

African Elephant Crossing and African Savanna Scavenger Hunt Answers:

Grades 7-8

1. Elephants use their trunk to smell, touch, and facilitate taste by placing food and objects in the mouth. Elephants also use their trunk to communicate, make vocalizations, and touch one another.
2. Habitat loss, poaching and hunting, and human conflict are the major threats to African elephants.
3. Meerkats live in large numbers for safety from predators. They also must occasionally fight to keep their territory from other meerkat groups, and larger groups are most apt to win a territory fight. They also team up to kill or chase off predators, like snakes.
4. Naked mole rats live underground to avoid predators and to avoid the heat above ground.
5. Living in groups allows lions to work together to take down large prey. Also, prides of lions can intimidate other predators and steal their kills. Living in a group provides lions with more safety as well, especially for cubs.
6. The primary advantage of zebra stripes is when in large herds, it is hard for predators to identify an individual zebra. This makes singling out an individual for attack very hard.
7. The wide open exhibit provides giraffe with room to roam. Also, a number of elevated feeders allow giraffe to feed as if they were in the wild.
8. Ostriches have adapted by becoming very fast runners.
9. Many zoos are engaged in conservation efforts to protect rhino and address illegal poaching.
10. Rhinos tough thick skin allows them to adapt to varied temperatures ranging from sub-zero to over 100 degrees Fahrenheit. Active mostly at night, Rhinos can avoid intense heat during the day. They are also able to eat many poisonous desert plants that other animals could not, which provide them ample food sources.