

# Elephant

**It is the largest mammal of all land animals.**

**They are sociable animals that coexist with other species.**

**It has the largest brain in the animal kingdom. (4.5 and 5.5 kg.)**

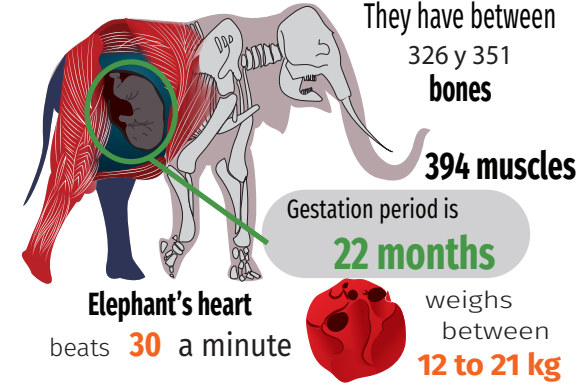
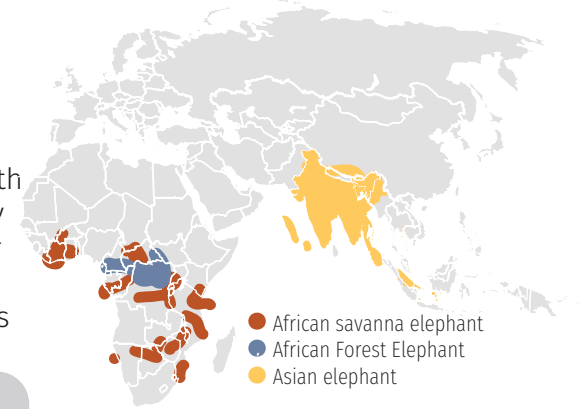
They have a poor sense of sight but a very well developed nose.

The trunk has 40,000 different muscles.

Each elephant ear is unique like human fingerprints.

Currently there are three species of elephants, although in ancient times they were 300 species. They live around areas with water. They do not usually stay in the same place for long periods. They live in meadows, valleys, swamps and savannas.

In the elephant herd only Females live with their young. Males abandon the herd at 12 years.



Elephants as seed dispersers play a vital role for the ecosystem.

They defecate about 20 times a day.

They constantly move to other areas in search of food, which creates the seed dispersion.

Their manure provides nutrients to the soil, acting like a fertilizer.

Many species feed on elephant dung.



They are herbivores. They require about 150 kg (330 lb) of food daily. Their diet is made up of grass, shoots, tree bark, leaves, roots, fruits, and vegetables. They use their trunk to shake trees to drop their fruit and leaves.

They drink up to 15 liters of water a day.

