



Rescue the Baby Elephant

Learning values

- Observing and finding out about features of specific animals
- Categorizing features and events
- Building for a purpose
- Exploring different habitats and living conditions

Recommended materials

- 9214 Wild Animals Set
- 9230 Town Set
- 9222 World People Set/9224 Community People Set

Vocabulary

Encourage the use of these words during the activity:

- Zoo
- Categorize
- Characteristics
- Trunk
- Tusks
- Colour
- Vaccination
- Advantage
- Disadvantage

Connect

- Ask the children if they have ever been to a zoo. Have them mention different kinds of animals, name them and categorize them as big or small animals. Talk about their favourite animals. What do these animals look like and what do they eat?
- Have the children think about elephants: where they come from, what they look like, and what characteristics they have, e.g. trunk, colour, size, ears, tusks, etc.
- Tell the children that sometimes mother and baby animals have to be separated, for instance if the baby animal needs a vaccination. Having separated mother and baby, the next step is often moving them, and transporting a heavy animal can be difficult. It takes a special vehicle to do that.



Use the illustration to support the Connect story

Construct

- Have the children create and build a vehicle to carry the baby elephant for vaccination. He is too heavy to lift and very frightened, so finding a way to make him feel safe is important.

Contemplate

- Have the children test their vehicle. How does the baby elephant get in and out? In what way have the children helped the baby elephant feel safe?
- Have the children explain what kind of construction they have built. What are the good things about it (advantages) and what are the not so good things (disadvantages)? Can they come up with solutions to improve their designs?
- Discuss with the children situations where they have been frightened and what made them feel better again.

Continue

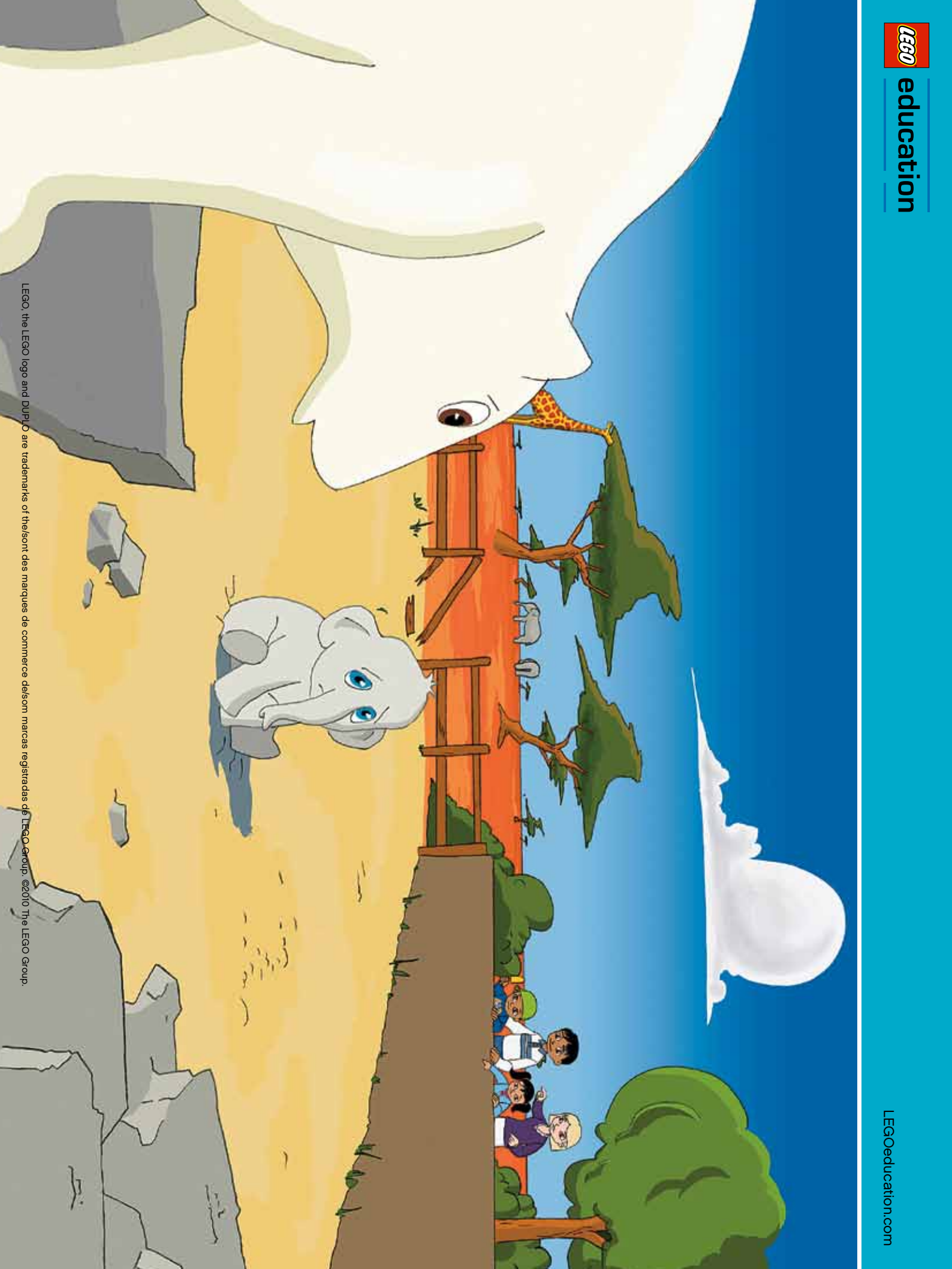
- Have the children build a playground for the baby elephant from which he can not escape. What will he play with? How will the zoo keepers get in and out to feed and care for him?
- Elephants love to bathe in both water and sand. Talk to the children about how and why, and have them build an area where the baby elephant can take a 'shower'. Also construct a large trough for him to drink from when he gets thirsty.





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