

Twenty-one Elephants and Still Standing

Bloom's Level	Pre-K	Kindergarten	First Grade	Second Grade	Third Grade	Fourth Grade	Fifth Grade
Remember: Recognize, recall, locate, identify	Why Did Mr. Barnum want the elephants to cross the Brooklyn Bridge?	What words would you use to describe Phineas T. Barnum? Give examples from the book to support your thinking.	What do you think the people are "pointing and gawking" at on the first page of the book?	What does it mean when the author writes "New York and Brooklyn, dwarfed by its arches, knew the future had entered their sights"?	How would you describe the people on page 1 who were watching the bridge being built?	How would you describe the people of New York in the beginning and end of the book? Give at least two pieces of evidence to support your claim.	Name at least three reactions people had towards the building of the Brooklyn Bridge during construction, and after it was built.
Understand: Clarify, summarize, paraphrase, represent, predict, compare	What is the main idea of this story?	Why does the author title the book <u>Twenty-One Elephants</u> ?	Say in your own words what is happening on this page? (Pg.2)	Why do you think the Brooklyn Bridge was considered a landmark? (Pg.2)	The two books, <u>Twenty-One Elephants</u> by Phil Bildner and <u>Twenty-One Elephants and Still Standing</u> by April Jones Prince describe the same historical event. After reading both texts compare the different points of views of each book.	What did the Brooklyn Bridge symbolize for the people of New York? Explain your reasoning.	Why did P. T. Barnum decide to have his elephants cross the Brooklyn Bridge? Support your answer with details from the story.
Apply: Use procedure in a given situation, carry-out or use with unfamiliar task	What else could they have done to test the strength of the bridge?	How else could you persuade the "non-believers" that the bridge is safe?	How did Barnum's "big event" affect people's point of view of the bridge?	Think about the different points of view in the book. Which side would you have been on? Act it out!	Pretend you lived in 1883. Write a letter to The New York Times newspaper to suggest three ways they can test the safety and strength of the bridge.	How did the characters in the book feel before P.T. Barnum led the elephants across the Brooklyn Bridge? How do you know? Use evidence from the text.	What are some other ways you could prove how strong the Brooklyn Bridge is that would impress and amaze people?

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Analyze: Break into parts, distinguish, organize, outline, deconstruct	Why do you believe Mr. Barnum sent the elephants across and not the clowns?	What does the author mean when she writes, "Who wants to bargain <i>this</i> bridge won't dance in the wind?"	Explain how the people's point of view differed about the Brooklyn Bridge.	In your opinion, would you have chosen to walk across the bridge? Explain why or why not.	Explain what this quote from the story on page 8 means "For the two sister cities, there was special excitement; they were linked by a magnificent bond."	What is the theme of this story? Explain your answer.	Why do you think people doubted the strength of the Brooklyn Bridge? Were they justified? Explain why or why not.
Evaluate: Make judgments based on criteria, critique	Before we finish this book, can you predict what is going to happen when the elephants cross the bridge?	What do you think would have happened if Phineas T. Barnum never staged this event? Why was it so important that the elephants were able to cross the bridge?	Predict what Phineas T. Barnum's plan will be. (pg. 14)	Do you believe this story is fact or fiction? Be ready to defend your thinking. (See author's note)	Why does the book describe the design and construction of the Brooklyn Bridge as "The greatest feat of its day."? Be sure to use evidence from the text.	Predict what would happen if P.T. Barnum was not as adventurous. Do you agree/disagree with his daring actions/spirit?	Based on what you learned about P.T. Barnum, what judgment would you make about his character? Support your answer with evidence from the text.
Create: Reorganize elements into new patterns, design, construct, produce	Create a new pattern for the suspension wires to support the bridge.	Design a bridge model that you think will support a large amount of weight.	Propose an alternate method. What is another way Barnum could have persuaded people to cross the bridge?	How would you have persuaded people to walk over the bridge?	Using a 10X10 inch piece of aluminum foil construct a boat and test how many pennies it can hold without it sinking.	Think about the time period this story is written in. How do you think the people in present day New York would react to the construction of a grandiose building or bridge? How would the media and the new technological advances change the way people would react?	Create an original character and explain how the character would fit into the story.