



Hati's Elephant Trivia

I am an Indian elephant. We are very cool animals. Here is some fun trivia so that you can know a whole lot more about us.

[You can make this an activity by reading a portion of each fact and let children try to answer the underlined portion.]

- > We sleep standing up.
- > Grown up females and their babies live in herds, which are like big, extended families that live all together. Boy elephants leave the herd when they are 12 years old.
- > We grow very big and can weigh 10,000 pounds!
- > We like to eat grass and bark.
- > We use our trunks to collect our food and bring it up to our mouths, just like you would use your hands.
- > To drink, we use our trunks to suck up water and shoot it into our mouths. It's a lot of fun!
- > Momma elephants carry their babies inside of them for 18 months before they are born.
- > We use our tusks to fight off other animals that threaten us.
- > We can run up to 24 miles per hour for short distances.
- > We are a lot like African elephants, but they are bigger (about three feet taller than us Indian elephants.)

Other trivia:

- > During the wet season we eat things low to the ground, but during the dry season we use our trunk to gather food from trees and bushes.
- > We have our own natural air conditioning system! We can cool ourselves off by fanning our ears. When we do this, it makes the blood in our ears cooler. That blood goes to the rest of our body and keeps us nice and cool.
- > African elephants have bigger ears that turn backwards, while our ears are smaller and turn forward.
- > The back of an African elephant is concave, which means that it curves in (like a cave), and the back of an Indian elephant, like me, is convex, which means it curves out, or up.
- > African elephants only have three toenails on their back feet. My fellow Indian elephants and I have four toenails on our back feet!

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