



Hope for the Elephants

1 On pages 10–11, the author describes his arrival at the elephant sanctuary in Sri Lanka. What is a “sanctuary”? Do you think the three rules on page 11 are suitable for people visiting a sanctuary? Would you add any more rules?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.4, RI.5.4

2 Turn to pages 12–13. In what style is the main text presented here? What features tell you this? How do the text and photos in the sidebars relate to the main text?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.5

3 Read the text and look at the pictures on pages 14–15. Explain the reasons the author gives for suggesting that humans and elephants are alike.

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.3

4 Look at the map and key on pages 26–27. What is the purpose of this map? What do the different marks on the map show? Is the wildlife reserve in Kenya more likely to be home to savanna elephants or forest elephants?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.7

5 Turn to pages 28–29. Who were the first people the author met in Kenya? What did the author learn? How do you think the author and his grandma felt after listening to the stories? What makes you say this?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.1

6 Turn to page 34. What is a “snare”? How does the photo help you understand the dangers of snares to wild animals?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.4, RI.5.4

7 Look at the timeline on pages 36–37. What event happens second in the elephants’ day? Why do the elephants like to have a bath at 1 p.m.? Create your own timeline for a day in your life.

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.7

8 What are pages 40–41 about? How are the pages presented to give you information about this topic? Summarize what a day in the life of a baby elephant might be like.

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.2

9 On page 42, the author numbered some of the text. Why did they do this? What do the numbers tell you? Which part of the picture does a similar job to the numbers?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.5

10 What is the title of the book? Read page 45 and think about how the text relates to the title. Do you feel “hopeful” after reading the book? What reasons did the author give to make you feel this way?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.8

Answers

- 1 A place where people or animals who are in danger can go to be safe; Answers will vary.
- 2 A journal entry; date at the top, written in first person, describes events of the day; they provide interesting additional information about elephants.
- 3 Both have good memories, show emotions, use gestures, are clever and learn from experience, and live long lives.
- 4 to show where different populations of African elephants live and the location of the Kenyan wildlife reserve; answer as per map key on page 26; savanna elephants
- 5 members of the reserve's anti-poaching patrol; African elephants are poached (killed) for their ivory tusks; Answers will vary. Example answers: sad, upset, angry, etc.; because they had to fight back tears / try to stop crying
- 6 A trap for catching animals made of wire and placed close to the ground; it helps to see what a snare looks like and to imagine how it would hurt animals.
- 7 Shower; to cool down from the midday heat; Answers will vary.
- 8 Baby elephants; a lot of photos and information about different aspects of a baby elephant's life; Answers will vary.
- 9 to show the order / sequence of the steps; the arrows
- 10 *Hope for the Elephants*; Answers will vary.