

Lesson Skill: Researching information on the Internet

Strand Research

SOL 6.9
7.9
8.9

Materials

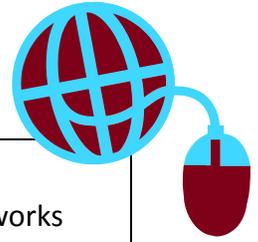
- Internet access for each student (essential)
- Available technology
- Copies of the attached Research on the Internet handout
- Copies of the attached Notes for Report on African and Asian Elephants handout

*This lesson can be adapted to Compare and Contrast in any content area.

Lesson

1. Distribute copies of the Research on the Internet handout, and review the definitions of the vocabulary.
2. Have students log on to the Internet. Lead students in the research process necessary to answer the questions on the handout, using the LCD. As you type in key words in the search engines and click on results, have students complete the same operations. As the answers are found, have students write the information on the handout.
3. Distribute copies of the Notes for Report on African and Asian Elephants handout, and have students use the same search engines to find the answers to the questions. Tell students to notice that some questions about African elephants have already been answered on the first handout.
4. When students are finished, have them write a brief report comparing and contrasting African and Asian elephants. Have students complete a Venn diagram as a graphic organizer for this report.

Research on the Internet



DEFINITIONS

Internet – An electronic communications network that connects computer networks and organizational computer facilities around the world.

World Wide Web – A part of the Internet accessed through a graphical user interface and containing documents often connected by hyperlinks. A Web site or a Web page can contain picture, sound, and video files as well as text.

search engine – A site on the World Wide Web that uses computer software to locate key words in other sites.

hyperlink – An electronic link providing direct access from one distinctively marked place in a document to another in the same or a different document. Hyperlinked text is generally underlined and/or a different color from the rest of the text.

Internet address – A series of usually alphanumeric characters that specifies the storage location (as on a network or in a computer's memory) of particular information.

Use one or more engines to answer the questions below.

1. What is the scientific name for the African elephant? Write the Internet address where you found the answer. When was this Web site last updated?

2. How much can the African elephant weigh? Write the Internet address and date of update.

3. Why is this animal an endangered species? Write the Internet address and date of update.

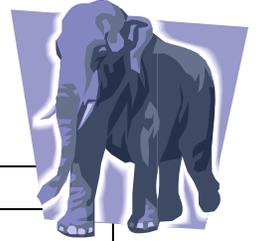
4. What are the African elephant's enemies? Write the Internet address and date of update.

5. How long is the African elephant's lifespan in the wild? In captivity? Write the Internet address and date of update.

6. How many site matches were listed for each search engine?

7. Which search engine gave you the best results?

8. Which search engine was the hardest to use?



Notes for Report on African and Asian Elephants

Question	African	Asian
1. Where do these elephants live?		
2. What size are the elephants?		
3. What do the elephants look like? Describe their appearance.		
4. What are three interesting facts about their trunks?		
5. What is the lifespan of the elephant in the wild? In captivity?		
6. Who/what are the enemies of the elephant?		

