

# Giant Pandas: Review



2. For the first year of their lives, giant panda cubs depend completely on their mothers. At birth, the babies are very small - about 140 grams. They are also completely helpless. For several weeks, their eyes are closed. For at least the first three months, their legs are not strong enough for walking. When they are this small, they can easily be killed by other animals if they are not protected by the mother. At around six months, the young pandas start eating little bits of bamboo, but milk from their mothers is their main food until they are over nine months old. This milk is very rich, and the little pandas grow quickly. By the time they are a year old, they weigh at least 25 kilograms.
3. Scientists report that panda mothers care for their babies in some of the same ways that human mothers do. For one thing, panda mothers keep their babies very clean. They do not give the little pandas baths, of course. Instead, they use their tongues to lick the babies clean. Any smell might attract predators that could attack and try to kill the baby. Like human mothers who hold their babies in their arms, mother pandas often hold their babies in their front paws. And just like humans, panda mothers rock their babies back and forth when they cry. Finally, as with humans, young pandas stay with their mothers for their early years. But their childhood ends much sooner than with human children. After about two years mother pandas usually become pregnant with another baby and chase away the young pandas. Now they must become independent and live on their own.

# Schedule for the Day

1. Warm-up
2. Vocabulary
3. Reading
4. Game time!
5. Exit ticket

***Guess the topic of the day.***

Hints!



# New Vocabulary!

**Trunk (noun)**

The nose of an elephant.

**Interaction (verb)****in-ter-AC-tion**

Action between two or more people or things.

**Characteristic (noun)****char-ac-te-RIS-tic**

A quality that stands out.

**Biologist (noun)****bi-O-lo-gist**

Someone who works in the field of biology (the study of life).

**Similarity (noun)****si-mi-LA-ri-ty**

Two different things that have common traits.

**Scientist (noun)****SCI-en-tist**

Someone who works in the field of science.

**Behaviour (noun)****be-HA-viour**

The way someone acts.

**Plantation (noun)****plan-TA-tion**

A place where plants are grown.



# Elephants

1. The elephant's **trunk** serves many purposes. It is a long nose with a strong sense of smell. It is also an upper lip used for drinking and eating. To drink, elephants suck the water up into their trunk and blow it into their mouths. They eat by pulling up grass or leaves with their trunks and putting the food into their mouths. Because of the muscles at the end, the elephant's trunk is also like a hand that can pick up and carry things, including scratching themselves and throwing things. Furthermore, the trunk plays a part in elephants' **interactions** with each other. Elephants can use it to make a wide variety of sounds in order to communicate happiness, anger, or danger. They also use their trunks to touch each other and to show affection.



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Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

Main idea: \_\_\_\_\_

## Supporting details

An empty, light brown rounded rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a supporting detail.

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# Elephants

3. **Scientists** and people who work with elephants have observed various kinds of **behaviour** that shows how intelligent these animals are. One mark of intelligence is the ability to use tools. | Elephants sometimes use sticks to scratch themselves in places they cannot reach with their trunks. Another mark of intelligence is the ability to plan ahead. | Indian farmers who keep elephants as work animals have observed this ability. There is no fence that will keep their elephants out of an area where they want to go, such as a banana **plantation**. | The only way the farmers can save their bananas is to tie bells around the necks of the elephants. Then the farmers will hear the elephants if they try to eat the bananas. | However, some elephants have figured out a way to silence the bells. They roll in mud until the bells are filled with mud and no longer make any sound.





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**Supporting details**

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# Exit Ticket!

Do you think elephants are more interesting than pandas?  
What have you learned that made them more interesting?

