

# Suzy's World

## Elephant - Why aren't elephants purple?

### Fact

- Some animals use colours to attract a partner – an elephant doesn't need to do that.
- An elephant's skin is grey, wrinkly and looks rather dry, just like the dry dusty desert areas they live in.



### Do you know

- Elephants are herbivores and they need flat chewing, grinding teeth called molars.
- Elephants can only make 6 molar teeth and they only have two molars at a time in their mouths.
- Elephants can live up to 60 years and they die when they run out of teeth.
- Elephants communicate using sounds too low to be heard by human ears.
- Some animals use camouflage so they can hunt other animals without being seen.
- Other animals use the colour of their skin to blend in with their habitats so they can hide.

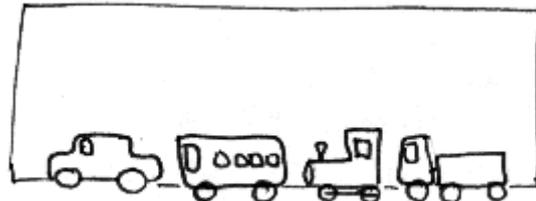
### Experiments you can do

What animals can you think of use camouflage? There are plenty in your back yard- take a look under bits of wood, pot plants and leaves.

Are they hunting animals sneaking up on their prey or animals that are hiding from their predators?

### Other Investigations

Line up a number of toys of a similar size against a piece of paper that is the same colour as one of your toys. (Toy cars are good for this). Stand back about a meter and a half – about the length of your bed. Which toy is the hardest to see?



### Jokes

When do elephants have 8 legs? When there are two of them.

Why did the elephant cross the road? The chicken was on holiday.

Which is stronger, an elephant or a snail? A snail, because it carries its house – an elephant only carries its trunk.