

USA destroys 6,000kg of ivory

18th November, 2013



Elephants are in danger. Hunters kill them for their tusks. The hunters sell the tusks because they are made from ivory. The USA is working

to stop this trade. It wants to protect the world's elephants. On Thursday, the U.S. government burnt almost 6,000 kilograms of ivory tusks. They also destroyed ivory carvings and jewellery. The USA wants to send a message to poachers (people who illegally hunt and kill elephants) to stop killing elephants. More and more elephants in Africa are dying. It is difficult for African countries to stop the poachers. On Wednesday the USA offered a \$1 million reward for anyone who has information about a group in Laos that buys and sells ivory.

Conservationists (people who want to protect animals and the Earth) are happy with the USA's actions. They say one way to end poaching is to make it unprofitable. If poachers know they cannot make money from ivory, they will not kill elephants. Adam Roberts of the Born Free USA conservation group said: "Any time we can remove ivory from the marketplace, it's a win for elephants, because it suggests to the world that there isn't profitability to be had by selling ivory. And if there's no profitability in selling ivory, there's no profitability in poaching elephants." A worldwide ban on trading ivory started in 1989. It has helped to protect elephants, but the world needs to do a lot more.

Sources: VOA / Fox News / LA Times

Writing

How can the world help protect elephants from poachers? Discuss three ideas.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

danger / tusks / ivory / trade / carvings / jewellery / illegally / reward / information / conservationists / poaching / make money / marketplace / profitability / ban

True / False

- Hunters kill elephants because they want to sell their tusks. T / F
- The USA burnt almost 60,000kg of ivory. T / F
- Elephant numbers in Africa are actually increasing. T / F
- The USA will pay a million-dollar reward to catch a group selling ivory. T / F
- Conservationists are not so happy with what the USA is doing. T / F
- A conservation group said it's a good idea to set up a marketplace. T / F
- The group wants to make selling ivory unprofitable. T / F
- A global ban on the ivory trade started in the late 1980s. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. in danger | a. pleased |
| 2. stop | b. take away |
| 3. protect | c. facts |
| 4. offered | d. end |
| 5. information | e. put forward |
| 6. happy | f. global |
| 7. way | g. at risk |
| 8. remove | h. dealing in |
| 9. worldwide | i. method |
| 10. trading | j. safeguard |

Discussion – Student A

- How can people make ivory unprofitable?
- Do you think there will always be an ivory trade?
- How would you feel if you read the last elephant on Earth had died?
- What other animals are endangered?
- What would you do if you saw ivory on sale in a store?
- How can we educate people about the damage the ivory trade is doing?
- What will the ivory trade be like in 20 years from now?
- What questions would you like to ask a poacher?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1. Elephants are | a. carvings and jewellery |
| 2. sell the tusks because they | b. a lot more |
| 3. They also destroyed ivory | c. poaching |
| 4. people who illegally | d. in danger |
| 5. the USA offered a \$1 million | e. selling ivory |
| 6. one way to end | f. hunt and kill elephants |
| 7. poachers know they cannot make | g. on trading ivory |
| 8. there isn't profitability to be had by | h. reward |
| 9. A worldwide ban | i. money from ivory |
| 10. the world needs to do | j. are made from ivory |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What do you know ivory?
- What do you think of the elephant poachers?
- Is it a good idea to burn the ivory?
- How will burning the ivory stop the poachers?
- Why is it so difficult to stop the poachers?
- Will people give the USA information and get the reward?
- What should happen to the group in Laos?

Spelling

- Elephants are in nerdag
- It wants to retopct the world's elephants
- the U.S. vnmgneerot burnt almost 6,000 kilograms
- ivory carvings and leeyrwlej (UK) / lwyeejr (USA)
- laglliley hunt and kill elephants
- offered a \$1 million edrawr
- happy with the USA's nocstia
- the Born Free USA rovsontnicae group
- rovmee ivory from the marketplace
- sguesgst to the world that there isn't profitability
- there's no profitability in aogcipnh elephants
- A ddwieolwr ban on trading

Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. d	3. j	4. e	5. c
6. a	7. i	8. b	9. f	10. h

Role Play

Role A – Electric fences

You think electric fences are the best way to protect elephants. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their ideas. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): education, burning all ivory or putting poachers in prison.

Role B – Education

You think education is the best way to protect elephants. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their ideas. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): electric fences, burning all ivory or putting poachers in prison.

Role C – Burn all ivory

You think burning all ivory is the best way to protect elephants. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their ideas. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): education, electric fences or putting poachers in prison.

Role D – Put poachers in prison

You think putting poachers in prison is the best way to protect elephants. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their ideas. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): education, burning all ivory or electric fences.

Speaking -

Rank these.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • ban the ivory trade | • send poachers to prison |
| • electric fences | • send sellers of ivory to prison |
| • security guards | • give poachers jobs |
| • education | • burn all known ivory |

Answers – True False

a	T	b	F	c	F	d	T	e	F	f	F	g	T	h
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.