

Animal Communication Sounds Cards

Act out how dolphins communicate.

- Dolphins whistle when they are being friendly.
- Each Dolphin has her/his own special whistle that is her/his name.
- Dolphins blow out air fast when they are scared or angry: "chuff!" "chuff!"
- Dolphins make an 'S' shape with their bodies to scare others away—they're pretending to be sharks!
- Mother dolphins scold their babies by making many very fast clicks.

Act out how elephants communicate.

- Elephants trumpet very loudly to signal danger and protect their young.
- Each elephant has his/her own low rumbling growl that is her/his name.
- When elephants meet their friends they are joyful -- trumpeting, stamping and rumbling.
- Elephants use their trunks to touch and comfort each other when they are upset.
- Elephants freeze in place to listen and feel vibrations through their feet when they are worried.

Act out how bears communicate.

- Mother bears use grunts and clicks when they are worried about their cubs.
- Bears lie down to show that they don't want to fight with each other.
- Bears may slap the ground when they are angry.
- Cubs make a sound like a baby crying when they are away from their mothers.
- Cubs hum when they are happy, playing, and near their mothers.

The Dolphin's Story

Directions: As you read the story, when it says "[use dolphin language]" act out the appropriate noise and/or movement from the *Animal Communication Sounds Cards* above, to "speak like dolphins." Then, answer the questions at the bottom of the page.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Once a large pod of dolphins—that's the big family group—were all swimming together and having a lot of fun **[Use Dolphin Language]**. Maybe they could catch some fish by working together to herd them **[Use Dolphin Language]**. As they swam and jumped they saw some boats in the water and a few of the young dolphins decided to play around them, riding on their wake and showing off how fast they can swim. The mothers didn't like this, and they called their children by name to come back **[Use Dolphin Language]**—so did the aunts who help to take care of the children **[Use Dolphin Language]**. Suddenly, the pod heard the children calling, but now they were very scared and upset **[Use Dolphin Language]**. They were caught in a net, and couldn't get out! All the adult dolphins moved together and surrounded the boats, trying to scare off the people so they could free their children **[Use Dolphin Language]**. All of the dolphins were angry, too **[Use Dolphin Language]**. When the people realized that they had caught dolphins they opened the nets and let the young ones go. The mothers and the aunts scolded the young dolphins for being too careless **[Use Dolphin Language]**. Not all humans treat wild animals kindly, so the young dolphins have to learn to play together where it is safe, in their wild ocean home.



How did the dolphins feel when they were trapped in the nets? **[Show it in dolphin language too]**

What would you tell the people about dolphins?

Our Elephant Herd

Directions: As you read the story, when it says "[use elephant language]" act out the appropriate noise and/or movement from the *Animal Communication Sounds Cards* above, to "speak like elephants." Then, answer the questions at the bottom of the page.

Name: _____ Date: _____

A great herd of elephants is roaming the grassy plains in search of food. They have walked all day, and as evening falls they meet a related group of elephants. As they join the herd, elephants call out their names **[Use Elephant Language]** and the whole herd greets the others joyously **[Use Elephant Language]**. The large herd finds a watering hole, with the help of their oldest and wisest female leader. As the elephants drink, mothers teach their children how to drink using their trunks to suck in the water and spray it into their mouths. Some of the elephants feel vibrations from far away through their feet—what is it? They look **[Use Elephant Language]** to see if it is a threat. The younger elephants are worried. What if it's a hunter? They know that people sometimes hunt elephants for their beautiful tusks, or capture them and take them far away from their families. Their mothers comfort them **[Use Elephant Language]** as the herd leaders listen closely. When the leaders signal danger **[Use Elephant Language]** the herd moves off quickly from the watering hole, and walks on throughout the day until they are sure that they are safe again.



How would the elephants feel if they were hunted or captured by human beings?
[Show it in elephant language too]

What would you tell the people about elephants?

Mama Bear and Her Cubs

Directions: As you read the story, when it says "[use bear language]" act out the appropriate noise and/or movement from the *Animal Communication Sounds Cards* above, to "speak like bears." Then, answer the questions at the bottom of the page.

Name: _____ Date: _____

A mother bear and her two young cubs are roaming across the wilderness. They have been traveling for many miles, eating all of the wonderful foods that they find in the trees and on the ground like fruit, nuts and honey. The cubs are now good tree climbers, and they also love to play together as their mother forages for food **[Use Bear Language]**.



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One day they climb over a hill and see a fast rushing stream, tumbling down into the valley below. The cubs are so excited! They will be able to eat one of their other favorite foods—fish! And also do their favorite activity—swim! They race off down the hill, out of sight of their mother. She is angry **[Use Bear Language]**. Those cubs should stay close to her when they are so young. She is also worried **[Use Bear Language]** because she sees smoke and a road, which she knows means that people live close to this stream. Like all bears, she is shy and tries to avoid places where there are people. The cubs don't hear her calling, and they run into the stream, swimming and looking for fish to eat. One cub finds a nice fishing spot, and acts angry **[Use Bear Language]** to keep his brother from coming close—he wants all the tasty fish! The brother doesn't want to fight **[Use Bear Language]** so he then swims away. When the mother bear reaches the river, only one of her cubs is there. Now she is very worried **[Use Bear Language]**! What if a human being has stolen her other cub **[Use Bear Language]**? She runs up and down the riverbank, until she hears her little cub crying **[Use Bear Language]** and finds him scared under a bush. The cubs huddle by their mother **[Use Bear Language]**, happy to be close to her again after their adventure in the river.

How would the bears feel if they were hunted or captured by human beings?

[Show it in bear language too]

What would you tell the people about bears?
