

Monday 13th July 2020

L.I. I can research facts to write a newspaper report



This week you will be a journalist who is writing a newspaper report about the discovery of mammoth tusks in the garden of a local resident. Today you will be researching facts about mammoths and planning the information that you will write in your newspaper article.



This is an image of discovered mammoth tusks. You can find a different one for your report, if you wish (use right click and copy or the 'snipping' tool (type snip in the bottom left search box of the document)).

Task 1: Read the information on the fact page and answer the questions in the boxes. Detailed sentences are not required. Write brief sentences.

The Woolly Mammoth

What was it?

The woolly mammoth was an extremely large animal that roamed the Earth long, long ago. This animal existed during the last ice age, which was between 200,000 and 4,000 years ago. It is known to have lived in Northern Europe and Asia, as well as North America.



Why did it become extinct?

About 4,000 years ago, the woolly mammoth became extinct. The main reason for the disappearance of this species is climate change. This animal evolved to live in extremely cold weather, and planet Earth has become much warmer since its existence. Another reason it went extinct is because humans began hunting the woolly mammoth for the ivory that came from their tusks.

What did it look like?

Because the woolly mammoth lived during the ice age, it was covered with long fur to help it keep warm. It also had two very long ivory tusks. The woolly mammoth was so big that it weighed about 6 tons! That is around the size of an African elephant. Mammoths and elephants actually come from the same family of animals, and they look very similar. One difference is that mammoths actually had very small ears!

Fun facts!

- The woolly mammoth was a herbivore!
- Their tusks were 15 feet long!
- Mammoth ivory is sometimes used in making violin bows today!

When did the woolly mammoth exist?

Where were they known to live?

What did it look like?

Why did they become extinct?

Now that you know some facts about the woolly mammoth, you can begin to plan what you will tell the readers of your newspaper.

*Let's revise information that you will find in a newspaper report. Read the words that are in **bold** text.*



Watch these clips to help become more familiar with newspaper report writing. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z739whvv>

The key features of a newspaper report

- **Newspaper name:** Write the name of the newspaper at the top of the page.
- **Headline:** A headline is an eye-catching title for your story, which summarises the information in just a few words. You should make it eye catching, for example by using alliteration.
- **Pictures:** Write a caption to the picture, to explain what it shows.
- **Conclusion paragraph:** Use your conclusion to explain what might happen next.

Task 2: It is now time to plan what you will write in your article. Complete this in the boxes below.

Name of your newspaper:
Date of the newspaper:

Headline: (Make it eye-catching to attract the reader).

Reporters name: (Your name).

Opening paragraph: (You need to write brief phrases / sentences that will be extended with more detail in your actual report)

When was it discovered?

What was discovered?

Who discovered it?

Where was it discovered?

Why was it discovered?

Insert a picture and write a caption to go with it. (Perhaps of a person with the bones or a mammoth)

Write a quote from the person who found the tusks. (Imagine, you are that person and think about how excited or amazed you would have been to find them. This will help you to think about what the person might say to the reporter). **Write exactly what the person said and use speech punctuation.** E.g “When I saw the tip of the bones, I thought it was just regular animal bones, but ...”

Write a quote from someone who lives in the local area. (What do they think about this extraordinary discovery?)
Concluding paragraph:

What is going to happen to the tusks?

Where will the tusks go to?

Extra information / facts about mammoths, that you think the readers will enjoy learning about (these will need to be brief / short facts):

Tomorrow, you will use these facts to make this newspaper report fascinating and interesting for the readers (your audience).