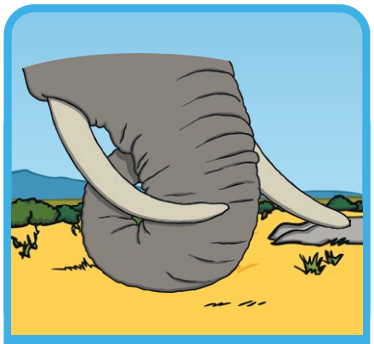
All About Elephants

Elephants are big mammals. They can have:

a long trunk



two tusks

big ears

Elephants can grow very tall. They are very heavy. They can weigh the same as three cars!

A group of elephants is called a herd. The oldest female leads the herd.

A male elephant is called a bull.

A female elephant is called a cow.

A baby elephant is called a calf.

Did You Know...?

An elephant's skin can burn if it stands in the sun for too long.

You might see an elephant with mud or dirt on its back. They do this to stop their skin from burning.

Questions

1. What is a baby elephant called? Tick one.

- ◯ a bull
- ◯ a calf
- ◯ a cow

2. What is a herd? Tick one.

- ◯ a big mammal
- ◯ an old female
- ◯ a group of elephants

3. Which of these is true? Tick one.

- ◯ Elephants are very heavy.
- ◯ Elephants are very light.
- ◯ Elephants are very thin.

4. Who leads a herd? Tick one.

- ◯ the biggest bull
- ◯ the oldest female
- ◯ the smallest baby

5. What can an elephant weigh the same as? Tick one.

- ◯ three cars
- ◯ three trucks
- ◯ three boats

Answers

1. What is a baby elephant called? Tick one.

- ◯ a bull
- ✓ **a calf**
- ◯ a cow

2. What is a herd? Tick one.

- ◯ a big mammal
- ◯ an old female
- ✓ **a group of elephants**

3. Which of these is true? Tick one.

- ✓ **Elephants are very heavy.**
- ◯ Elephants are very light.
- ◯ Elephants are very thin.

4. Who leads a herd? Tick one.

- ◯ the biggest bull
- ✓ **the oldest female**
- ◯ the smallest baby

5. What can an elephant weigh the same as? Tick one.

- ✓ **three cars**
- ◯ three trucks
- ◯ three boats

All About Elephants

Elephants can grow up to three metres tall. They can weigh around the same as three large cars!

Elephants Never Forget

Elephants have big brains and they are very clever. They help and love each other. Lots of people say that elephants never forget things.

Did You Know...?

Elephants can get sunburnt!

They have a bath in the mud and throw dirt on their backs to help to keep their skin safe.

Telling Them Apart

There are three ways to check if an elephant is an African elephant or an Asian elephant. You can look at:

- their ears;
- the shape of their head;
- their tusks.

an African elephant

an Asian elephant

visit twinkl.com

African elephants have:

- large ears that look like the shape of Africa;
- rounded heads.

Male and female African elephants can have tusks.

Asian elephants have:

- smaller, rounder ears;
- two bumps on their heads.

Only male Asian elephants can have tusks.

Did You Know...?

A group of elephants is called a herd.

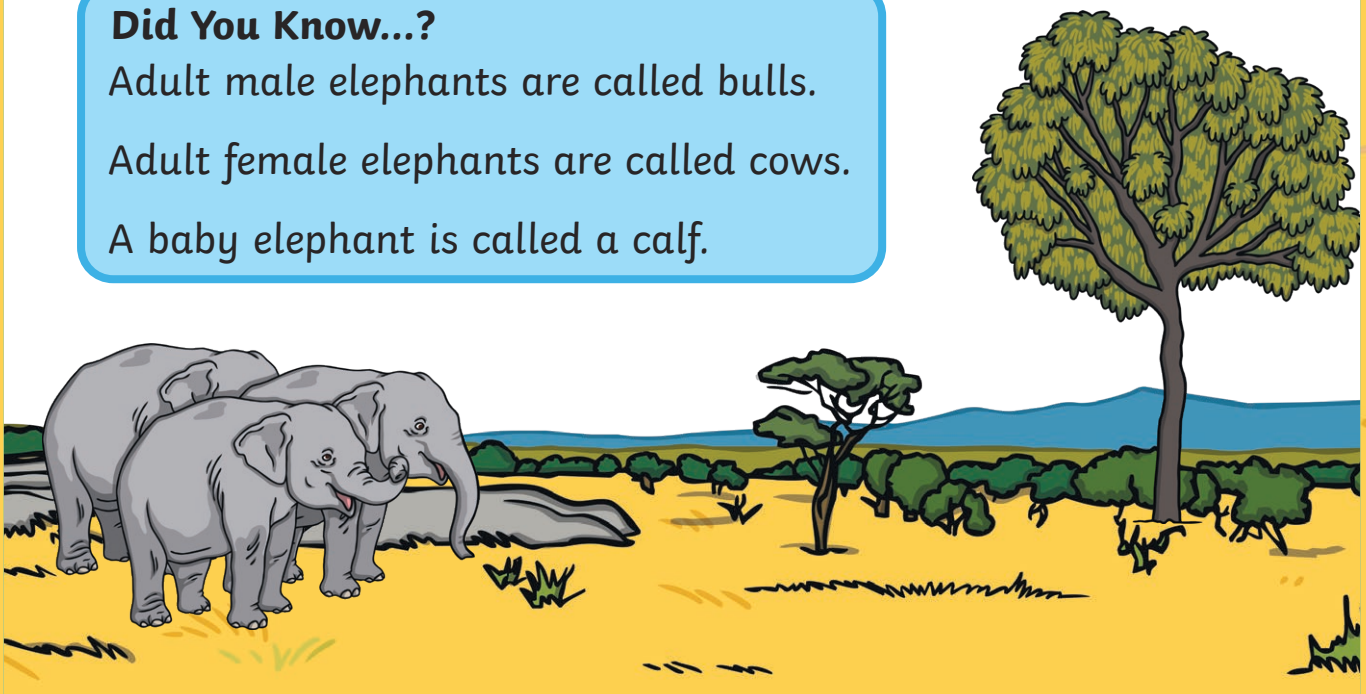
The oldest female elephant is the boss of the herd. She leads the way.

Did You Know...?

Adult male elephants are called bulls.

Adult female elephants are called cows.

A baby elephant is called a calf.



visit twinkl.com

Questions

1. Which elephant has two bumps on its head? Tick one.

   ◯ an African elephant
   ◯ an Asian elephant
   ◯ a baby elephant

2. Draw **three** lines and match each elephant to what it is called.

An adult male elephant is called...	a cow.
An adult female elephant is called...	a calf.
A baby elephant is called...	a bull.

3. Number the facts from 1-3 to show the order that they appear in the text.

   ☐ A group of elephants is called a herd.
   ☐ Elephants have big brains.
   ☐ Only male Asian elephants have tusks.

4. Fill in the missing word.

   The _____ female elephant is the boss of the herd.

5. Why do elephants have a bath in the mud?

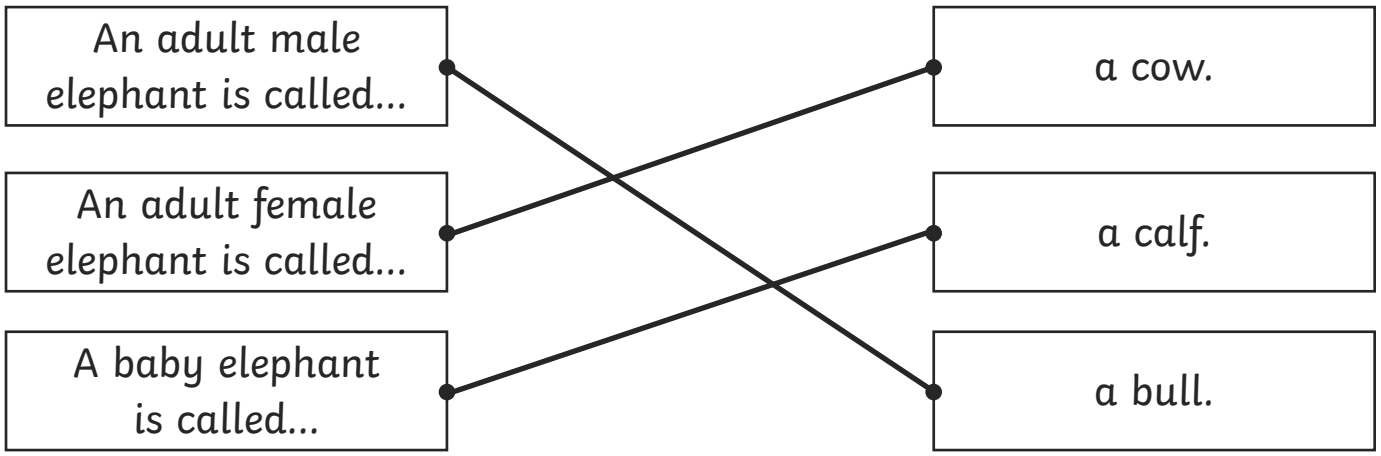
   _____

Answers

1. Which elephant has two bumps on its head? Tick one.

   ◯ an African elephant
   ✓ **an Asian elephant**
   ◯ a baby elephant

2. Draw **three** lines and match each elephant to what it is called.



3. Number the facts from 1-3 to show the order that they appear in the text.

   3 A group of elephants is called a herd.
   1 Elephants have big brains.
   2 Only male Asian elephants have tusks.

4. Fill in the missing word.

   The **oldest** female elephant is the boss of the herd.

5. Why do elephants have a bath in the mud?

   Elephants have a bath in the mud to help to keep their skin safe.

All About Elephants

The African bush elephant is the largest land mammal. They can grow up to three metres tall and they can weigh around the same as three large cars!

Elephants Never Forget

Elephants have huge brains and they are very smart. They have feelings and they love their family. They help each other and they know when someone in their family is missing. They can even remember humans and elephants that they met many years ago.

Different Kinds of Elephants

There are three different **species** of elephant:

- the African bush elephant;
- the African forest elephant;
- the Asian elephant.

The word **species** means a group of living things that are very similar.

Did You Know...?

A group of elephants is called a herd.

The oldest female elephant is the boss of the herd and she leads the way.

visit twinkl.com

Did You Know...?

Elephants can get sunburnt because they do not have any fur to keep their skin safe.

They have a bath in the mud and throw dirt on themselves to help to protect their skin

Telling Them Apart

There are three simple ways to tell whether the elephant you are looking at is an African elephant or an Asian elephant. You can look at their ears, the shape of their head and their tusks.

an African elephant

an Asian elephant

visit twinkl.com

African elephants have large ears that look like the shape of Africa. Asian elephants have smaller, rounder ears.

African elephants have rounded heads. An Asian elephant's head looks like there are two hills on the top.

Both male and female African elephants can grow tusks. Only male Asian elephants can grow tusks.

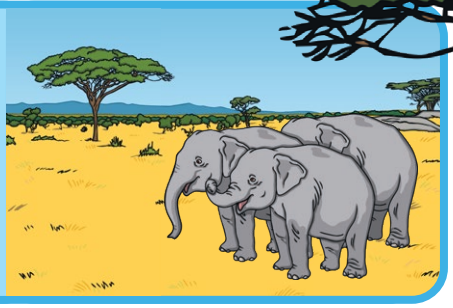
You may also look at the size of the elephant. African elephants are often bigger and heavier than Asian elephants.

Did You Know...?

Adult male elephants are called bulls.

Adult female elephants are called cows.

A baby elephant is called a calf.



visit twinkl.com

Questions

1. Which of these is not a species of elephant? Tick one.

   ◯ an African elephant
   ◯ the American elephant
   ◯ the Asian elephant

2. Draw **three** lines and complete each sentence.

A group of elephants...	are called bulls.
Adult male elephants...	is called a calf.
A baby elephant...	is called a herd.

3. Look at the part of the text called **Elephants Never Forget**
   Find and copy one word which means the same as 'clever'.

   _____

4. Who leads a herd?

   _____

5. Fill in the missing word.

   _____ elephants have smaller, rounder ears.

visit twinkl.com

6. Explain why elephants can get sunburnt.

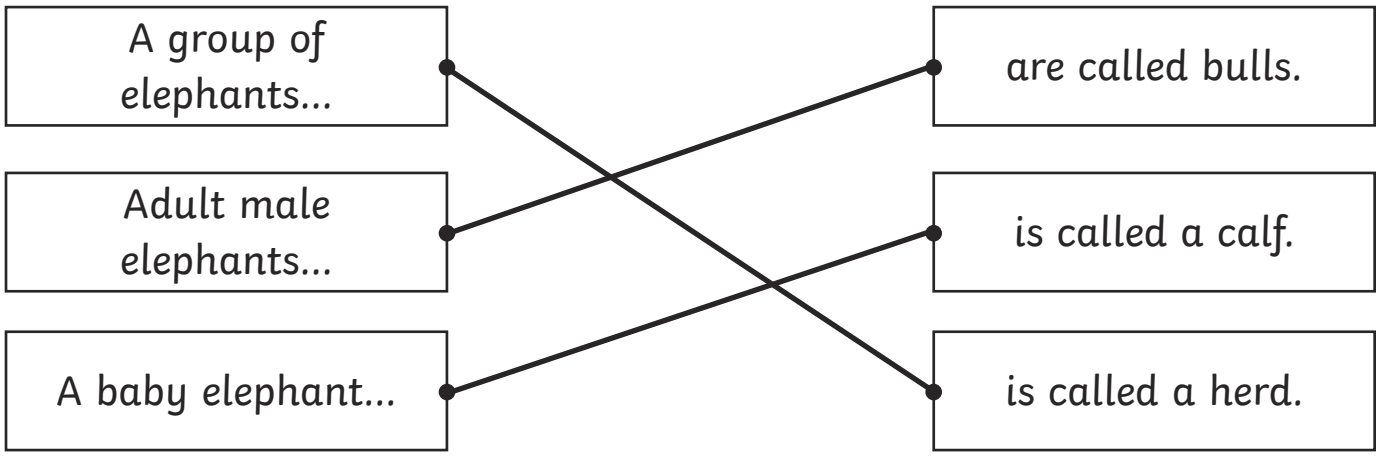
visit twinkl.com

Answers

1. Which of these is not a species of elephant? Tick one.

   ◯ an African elephant
   ✓ **the American elephant**
   ◯ the Asian elephant

2. Draw **three** lines and complete each sentence.



3. Look at the part of the text called **Elephants Never Forget**
   Find and copy one word which means the same as 'clever'.

   smart

4. Who leads a herd?

   The oldest female elephant is the boss of the herd and she leads the way.

5. Fill in the missing word.

   Asian elephants have smaller, rounder ears.

visit twinkl.com

6. Explain why elephants can get sunburnt.

Pupils' own responses, such as: Elephants can get sunburnt because they do not have any fur to stop their skin from getting burnt.

visit twinkl.com