



wild dog

**Wild Dog Books  
Teachers' Notes**

Elephants CloseUp

## Synopsis

Elephants are the largest land animals. Elephants live in Africa and Asia. Elephants live in herds made up of females and their babies. Male elephants usually live alone on the edge of their herds. Elephant babies are born weighing up to 220 pounds and depend on their mothers and other females in the herd until they are up to five years of age.

## Writing style

The *CloseUp* series has been designed for very early readers and reluctant readers. Text is succinct and simple, with no more than a few sentences on a page. The large format images relate directly to the text, so young readers have multiple entry points to engaging with the information.

## Photographic style

The *CloseUp* series uses photographs that bring the viewer close to the animal. The photographs enable the reader to get closer to the animal than he or she could in real life. These photographs also have the advantage that the image is static, giving the reader the opportunity to explore the image and look at the animal and its features in detail. The photographs are also strongly composed with bright strong colours to increase the appeal to visual readers.

## Study notes

Themes:

- Species
- Habitats
- Breeding
- Food and predators
- Climate change
- Protected species
- Herds

## Curriculum link: English/Creative Arts

Students should read through *Elephants CloseUp* and then create a visual project that can be presented to the whole class.

The project should include images of elephants and contain information about what they learnt from the book.

Students should attempt to answer the following questions:

- What type of habitat does it live in?
- What does it eat?
- Does the elephant have any predators?

## **Curriculum link: Science and Technology**

Before reading *Elephants CloseUp*, brainstorm some of the following:

- What do you know about elephants?
- Where do they live?
- What colour are they?
- What type of animal are elephants?

After reading *Elephants CloseUp*, engage the students in a class discussion and create a brainstorm list of all the things they have learnt about elephants from this book.

Ask the students to research both the African elephant and the Asian elephant and list the differences between the two species.

## **Marketing and promotion**

*Elephants CloseUp* is part of the *CloseUp* series, which includes *Snakes CloseUp*, *Crocs CloseUp*, *Sharks CloseUp*, *Minibeasts CloseUp*, *The Human Body CloseUp*, *Wolves CloseUp*, *Big Cats CloseUp* and *Spiders CloseUp*. Future titles in the series are planned.