

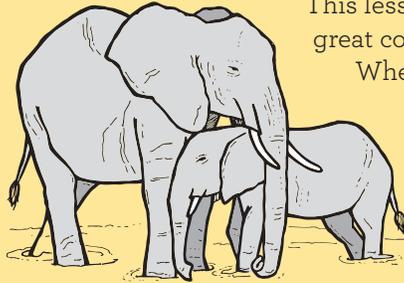


Elephants Care

Primary Lesson Plans: Suggested for Grades 1-3

THEMES

- Kindness
- Comfort and Care
- Compassion
- Empathy
- Welcoming Others

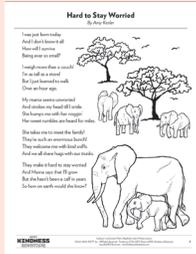


This lesson uses paired text (fiction and nonfiction) to start great conversations about kindness during times of worry.

Whether kids are new at school or just a little afraid to make new friends, they will love this unit that focuses on the natural habits of elephants. Kids will learn more about similarities they have with the elephant, especially when it comes to showing comfort and kindness to new arrivals in the herd.

PART 1: Fiction

Pg. 2



Hard to Stay Worried

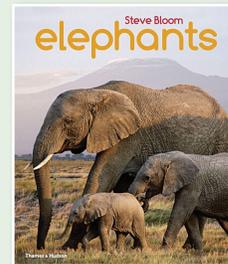
by Amy Kesler

8.5" X 11"
Black & white
Ideal for individual student use

Printable included on page 6.

PART 2: Non-Fiction

Pg. 4



Elephants,

by Steve Bloom

PART 2: Non-Fiction Download—Elephant Fact Cards SET 2



Enhance your lesson with more downloadable resources from Kindness Adventure.

Check our NED's Elephant Fact Cards to learn more interesting facts about elephants! This set of three cards will provide you with everything you need to know for the non-fiction part of this lesson.

www.KindnessAdventure.com/Resources.html



Caring is Cool Buttons

These cheerful buttons remind students that it is COOL to be kind, compassionate and CARING towards others.

Each button is 1-3/4" Diameter
Classroom Pack of 30 = \$19.00
School Pack of 150 = \$80.00

Available on www.ShopNED.com



Key Vocabulary and Tricky Phrasing:

Survive - overcoming obstacles and still making it, continue to live,

Worry - fearful, concerned for

Stroke - gently rub

Rumbles - sounds of movement (like steps) or sounds of communication (like voice or noises)

Enormous - big, giant, huge

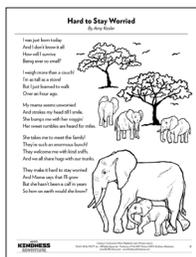
Calf - baby elephant

Noggin - another name for head

Before Reading

- 1. How big is a baby elephant?** Allow students to guess pounds and height of a baby elephant. Teachers, consider graphing their 'guesstimate' numbers and/or cutting strings to the size of the height guess. Utilize those math skills!
- 2. When do you think a baby elephant takes his/her first steps?** Allow students to predict. More math needed – graph those predictions!
- 3. What do you think a new baby elephant worries about?** Answers will vary.
- 4. If you were a new kid at school, what might you worry about?** Answers will vary. *Not having anyone to talk to. No one will play with me or eat lunch with me. I won't know where to go. I won't know how to do things everyone else knows how to do.*

 PRINTABLE: Pg. 6



Read: *Hard to Stay Worried* by Amy Kesler

After Reading

- 1. What is the baby elephant worried about?** *He thinks he is too small compared to his big mama. He is NEW to the group of elephants.*
- 2. Who takes care of and comforts the baby elephant? What does she do to make him feel better?** *The mama elephant. She strokes his head and gently bumps his head with her head.*
- 3. Why does the mother elephant comfort her baby?** *She loves him, she cares for him. She doesn't want him to be worried. She introduces him to the rest of the group. This is called compassion when you care about the feelings of another.*
- 4. Who comforts or cares for you when you are worried about something? How do they comfort you? Is it your mom or dad rubbing your head or doing other things like scratching your back, holding your hand? Maybe your dog or cat comforts you? How about a stuffed animal or a blanket – can it comfort you?**



Elephants Care

PART 1: Fiction, *Continued*

5. What is the **SAME/DIFFERENT** about the kinds of things that comfort you and comfort an elephant? *Elephants are comforted by being close to the ones that love them and touching or feeling them.*
6. How was the baby elephant introduced to the rest of the herd? *Sniffs and hugs. Why do you think they sniff?*
7. What do you do when you meet someone for the first time? *Shake hands, smile, wave, etc.*
8. How is the mama elephant being kind to the baby? *She cares and comforts when the baby is worried. She hugs and touches to let the baby know she is there. The baby feels safe when mom touches it. She is compassionate and kind and caring.*
9. How can you be more caring like the elephant? How could you be more understanding and compassionate to kids at school? *Answers will vary.*

Writing Prompts

 PRINTABLE: Pg. 7

Write and Draw. *I am Kind!*

 PRINTABLE: Pg. 8

Write and Draw. *Being kind*

Activities

 PRINTABLE: Pgs. 9-10

Be a recess reporter.

Interview kids at school and ask them what they would do to be kind to someone that is new at your school. You might even have a new student at your school right now. Interview them and ask them how they would like others to show kindness to them. Make a news report to share with your class. Your class might want to try out some of those ideas next time a new kids comes.

Home Connection

Family Project Kindness at Home.

Encourage your kids to do random acts of kindness by acknowledging and making a big deal out of kindness acts you see! Ring a bell, honk a horn, do a kindness dance when you catch your kid being kind!

Resources

Look for more nonfiction books and videos about elephants. Help your students learn more about how compassionate and kind elephants are.

Connect with the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust:

Website: www.sheldrickwildlifetrust.org

Facebook: The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust

Twitter: @DSWT

YouTube: [dswtkenya](https://www.youtube.com/dswtkenya)



PRINTABLE: SET 2



NED's Elephant Fact Cards:
SET2
KindnessAdventure.com/
Resources.html

- 2.1 Elephants are Big Babies
- 2.2 The Happy Herd
- 2.3 Welcoming Ways

Read Non-Fiction Text

Elephants, by Steve Bloom Read chapter *Family and Friends*, pages 26-33

After Reading

1. **What are baby elephants called?** *Baby elephants are called calves and Mom elephants are called cows.*
2. **How much does a baby elephant weigh?** *Over 220 pounds.*
3. **When does a baby elephant learn to walk?** *As soon as it is born, the mom helps the baby up. Usually within 1 hour, the baby is walking.*
4. **Who is there to help the baby elephant?** *Other elephant moms (aunts and grandmas) help.*
5. **How is the elephant family LIKE your family? How is it different from your family?** *Elephant families are made up of all the females and young elephants. The male elephants live somewhere else. Elephant grandmas, aunts, mom, sisters all live in the same herd-they all help take care of the baby elephants.*
6. **How does your family care and show kindness to you?** *Answers will vary. Mom gives me M&M's when I am sad. Dad gives me a hug. Grandma lets me sit in her lap and she sings to me.*
7. **How do you welcome and show kindness to kids you don't know?** *Answers will vary. I am shy and stay away. I run up to them and tell them my name. Say hi! Shake hands. Invite them to play.*
8. **How do you welcome and show kindness to kids you know?** *Answers vary. Say hi, hug, smile, grab hand and take to playground, scream with joy, etc.*

Writing Prompts & Activities

Journal Writing: Finish this thought...If I saw someone who was unhappy, I would....

PRINTABLE: Pg. 11

Draw and Label. How big is your herd?

Draw your family and label them.

PRINTABLE: Pg. 12

We are KIND and CARING like Elephants.

List things elephants do to be kind. Rewrite each one in a way that you can show similar kindness to someone at school.



Activity

Say 'hi' with handshake.

Create your own special handshake for all the kids in your class! Watch online: A teacher has a different handshake for each student! <http://bit.ly/2qxbMYJ>

Home Connection

Family Project Kindness at Home.

Encourage your kids to do random acts of kindness by acknowledging and making a big deal out of kindness acts you see! Ring a bell, honk a horn, do a kindness dance when you catch your kid being kind!

Resources

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YouTube: dswtkenya

Hard to Stay Worried

By Amy Kesler

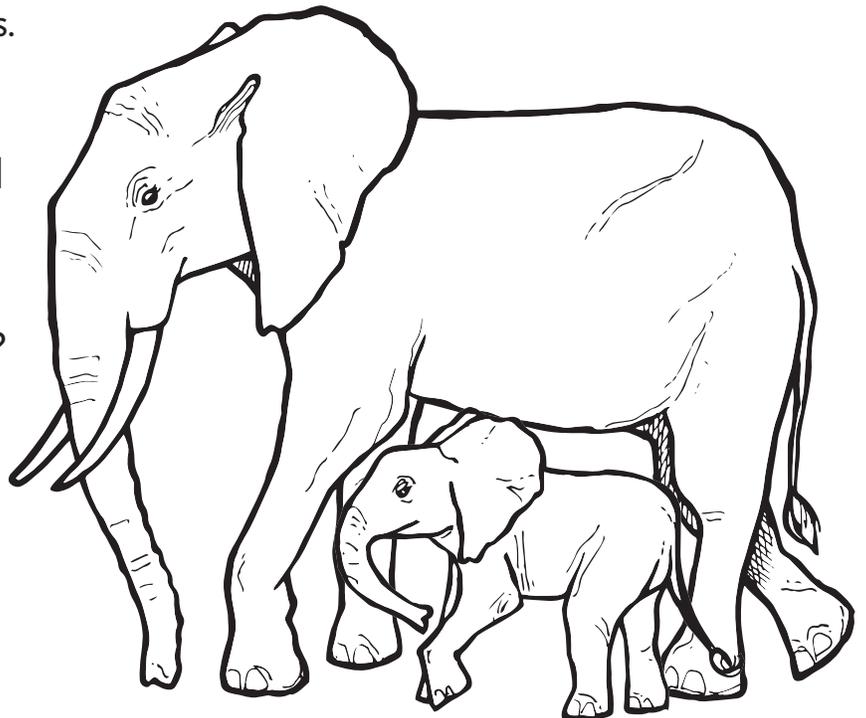
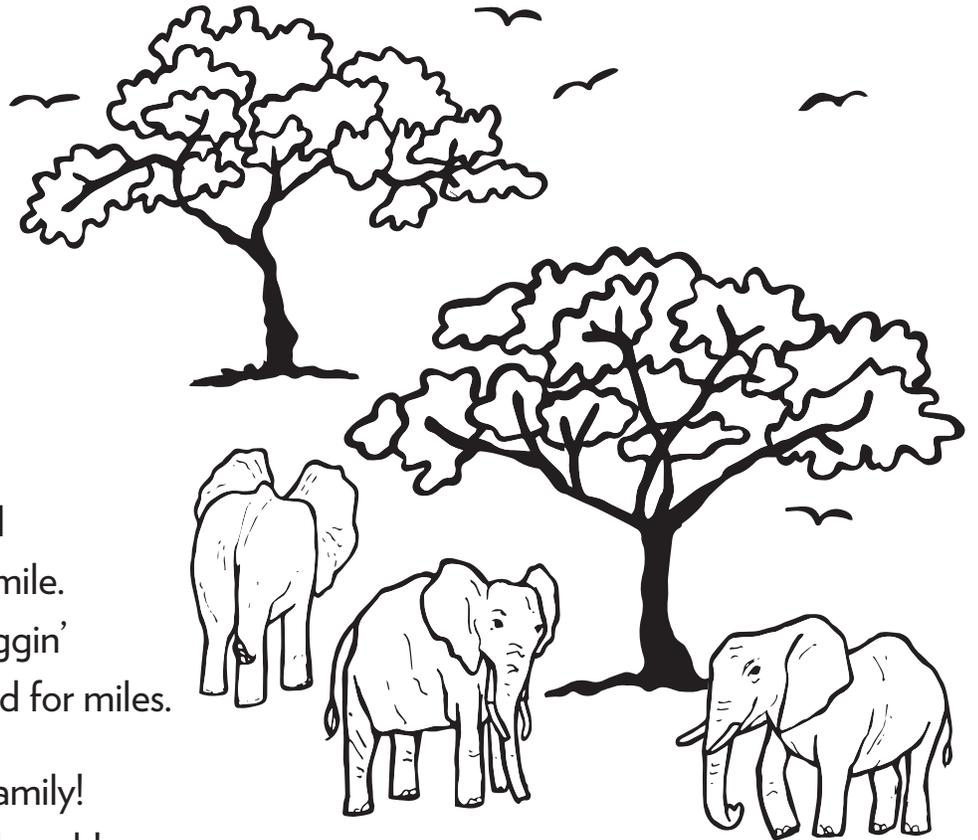
I was just born today
And I don't know it all.
How will I survive
Being ever so small?

I weigh more than a couch!
I'm as tall as a stove!
But I just learned to walk
Over an hour ago.

My mama seems unworried
And strokes my head till I smile.
She bumps me with her noggin'
Her sweet rumbles are heard for miles.

She takes me to meet the family!
They're such an enormous bunch!
They welcome me with kind sniffs.
We all share hugs with our trunks.

They make it hard to stay worried
And Mama says that I'll grow
But she hasn't been a calf in years
So how on earth would she know?



Write about times when you are kind to other kids.

Name _____

Being Kind. Write 2-3 sentences to finish this prompt.
Draw a picture to match your writing.

Name _____

If I were new at school, I would want other kids to...



NED'S NEWS



Date:

Your Name:

Headline:

“ _____

_____”

Quote from: _____



BE KIND LIKE AN ELEPHANT

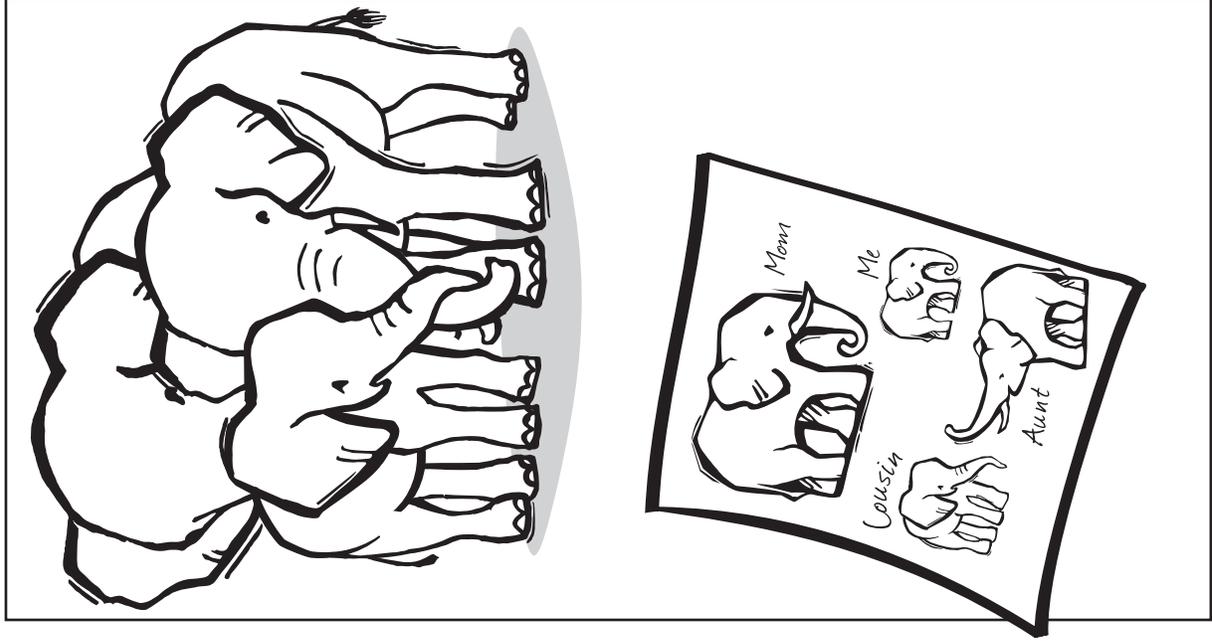
Students at our school have learned about the caring and kind behavior of elephants. We all want to join the HERD and be KIND to others!



Draw and Label. How big is your herd?

Draw your family and label them.

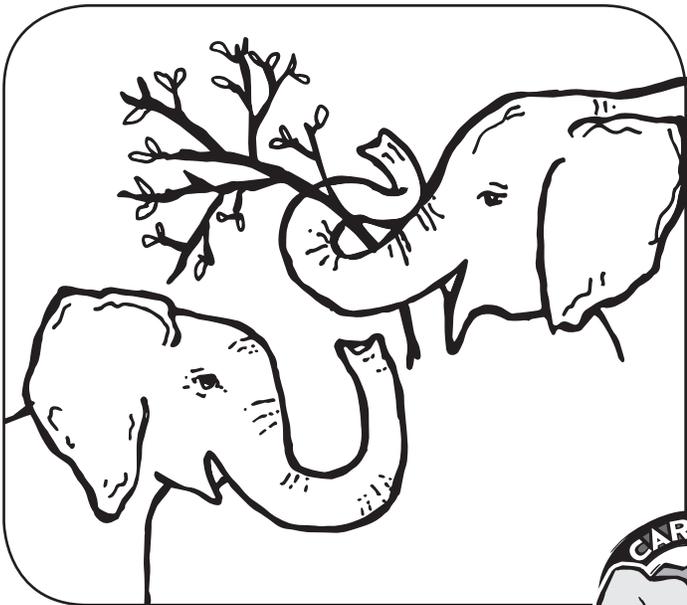
Name _____



We are KIND and Caring like Elephants.

Name _____

Make a list of things elephants do to be kind. Rewrite each one in a way you can show kindness to someone at school.



Elephants are KIND. **We are KIND.**

