**English work through these activities over the whole week.**

**Put the work into the lined page book from your home learning pack.**

Log into Pearson active learn and find the book BIG CATS that I have put into your book list.

1. Read the book or press read aloud and listen to the book being read to you then answer these questions:-
2. Is the text fiction or non fiction? How do you know?
3. Put this table into your writing book and fill in the gaps:-

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Features in the text:- | Example from the text |
| Title | *Big Cats* |
| Page headings |  |
| Sub heading |  |
| Technical word |  |
| Labels |  |
| Captions |  |

**Technical words:-** for example: if the text is about how a car is made, it may include words such as 'ignition', 'engine' and 'bonnet'  A **Glossary** is used to explain **technical vocabulary**.

Diagrams have labels.

Pictures have captions.

1. Choose your favourite interesting fact from each of these pages:-

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Cat habitats |  |
| Snow Leopards |  |
| Forest Felines |  |

1. Use the **glossary** to find out the meanings of these words:-

Camouflage, solitary, stealthy, siblings, species.

1. What is the difference between the contents page and the index page?

**Grammar!**

**Look at the page Cat Families.**

Can you find each of these features?

1. An adverb (a word that describes a verb, it might well end in ly. The children ran slowly around the track. The lion hungrily ate his dinner. )
2. 1 or 2 conjunctions ( a word that joins 2 sentences together for example, and, but, when, although)
3. Possessive apostrophe (**if you have learnt about these)** (the cat’s dinner, the apostrophe shows the dinner belongs to the cat.)
4. Plural possessive apostrophe (**if you have learnt about these**).(The trees’ leaves, the apostrophe shows that there is more than 1 tree that the leaves belong to.)
5. Fronted adverbial ( the example tells you where something happens:- In the garden, the children ran. Under the table, sat the boy, deep under the sea, the fish lived and swam.)

**Now look at the page Water Cat**

Which of the features above can you find on this page?

Here are some facts about Elephants:-

**1)** There are three different species of elephant – the **African Savannah elephant**, the **African Forest elephant**and the **Asian elephant**. Elephants are known for their **large ears**, **tusks made of ivory**and their **trunks**– which are actually a fusion of their nose and upper lip.

**2)** Elephants are the world’s largest land animal! Male African elephants can reach **3m tall** and weigh between**4,000 -7,500kg**. Asian elephants are smaller, reaching **2.7m tall** and weighing **3,000– 6,000kg**.

**3)** There’s an easy way to tell the African elephants apart from their Asian cousins – their ears! African elephants have large ears **shaped like the continent of Africa**! Asian elephants’ ears are smaller and **shaped like India**. Cool, huh?

1. **Use the information in these 3 facts to write some sentences of your own, you need to try and include an adverb or a fronted adverbial in your sentences.**

Look on the website for a list of fronted adverbials and adverbs to help you.

**4)** You can tell a lot about an elephant by looking at their tusks! Elephant tusks **never stop growing**, enormous tusks can be a sign of an old elephant. Both male and female African elephants grow tusks, only ***male*Asian elephants**grow tusks. A tusk-less adult elephant is likely to be a female Asian elephant.

**5)** Until recently, African Forest elephants were thought to be a **subspecies**of the African elephant. New research discovered that they are actually **a separate species**entirely**.** These elephants live in the tropical forests of **Africa’s Congo Basin.**They have straighter tusks and more rounded ears than Savannah elephants.

1. **Use the information in these 2 facts to write your own sentences. You need to use conjunctions to join your sentences together. Try to write 3 or 4 sentences each with conjunctions in.**

Look on the website for a list of conjunctions to help you.

**6)** These magnificent mammals spend between **12 to 18 hours**eating **grass**, **plants** and **fruit** every single day! They use their long trunks to smell their food and lift it up into their mouth – yum!

**7)** All that eating means one thing, gang, an awful lot of **poo**! Each elephant creates about one tonne of poo per week, which keeps the **soil fertile** and **disperses tree seeds**. Elephants also **dig**waterholes and **create footpaths**, literally changing the landscape around them!

1. **Challenge question – use these 2 facts to write sentences of your own that include either a single possessive apostrophe or a plural possessive apostrophe.**

**8)** In **Mount Elgon National Park**in **Kenya**, a group of elephants use their tusks to mine for salt in **underground caves**! They feel their way around with their trunks and eat the salts by breaking them off with their tusks.

**9)** Elephants have created their very own **sunscreen**! After a river or swamp bath, they’ll throw mud and sand up and over themselves to protect their skin from the hot, burning sun. Clever!

**10)** Sadly, elephants are in trouble. Many are killed by humans for their **ivory** tusks, because they’ve come into conflict with communities or simply for sport. There are far fewer **Asian elephants**(which are categorised as **Endangered**) than there are **African elephants**(listed as **Vulnerable**– at risk of becoming Endangered). Asian elephants also face threats from **tourist attractions** where people pay to ride on their backs or watch them paint pictures using their trunks.

1. **Each of the above facts are about different things. What sub-heading would you put above each of the facts?**

Subheading – A heading given to each paragraph.

Read the paragraph – what is it telling you about? Look back at the book big cats to see examples of subheadings above each paragraph.

**This week you are going to think about writing a booklet about an animal of your own.**

**Look back at the book Big Cats, which page headings will work for your animal?**

**You can either research an animal yourself or use the facts about camels I have given you.**

**Write the information using the grammar you have practised (fronted adverbials etc) and add drawings / maps / diagrams.**

**HINT – I would use these page headings:-**

**Introducing \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Habitats**

**Different types of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**A special talent of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Facts about Camels**

* There are two species of true camel. The dromedary, is a single humped camel that lives in the Middle East and the Horn of Africa area. The bactrian, is a two-humped camel that lives in areas of Central Asia.
* There are four camel-like mammals that live in South America, llama and alpaca are called "New World camels", while guanaco and vicuna are called "South American camels".
* Camels have been domesticated by humans for thousands of years. Used mostly for transport or to carry heavy loads, they also provide a source of milk, meat, and hair/wool.
* Camels live on average for 40 to 50 years.
* Camels are 1.85 m (6 ft 1 in) at shoulder level and 2.15 m (7 ft 1 in) at the hump.
* Camels are capable of running as fast as 65 km/h (40 mph) for a short period of time, and can maintain a speed of around 40 km/h (25 mph).
* Dromedary camels weigh 300 to 600 kg (660 to 1,320 lb) and bactrian camels weigh 300 to 1,000 kg (660 to 2,200 lb).
* Camels do not actually hold liquid water in their humps. The humps contain fatty tissue reserves, which can be converted to water or energy when required. They can survive up to six months without food or water by using up these fatty stores.
* Camels are well suited to the hot sandy deserts they roam in. Their thick coat insulates them from heat and also lightens during summer to help reflect heat.
* A camels long legs help its body to be high from the hot desert surface and a pad of thick tissue called a pedestal raises the body slightly when the camel sits so cool air can pass underneath.
* A large camel can drink around 30 gallons (113 liters) in just 13 minutes, making them able to rehydrate faster than any other mammal.
* Long eyelashes, ear hair, and closable nostrils keep sand from affecting the camel, while their wide feet help them move without sinking into sand.
* Camels have long been used in wartimes. Romans used camels for their ability to scare off [horses](https://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/animals/horse.html) who are afraid of their scent, and in recent times camels have been used to carry heavy gear and troops across hot sandy deserts.
* There are estimated to be over 14 million camels in the world. Camels introduced to desert areas of [Australia](https://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/countries/australia.html) are the worlds largest populations of feral camels.

**Fun Challenges!**

Make a model using lego or modelling material or junk modelling bits of your animal.

Make a ‘home’ for your model. If you chose a camel it would need something like a desert and watering hole! You could make this outside or inside.

Play with your model, imagine they are your pet. What adventures could you have with it? What would happen if it came to school with you? Would it enjoy a day at the beach? Make a pretend rocket and have a space adventure with your rocket? Maybe your pet would like to learn to do gymnastics or play football?!!!!!!