants live. Drawing from a list of countries provided, the students will color the countries that are home to elephants.

Subject Area: Science, Geography, Art

Background Information: Page 5

Vocabulary: least concern, vulnerable, endangered, and extinct

After completing the lesson, students will be able to:

- Grades 2-3: Locate and color the countries where African and Asian elephants live;
- Grades 4-6: Through online research, identify, locate, and color the countries where African and Asian elephants live.

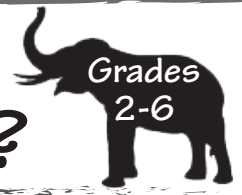
Materials:

- Where do elephants live-Africa-Activity Sheet 7A, 7B
- Where do elephants live-Asia-Activity Sheet 8A, 8B
- Pencil, crayons, coloring pencils, or markers
- Grade 2-3: Where do elephants live-country list-Activity Sheet 6
- Grades 4-6: Access to a computer or tablet with internet capability

Learning Activities

Preparation

1. Introduce the lesson to students, explaining they are going to learn where elephants live. Ask if they have any ideas about where elephants live. There are two different species of elephants found on two different continents. *Africa and Asia*
2. Ask the students: What is a continent? *One of seven great landmasses on earth including Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America, and South America.* African elephants are found on the African continent and Asian elephants on the Asian continent. Ask students if they can point out the continents of Africa and Asia on a world map.
3. Continents are made up of countries. Ask the students: What is a country? *A country is a specific geographical region with a government and political boundaries.* Continents are made up of countries often with people who speak different languages and have different cultures. Ask the students: Can anyone name a continent and the countries that make it up? *For instance, the countries of Canada, United States, and Mexico make up the continent of North America.* Explain to students that there are 54 countries on the continent of Africa and 46 total countries in Asia.
4. Grade 2-3: Pass out Activity Sheets 6, 7A, and 8A, and crayons, coloring pencils, or markers.
Grade 4-6: Pass out Activity Sheets 7B and 8B, and have the students pull up the International Elephant Foundation (IEF) websites:
Asian elephants: <http://www.elephantconservation.org/elephants/african-elephants/>
African elephants: <http://www.elephantconservation.org/elephants/asian-elephants/>



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Activity

5. Now tell students that they will be learning the countries where elephants are found.

Grades 2-3:

6. Have the students look at the country list found on Activity Sheet 6. These are the countries in Africa and Asia where elephants live. Using the country list, have the students color the countries on the maps on Activity Sheet 7 and 8.

Grades 4-6:

7. Have the students look at the maps found on the IEF website. Each country where elephants live has the approximate elephant population listed. The students will color each country based on the elephant population of that country.

For Africa: color countries with 1 - 1,000 elephants yellow, 1,001 - 10,000 elephants green, and 10,001 and more elephants purple.

For Asia, color countries with 1 - 700 elephants yellow, 701 - 10,000 elephants green, and 10,001 and more elephants purple.

Discussion

9. In how many countries, do African elephants live? 37 In how many countries, do Asian elephants live? 13

Summary Discussion

10. Before completing this lesson, did you think African elephants were found everywhere in Africa? Did you think Asian elephants were found everywhere in Asia? Why or why not?

11. Generally, where in Africa and where in Asia are elephants found? Why is this?

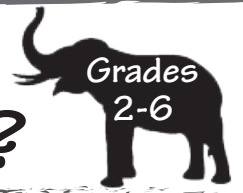
African elephants are not found in the northern desert regions of Africa.

Asian elephants are found in southwest Asia.

African and Asian elephants need food and water. The northern part of Africa is a vast desert. The northern part of Asia is too cold for elephants whereas the western part of Asia is a vast desert. The African savanna elephants live on the grasslands of the savanna and Asian elephants live in forests where some grasses are still available. There are some African elephants that live in the forest, called forest elephants. There is a small population of elephants that live in the deserts of Namibia and Mali.

12. What are some reasons why elephants may not be found everywhere in Africa and Asia?

Elephants live where they can find the food, water, and climate they need.



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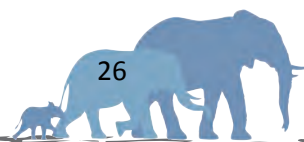
13. Grade 4-6: The IUCN Redlist website categorizes the conservation status of animals based on how many animals of a species are left and the stability of the habitat in which they live. There are many categories, but the general terms are least concern, vulnerable, endangered, and extinct. Least concern means the populations are high and stable and the habitat is stable. Vulnerable means the populations are decreasing and face a high risk of becoming endangered and the habitat is also at risk. Endangered means the populations have decreased rapidly or drastically and/or that the habitat is decreasing rapidly or drastically. Extinct means that a species no longer exists. Using the IUCN Redlist website, which is recognized as a reputable source for classification, what is the conservation status of African elephants and Asian elephants? Which animal is more endangered? *According to the IUCN Redlist, African elephants are listed as vulnerable and Asian elephants are listed as endangered. Asian elephants are more endangered.*

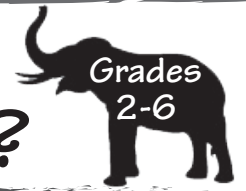
Extensions:

The continents of Africa and Asia are home to a wide variety of animals, and many of them are unique to their continent. Have the students learn about Asian animals and African animals that are elephants' neighbors by checking out a book from the library or visiting:

http://www.elephanttag.org/Kids_Pages/asian%20elephant%20neighbors.pdf

http://www.elephanttag.org/Kids_Pages/African%20Elephant%20Neighbors.pdf





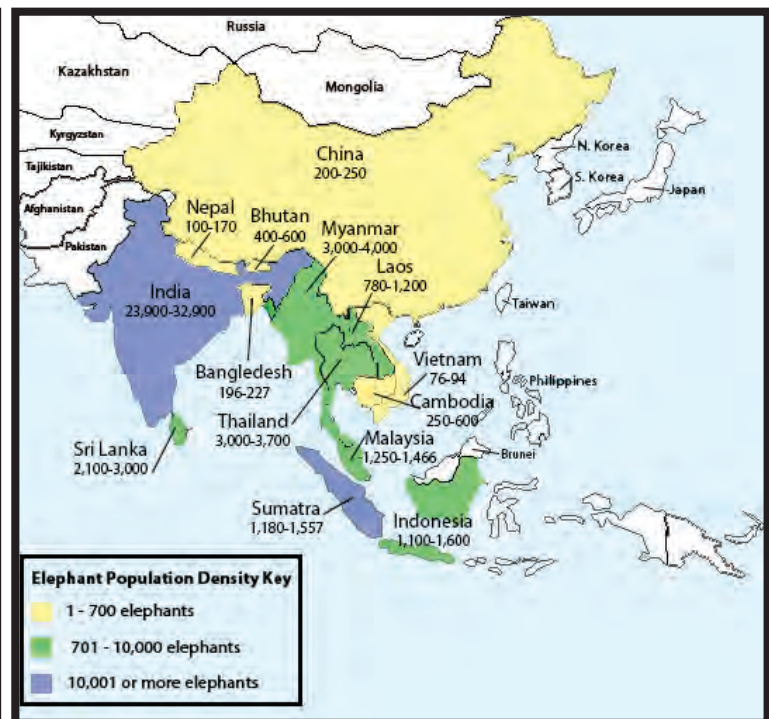
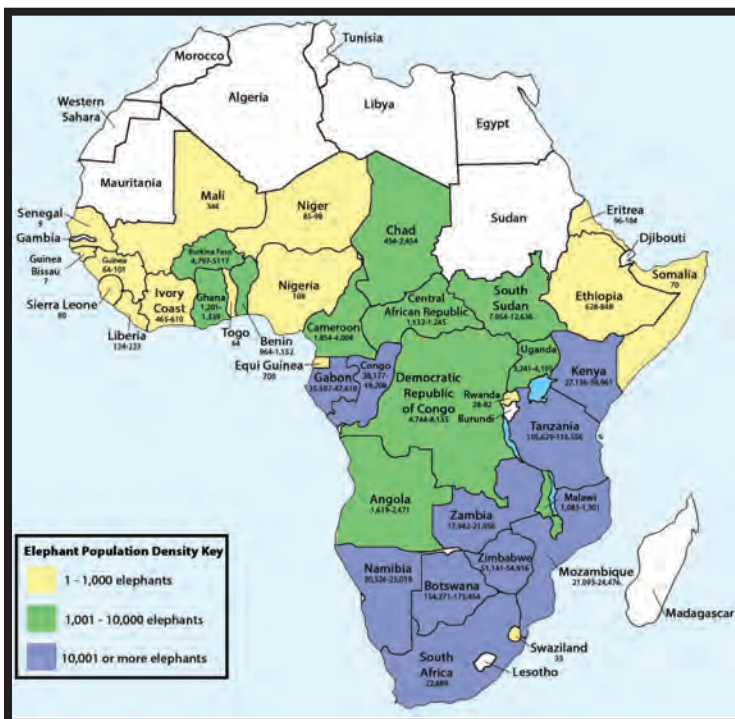
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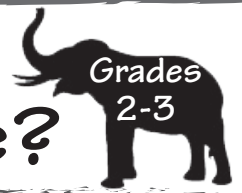
Answer Key

Grades 2-3



Grades 4-6





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Grades 2-3 Activity Sheet 6 Where do elephants live? country list

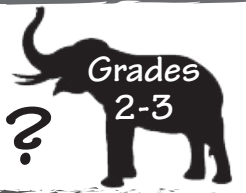
Color the countries where elephants live.

**African elephants are found on the continent of Africa.
They are found in the following countries:**

Angola	Gabon	Rwanda
Benin	Ghana	Senegal
Botswana	Guinea Bissau	Sierra Leone
Burkina Faso	Guinea	Somalia
Cameroon	Ivory Coast	South Africa
Central Republic of Africa	Kenya	South Sudan
Chad	Liberia	Swaziland
Congo	Mal	Tanzania
Democratic Republic of Congo	Malawi	Togo
Equatorial Guinea	Mozambique	Uganda
Eritrea	Namibia	Zambia
Ethiopia	Nigeria	Zimbabwe

**Asian elephants are found on the continent of Asia.
They are found in the following countries:**

Bangladesh	Indonesia	Sri Lanka
Brutan	Laos	Thailand
Cambodia	Malaysia	Vietnam
China	Myanmar	
India	Nepal	



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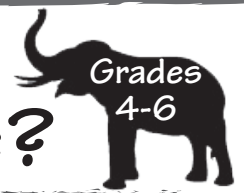
Grades 2-3 Activity Sheet 7A

Color the countries where African elephants live.



Africa is home to many different animals! Check out a book from the library to learn more about elephants' neighbors.

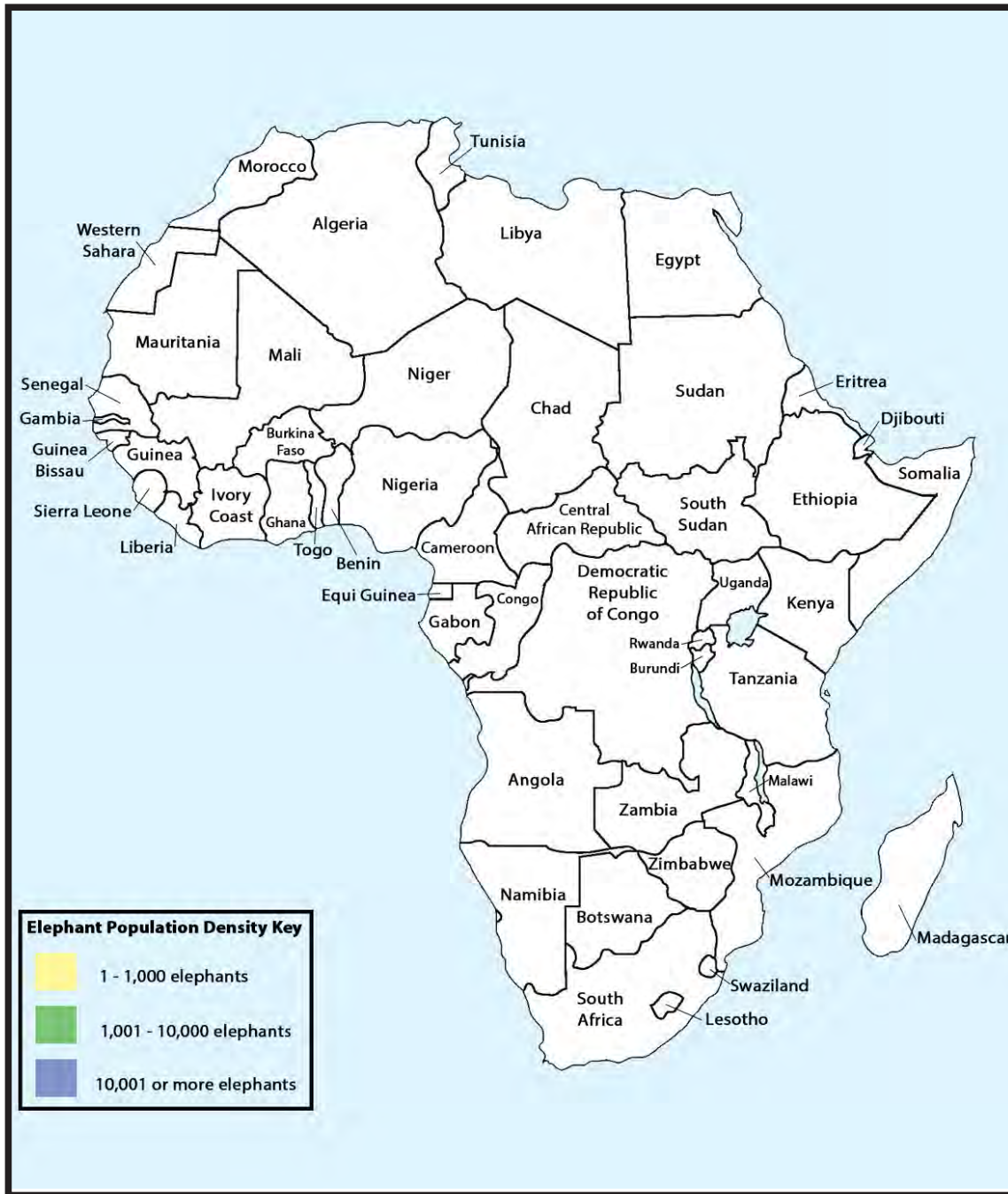




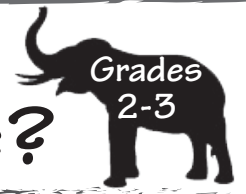
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Grades 4-6 Activity Sheet 7B

Using the maps found on the IEF website, color the elephant population of each country where elephants live.



Africa is home to many different animals! Check out a book from the library to learn more about elephants' neighbors.



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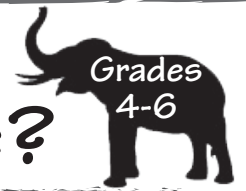
Grades 2-3 Activity Sheet 8A

Color the countries where Asian elephants live.



Asia is home to many different animals! Check out a book from the library to learn more about elephants' neighbors.

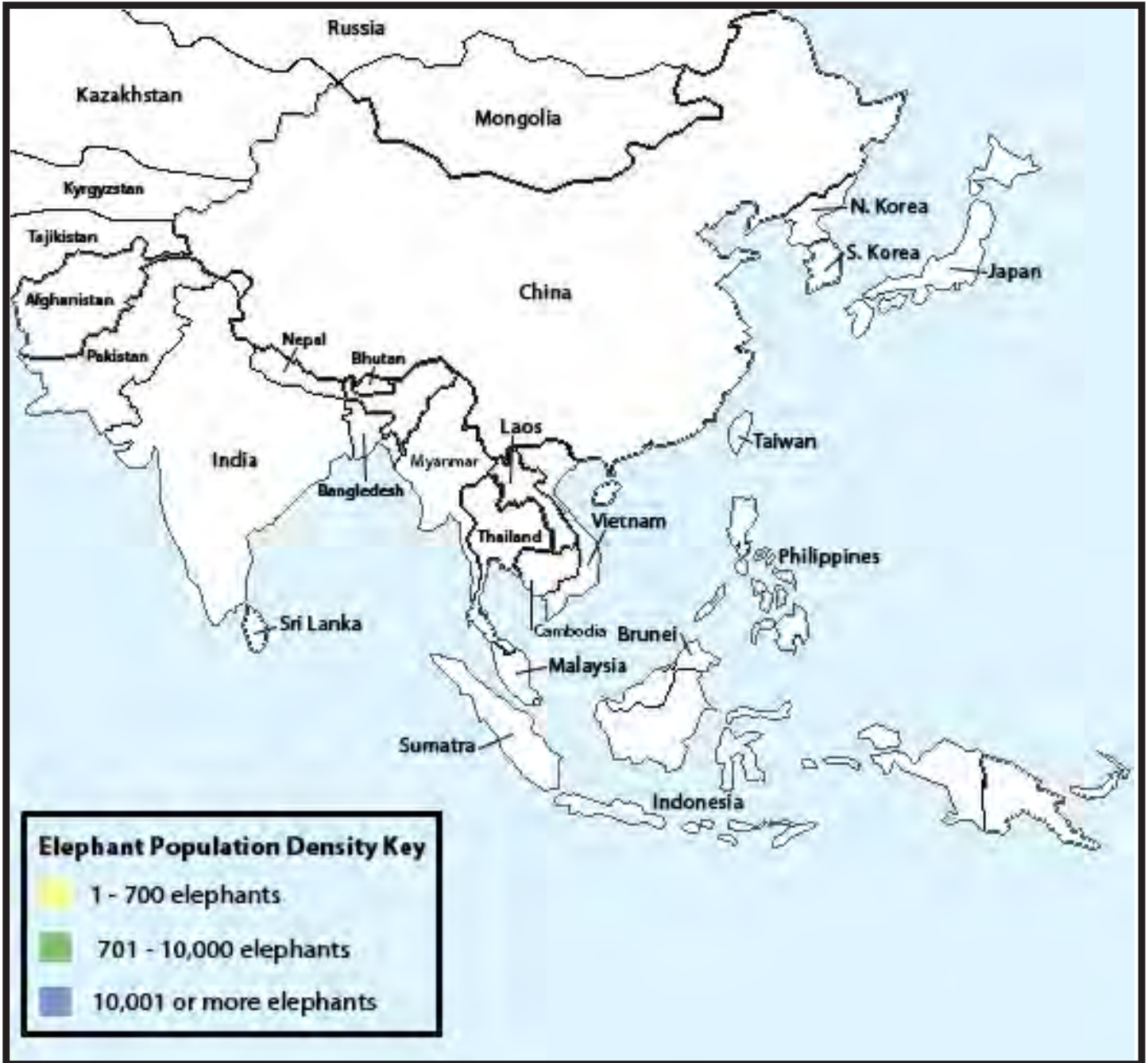




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Grades 4-6 Activity Sheet 8B

Using the maps found on the IEF website, color the elephant population of each country where elephants live.



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