

## Video zone – Elephants learn to work together

### Instructions

Do the preparation task first. Then watch the video and do Tasks 1 and 2. You can also read the transcript.

### Preparation task

Match the definitions (a–h) with the vocabulary (1–8).

<b>Vocabulary</b>	<b>Definition</b>
1. .... proof	a. to discover
2. .... to have a hunch	b. to find an answer
3. .... to figure out	c. an idea
4. .... to solve a problem	d. to have a feeling
5. .... to prove	e. evidence
6. .... to demonstrate	f. working together
7. .... co-operation	g. to show or make clear
8. .... a concept	h. to show using evidence

### Task 1 – True or false?

Decide if the sentences are true or false.

1. The elephants need to push the table.
2. They need to use the rope to get the sunflower seeds.
3. If one of the elephants pulls the rope, the table moves.
4. They solve the problem the first time.
5. Their brains weigh four kilograms.
6. To solve the problem, they need to work together.

### Answers

<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>
<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>
<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>
<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>
<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>
<i>True</i>	<i>False</i>

## Task 2 – Reorder the sentences

Write a number (1–6) to put the sentences in order.

- |       |  |   |
|-------|--|---|
| ..... |  | It's incredible to prove that elephants are smart enough to co-operate.                 |
| ..... |  | The elephants learn that their partner needs to be there.                               |
| ..... |  | They also learn that their partner needs to be doing something.                         |
| ..... |  | After three attempts the elephants solve the puzzle.                                    |
| ..... |  | The elephants are thinking about co-operation and that demonstrates how smart they are! |
| ..... |  | Josh releases one elephant before the other to see if it will wait for its partner.     |

## Discussion

How intelligent are the animals that you know? Do they co-operate with other animals?

## Transcript

**Presenter:** So here's the problem. The elephants need to be able to pull the table closer to gain access to the sunflower seeds, and they need the rope to do that. But if only one of them pulls the rope, the table doesn't move and they both go hungry. So can two elephants figure out they need to work together to solve a brand-new problem?

[Josh speaking in Thai language]

**Presenter:** They don't get it first time out, that's for sure. But their four-kilogram brains may just be at work.

**Josh:** The first thing I think that they learn, and there has to be some learning involved in this as this is a task they've never experienced before. Erm, the first thing is that they've learned that their partner needs to be there. And I think in some ways they've learned not only does their partner need to be there but their partner needs to be doing something.

**Presenter:** After only three attempts the smartest elephants solve the puzzle. But Josh wants to know if they understand the concept behind it. So he releases one elephant before the other to see if it'll wait for its partner. After eight years of working with elephants Josh had a hunch that was going to happen and now he's got proof.

**Josh:** What you're seeing is that the elephants are thinking about co-operation. Erm, and that actually demonstrates how smart and how well adapted these animals are.

**Presenter:** It's incredible to prove that animals are smart enough to co-operate.

## Answers

### Preparation

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

### Task 1 – True or false?

1. False
2. True
3. False
4. False
5. True
6. True

### Task 2 – Reorder the sentences

- 6
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 5
- 4