

On My Own: Quoda Practice Activities

Just Like Home: The Elephant Sanctuary

Asian and African elephants have a place to call home outside the zoo or circus. The Elephant Sanctuary is in Hohenwald, Tennessee. Elephants who are old or have special needs are cared for and protected at the sanctuary. They can graze green pastures, bathe in the pond, and explore forests just like in their natural habitat. A heated barn keeps elephants warm in the winter.

The Elephant Sanctuary is much like life in the wild for the elephants. In the wild, Asian and African elephants don't live side by side. They each have their own habitats at the sanctuary, too. The sanctuary also has only female elephants, since males and females live apart from each other in the wild.

A new education gallery is being built in downtown Hohenwald. Visitors will be able to see the elephants up close through special video cameras called "ele-cams."

Before You Read:

Consider what you've learned about "In my Head: On My Own" questions from the video. Remember, these types of questions are NOT directly stated within the text. They require the use of clues and prior knowledge when answering them.

What are the signal words stated in the "In My Head: On My Own" questions that will help you look for clues within the text as you read.

Think about how you will use this QA4 strategy to answer questions about what you read.

Please read the story and answer the following questions:

1. The Elephant Sanctuary doesn't allow visitors. Why do you think they made that decision?
2. How would you describe an elephant to someone who has never seen one?

Compare your answers and thought process with **Hasan's Think Aloud**.

Up and Away! How Hot Air Balloons Work

Hot air balloons become airborne, and glide gracefully through the air. Have you ever wondered how they work?

There are three basic parts to a hot air balloon. The envelope is the brightly colored fabric bag. The burner has a large flame, and is located above the heads of the riders. The basket carries the riders.

Hot air balloons rise when the pilot fills the envelope with hot air from the flame of the burner. The balloon descends when the air inside the envelope cools. Wind speed determines how fast or slow the balloon will move along.

Hot air balloons are an amazing example of a basic science principle. Hot air rises and cold air sinks!

Please read the story and answer the following questions:

1. Why do pilots like clear skies and calm winds for flying hot air balloons?
2. If you were going to design a hot air balloon, what would it look like?

Compare your answers and thought process with **Riana's Think Aloud**.