



Research African elephants using books and computer resources. List the facts around an actual size outline of a baby or adult elephant for classroom display. Alternatively discuss with children the height of a newborn African baby elephant (approx 1m). Perhaps the calf's height could be marked on a wall. Alongside it, mark each child's height with their name. Have the children measure their marked height and the height of the calf. Discuss who is taller, smaller, or the same height as the elephant calf. A similar activity could be done with an adult elephant (approx 3m) and the teacher.

Arrange the children in small groups. Each group makes a complete set of finger/stick puppets of Baby and her family. Perhaps each puppet could be labelled with its name. Once all the characters are completed, the children use the puppets to retell the story in their groups.

Have the children cut out an outline of a trunkless elephant and paint it. Elephant trunks could then be made and attached by using strips of paper folded in accordion style. Elephants could be displayed when finished.

The children could write a story about having a trunk instead of a nose for a day.

The story of Baby is about a day in the life of a baby elephant. Have the children write, illustrate and tell about a day in the life of themselves.

Family trees can be made for Baby's family and each child's family. Each family member's name could be written on paper cut out into the shape of leaves, or real leaves (big) could be collected and names written on with felt tip pens. Tree trunks can be drawn on paper and leaves glued on.

Together with children look at the illustrations and discuss what the artist used to create them. (The imprint page states that chinagraph pencil and watercolours were used.) What colours were used for the elephants? Children can draw an outline of an elephant with a crayon to paint in.

Together as a class, acrostic poems can be done for the words 'baby' 'elephant' and 'family'.

