

WRITING

An article about an animal

- 1 Read the text and answer the questions.

BLACK BEARS

Black bears live in the forests and mountains of Canada, the USA and Mexico. They usually eat grass and insects, but they eat other things too, including fish, small animals and the food people leave at campsites.

Adults are very big and they weigh between 90 kg and 270 kg. They are tall too: when males stand up on two legs, they are about 180 centimetres tall.

In winter, females have two or three babies, called cubs. They stay with their mother for about two years. Scientists think there are around 600,000 of these animals in the wild in North America, but there may be many more.



- 0 Which countries do they live in?
Canada, the USA and Mexico
- 1 What do they eat most of the time?
- 2 How heavy are they?
- 3 How many babies do females have?
- 4 What are their babies called?
- 5 How long do the babies stay with their mother?
- 6 How many black bears are there in North America?

- 2 Read the notes about African elephants. Then write the information in the correct place in the paragraph plan below.

African elephants

leaves, grass, fruit / now 470,000–690,000
wild elephants / forests and grasslands in
37 countries in Africa (Tanzania, Kenya, South
Africa, etc.) / live in wild until around 70 /
females have one baby ('calf') every two–four
years, heavy – about 91 kg when they're born /
adults very big – 2,268 kg–6,350 kg



Paragraph 1: where they live / food
forests and grasslands in 37 countries in Africa, ...

Paragraph 2: size / what they weigh / age they live
until

Paragraph 3: babies / how many wild African
elephants today

- 3 Use the paragraph plan to write a text about African elephants. When you write about numbers, don't forget to use *between*, *about* / *around* and *including*.