

## Elephant Activities

In addition to literature units and multimedia activities, it's also a good idea to include language lessons as part of your class study on elephants. Following are a few ideas for incorporating writing into our elephant module.

<p>Assign student-created elephant learning logs made of loose leaf notebook paper, file folders and brass fasteners. Allow students to decorate their learning logs according to individual taste.</p>	<p>Kick off the unit with a KWL chart on the board or on a flip chart. Create the main chart as a group, while the students create their own KWL chart in their science journals or elephant learning logs.</p>	<p>Create a T-chart together on a white board, black board or chart paper to list the attributes of both African and Asian elephants. Have the students create their own charts in their journals to practice note taking skills and develop their own study resource for a future writing activity.</p>
<p>Lead the class in the creation of a Venn diagram to compare and contrast both types of elephants. Require the students to list differences and similarities between African and Asian elephants. Have students practice note taking skills by transcribing the session in their individual elephant learning logs. Use these diagrams with notes as the basis for student-created essays comparing and contrasting African and Asian elephants.</p>	<p>For younger students, assign elephant acrostic poems that demonstrate their understanding of the concepts learned thus far. Mount the poems on a slightly larger piece of colored construction paper that coordinates with the background of an available bulletin board. Display on board with title and images.</p>	<p>Elephant alliteration! Assign humorous or other sentences about elephants that use alliteration. For example, <i>Ebina, the enormous elephant escaped from Eli, the equally enormous emu.</i></p> <p>Assign the alliteration sentences on index cards to be mounted on the inside of construction paper cards with illustrated covers. Display on a bulletin board.</p>