

Year 3 Literacy

Remote learning

8.2.21-11.2.21

At the end of this week, we are going to be writing our own fact files about an African Elephant! We would like to create a year group book of all your fact files so we can't wait to see the finished product 😊

Lesson 1

LO: To understand and summarise paragraphs.

When we write our fact text this week, we are going to be writing in paragraphs. A paragraph is 3 or 4 sentences about one topic.

Elephants

Elephants live in Africa and India and are the largest animals that live on land.

What do elephants look like?

Elephants have tough grey skin and large ears. They have a long nose called a trunk that they use to drink water. African elephants have bigger ears than Indian elephants. Elephants have tusks to protect them from other animals.

What do elephants eat?

Elephants are herbivores and eat bark and leaves from trees.

What do elephants do?

Elephants are usually very gentle but can get quite cross. Elephants are very clever and know how to find water even when it is far away. When they find water they like to swim.



A bull elephant

Did you know?

A mother elephant is called a cow. The dad is a bull and a baby is called a calf!

We will write 4 paragraphs about:

- diet
- habitat
- behaviour
- appearance

In a non fiction text, we can easily find out the topic of a paragraph because there is usually a subheading. Remember a subheading tells you what the paragraph will be about.

This is a paragraph about what elephants do. All of the sentences are about the same topic.

Read the text about tigers independently or with an adult.

I have hidden the subheadings. Remember, a subheading tells you what the paragraph will be about.

What is the first paragraph all about?

diet
(what they eat)

habitat
(where they live)

behaviour
(what they do)

appearance
(what they look like)

What about the second and third paragraph?

Here are 3 subheadings:

What Tigers Eat

What Tigers Look Like

Where Tigers Live

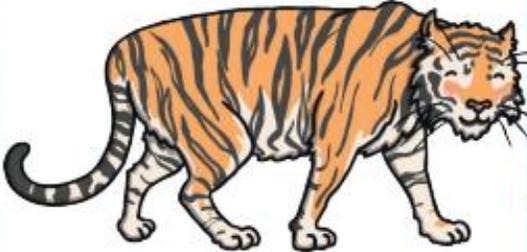
Match the subheading to the paragraph.

Now think about your elephant fact text that you will write. Your four paragraphs are about diet, habitat, behaviour and appearance.

What subheadings could you use? Come up with an idea for each paragraph.

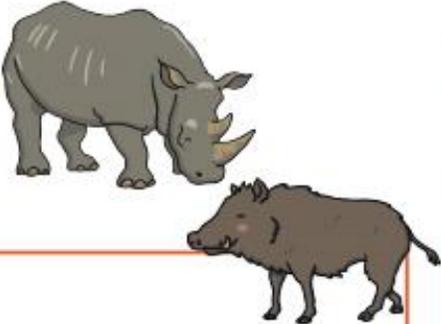
Tigers

Tigers are the biggest of the big cats. Most tigers have orange fur with black stripes. Some tigers have black or white fur with light brown stripes. The stripes help the tigers to hide from other animals when they are hunting. They have long legs to help them run fast and sharp claws to catch and kill their food. They also have a very long tail.



Most tigers live in Asia. Some live in the cold parts of the north, others live in the south where it is hotter. Tigers live in forests. They like to be on their own.

Tigers eat meat. They hunt for food at night. They creep up on the animal and bite it with their strong, sharp teeth. Tigers eat rhinos, horses and other animals.





Did You Know...?
Baby tigers are called cubs.



Read the text about tigers.

I have covered up the subheadings so it's important that you read the paragraphs carefully.

What is the topic of each paragraph?

Write a sentence to explain.

For example:

The topic of paragraph 1 is _____

The topic of paragraph 2 is _____

The topic of paragraph 3 is _____

Can you come up with your own creative and catchy subheading for each paragraph?

I'm going to choose 'Tiger Territory' as my subheading for the paragraph about habitat because I know a territory is another word for where something lives.

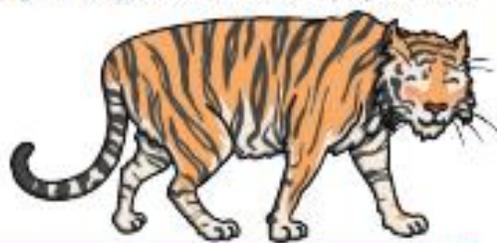
My subheading is catchy because both words start with the same letter.

Now let's think about your elephant fact file. You need to come up with a subheading for each of your four paragraphs. See if you can up with something catchy and exciting to interest your reader.

Tigers

Tigers are mammals. They are the biggest of the big cat family. Most tigers have orange fur with black stripes. Some tigers have black or white fur with light brown stripes. The stripes help the tigers to hide from other animals when they are hunting. The markings on every tiger are different, a bit like our fingerprints.

They have long legs to help them run fast and sharp claws to catch and kill their food. They also have a very long tail.





Did You Know...?
When a tiger cub is 8 weeks old, it can go out hunting with its mother.

Tigers that live in the wild are found in Asia. Some live in the cold parts of the north, others live in the south where it is hotter. Tigers live in forests. They like to live and hunt on their own and they show other tigers where their space is by scratching marks on trees with their claws.

Tigers only eat meat. They like to hunt for food at night. They creep up on their prey and bite it with their strong, sharp teeth. Tigers eat pigs, rhinos, deer, cows and horses.






Read the text about tigers.
Remember to read the paragraphs carefully because the subheadings are hidden.

Can you find the heading and did you know box?
Are there any features that you would expect to see that aren't there?

For example, is there an introduction?

What is each paragraph about?

Write a sentence to explain the overall topic of each paragraph.

Can you come up with your own creative and catchy subheading for each paragraph?

I'm going to choose '**Tiger Territory**' as my subheading for the paragraph about habitat because I know a territory is another word for where something lives.

My subheading is catchy because both words start with the same letter. This is called **alliteration**.

Now let's think about your elephant fact file. You need to come up with a subheading for each of your four paragraphs. See if you can up with something catchy and exciting to interest your reader.

Tigers

Tigers are mammals. They are the biggest of the big cat family. Most tigers have orange fur with black stripes on their body. Some tigers have black or white fur with light brown stripes. The stripes help to camouflage the tigers when they are hunting for their prey. The markings on every tiger are different, a bit like human fingerprints.

They have long legs to help them run fast and sharp claws to catch and kill their food. They also have a very long tail.



Did You Know...?
Unlike other cats, tigers love water and are fantastic swimmers.



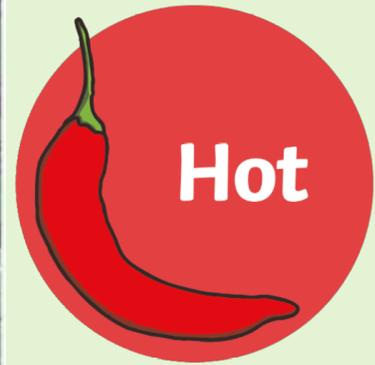
Photo courtesy of Steve Longtin (2008) Knowledge - granted under creative commons license

Tigers that live in the wild live in Asia. Some live in the cold parts of the north, others live in the south where it is hotter. Tigers live in different types of forests. They like to live and hunt on their own and mark their territory by scratching marks on trees with their powerful claws.



Sadly, tiger habitats are being destroyed and people hunt them for their fur. This means tigers are now endangered. Most are living in captivity, in places like a zoo or wildlife sanctuaries, to protect them.

Tigers are carnivorous (they only eat meat). They like to hunt for food at night. They silently stalk their prey and then pounce, biting it with their strong, sharp teeth. Tigers eat pigs, rhinos, deer, cows and horses, as well as other smaller animals.



Lesson 2

LO: To write a non-fiction text.

Today it's time to start writing your African elephant fact file! Watch Miss Duffy's video to help you get started then choose your challenge.

Teacher Video

Remember we are just focussing on our 'diet' and 'habitat' paragraphs today.

Our success criteria today:

- capital letters and full stops
- heading and subheadings
- At least 3 facts per paragraph
- simple, compound and complex sentences
- spelling topic words and key words like 'they' correctly

Don't forget you have already practised some sentences that you could use in your writing.

Complete the writing frame for your diet and habitat paragraphs.

African Elephants



What do elephants eat?

Elephants are _____

They eat _____, _____ and _____

Elephants eat _____

Where do elephants live?

African Elephants live in _____

They live in _____

The females live together but _____

grass	the desert and rainforest	sub-Saharan Africa	136kg a day
roots	herbivores	leaves	Males lives on their own

Use the structure below to help you with both your diet and habitat paragraphs:



1. Write your subheading for your paragraph.
2. Write a simple sentence.
3. Write a compound sentence.
4. Write a complex sentence. Remember you have practised these so you could use something you have already written.

Simple →

^ _____ .

Compound →

^ _____ ● _____ .

Complex {

^ _____ ▲ ~~~~~ .

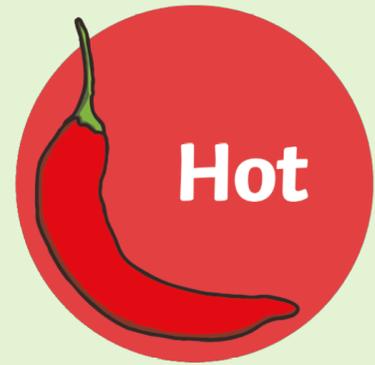
^ ▲ ~~~~~ , _____ .

Remember our success criteria:

- capital letters and full stops
- heading and subheadings
- At least 3 facts per paragraph
- simple, compound and complex sentences
- spelling topic words and key words like 'they' correctly

Using what you have learnt, write your diet and habitat paragraphs.

If you want an extra challenge, have a go at writing an introduction for your fact file. You can have a look back at the fact texts for some ideas for your introduction.



Pandas

Pandas are the national animal of China. They are related to bears and have black eye patches.

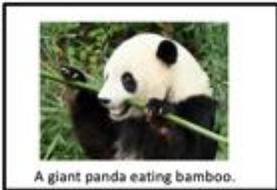
What do pandas look like?

There are two different types of panda. The giant panda is the most well known but the red panda also lives in the mountains in China. The red panda has a long tail and is the same size as a cat. The giant panda is much bigger and has black and white fur. Both the red and giant pandas have long, sharp claws that they use to climb trees and strip bamboo.



What do pandas eat?

Pandas are very fussy eaters. Most pandas only eat bamboo, a type of grass. A giant panda will eat half their own weight in bamboo every day.



A giant panda eating bamboo.

What do pandas do?

Pandas spend most of their time eating or sleeping. Young pandas like to play with each other and can be very naughty

Did you know?

Pandas are endangered and if they are not looked after could become extinct.

An introduction doesn't need a subheading and it is the first piece of writing under your heading.

Remember to include a variety of sentence types to help you writing flow well. You can use simple, compound and complex sentences.

Simple →

^ _____ .

Compound →

^ _____ ● _____ .

Complex {

^ _____ ▲ _____

^ ▲ _____ , _____ .

Lesson 3

LO: To write a non-fiction text.

Today we are going to write our 'behaviour' and 'appearance' paragraphs.

If you need to, re-watch Miss Duffy's video and then choose a challenge to have a go at your paragraphs.

Remember our success criteria:

- capital letters and full stops
- heading and subheadings
- At least 3 facts per paragraph
- simple, compound and complex sentences
- spelling topic words and key words like 'they' correctly

Before you start today, recap the facts that you've got and the facts you have chosen to include in your writing.

Complete the writing frame for your behaviour and appearance paragraphs.

What do elephants do?

Elephants are very _____ and _____

At the watering hole, _____

Elephants make sun cream by _____

What do elephants look like?

Elephants are _____

They have _____ and _____

They are _____ and they are _____



they like to swim	clever	long trunk	floppy ears	weigh 6 tonnes
covering themselves in mud	the largest land animal	they are good at finding water	3 metres tall	

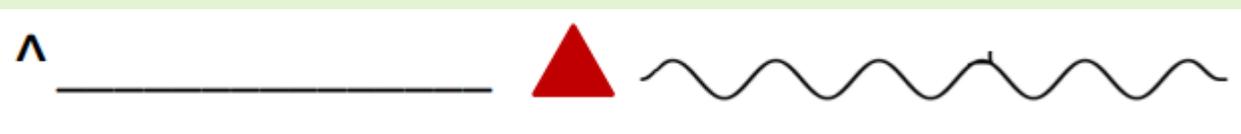
Use the structure below to help you with both your behaviour and appearance paragraphs. This is the same as yesterday.

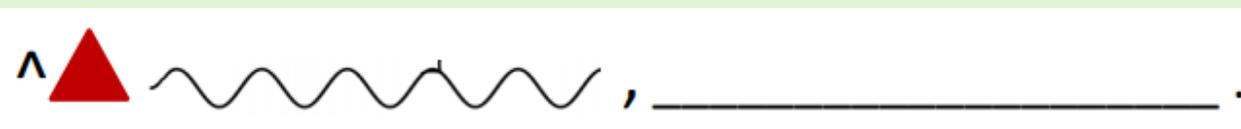


1. Write your subheading for your paragraph.
2. Write a simple sentence.
3. Write a compound sentence.
4. Write a complex sentence. Remember you have practised these so you could use something you have already written.

Simple → 

Compound → 

Complex { 

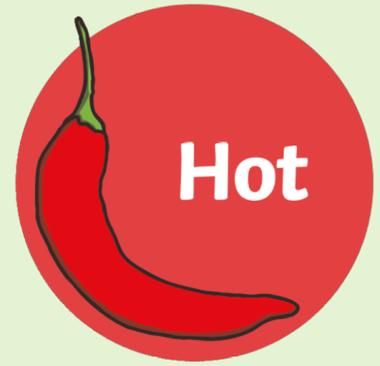


Remember our success criteria:

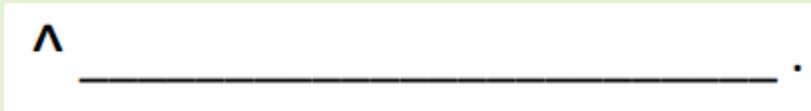
- capital letters and full stops
- heading and subheadings
- At least 3 facts per paragraph
- simple, compound and complex sentences
- spelling topic words and key words like 'they' correctly

Today, have a go at writing your behaviour and appearance paragraphs.

Just like yesterday, remember to include a variety of sentence types to help you writing flow well. You can use simple, compound and complex sentences.



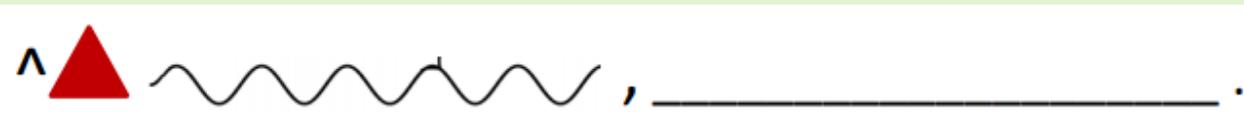
Simple →



Compound →



Complex {



Lesson 4

LO: To edit and publish my writing

Today you're going to start by editing your fact file. You could do this in a different coloured pen.

First, read your work out loud or ask an adult to read it aloud to you.

Does it make sense?

Next, check that your capital letters and full stops are in the correct places.

Then, check your spelling of topic words and commonly used words like 'they'

Then, if you would like to add any more detail in you can do that.

Here's my edited work →

Have a look at the next page to find out what to do next.

All About African Elephants

What do elephants eat?

African elephants are herbivores. They eat grass, roots and fruit ~~and~~ they use their tusks to pull bark from trees. Because ~~elephants~~^{elephants} are so large, ~~they~~^{they} eat 136kg of food a day.

Where do elephants live?

African elephants live in sub-Saharan Africa. They can be found in 37 countries and they live in the rain-forest or the desert. Although male elephants live alone, females live in a group called a herd.

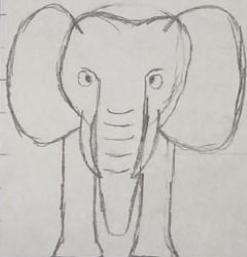
What do elephants do?

~~African elephants are~~^{African elephants are} very clever and good at finding water. Because they eat a lot, they ~~po~~ create 1 tonne of poo in a week! Elephants create their own sunscreen which they do by ~~putting~~^{putting} mud on their skin.

What do elephants look like?

Elephants are the largest land animal in the world. ~~They have a~~^{They have a} long trunk, large floppy ears, and wide legs. They are 3 metres tall and weigh 6 tonnes.

Now it's time to publish your work. Here's an example:

AFRICAN ELEPHANTS		
<p><u>What do elephants eat?</u> African Elephants are herbivores. They eat grass, roots and fruit and they use their tusks to pull bark from trees. Because elephants are so large, they eat 136kg of food a day.</p>	<p><u>What do elephants do?</u> African elephants are very clever and good at finding water. Because they eat a lot, they poo 1 tonne a week! Elephants create their own sun cream which they do by putting mud on their skin.</p>	
<p><u>Where do elephants live?</u> African elephants live in sub-Saharan Africa. They can be found in 37 countries and they live in the rainforest or the desert. Although male elephants live alone, females live in a group called a herd.</p>	<p><u>What do elephants look like?</u> Elephants are the largest land animal in the world. They have a long trunk, large floppy ears and wide legs. They are 3 metres tall and weigh 6 tonnes.</p>	 <p>An African Elephant</p>

On my publishing, I have added in a picture and a caption. See if you can add that to your publishing.

We would like you create a year group book of all of your fact files so please send your finished work to year3@elson-jun.hants.sch.uk