ELEPHANATICS.org

PROJECT IDEAS FOR SCIENCE CLASS/ANIMAL WELFARE CLUBS
GLOBAL CITZENS CLUBS

The following project ideas are suitable for grades 4-12. They can be modified to suit the curriculum requirements for the grade. There are further lesson plans on our website at - www.Elephanatics.org available for use, written for both the US and Canadian curriculums.

#1 Project:
Have students research and do a timeline on where ivory comes from. Kathryn Bigelow's video is a great resource for information:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5gQujyNDp98

Questions to consider while researching the ivory trade:

a) Think of ways to reach the community with your findings on ivory and elephants.
b) Post their results at local libraries, businesses
c) How is this a global problem?
d) Make up your own campaign asking people on the street if   they know where ivory comes from
e) Would consumers continue to buy ivory trinkets if they knew their origin?
f) What are other sources that can be used in lieu of ivory? (i.e. toga nut and synthetic rhino horn. See link below:)

 https://owlcation.com/social-sciences/The-Eco-friendly-Taqua-Nut

#2 Project:
Make a mock Global Positioning System (GPS) collar for an elephant. Dr. Jake Wall, Elephanatics co-founder, works for The Mara Elephant Project in Kenya (previous Save The Elephants) and is one of the engineers who created GPS technology; a system which monitors the movement of elephants in real time and helps with combating poaching. See links below on Dr. Wall and GPS technology. Have your students watch the video from 2015 NGX Challenge: Exploring solutions, to come up with some creative and fun ways to make a GPS collar.

Dr. Jake Wall and GPS technology links:

https://www.canadiangeographic.ca/article/canadian-student-designs-system-can-monitor-elephant-poaching-africa

https://www.questia.com/newspaper/1P3-3377652311/b-c-man-s-google-elephant-system-helping-save-threatened

2015 NGX Challenge: Exploring Solutions:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1m9JWUs1HFg&feature=em-subs_digest

Protecting Africa's elephants: Discover Samburu with Save The Elephants & Google Maps:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uoTAVsSeMnY&feature=youtu.be

Questions to consider:

a) How does monitoring the elephant with a GPS collar help the survival of the elephant?
b) Does it help with poaching?
c) How do they help in managing elephant population and ecosystems?
d) How do they assist with human/animal conflict?
e) How does monitoring their movements help with examining the routes they use to move from one range to another?

#3 Project:
Research circuses, zoos and travel destinations where elephants are the main attraction. Determine whether these environments are healthy, safe, or ethical for the elephant. You can find resources on our website link below for travel destinations. Our list includes tourist destinations that recommend only animal friendly environments.

https://elephanaticsdotorg.files.wordpress.com/2013/07/ele-camps-in-asia.pdf

Questions to consider:

a) How do circuses train elephants to do tricks? Is this ethical?
b) Why are elephants bred in zoos?
c) Are some accredited zoos good for the conservation and study of elephants?
d) Does captivity affect elephant breeding?
e) What is 'responsible elephant tourism'?
f) What is elephant trekking or elephant riding? How is it negative to the elephant?
g) What does the term 'wild capture' mean and how could it be associated with travel destinations?

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