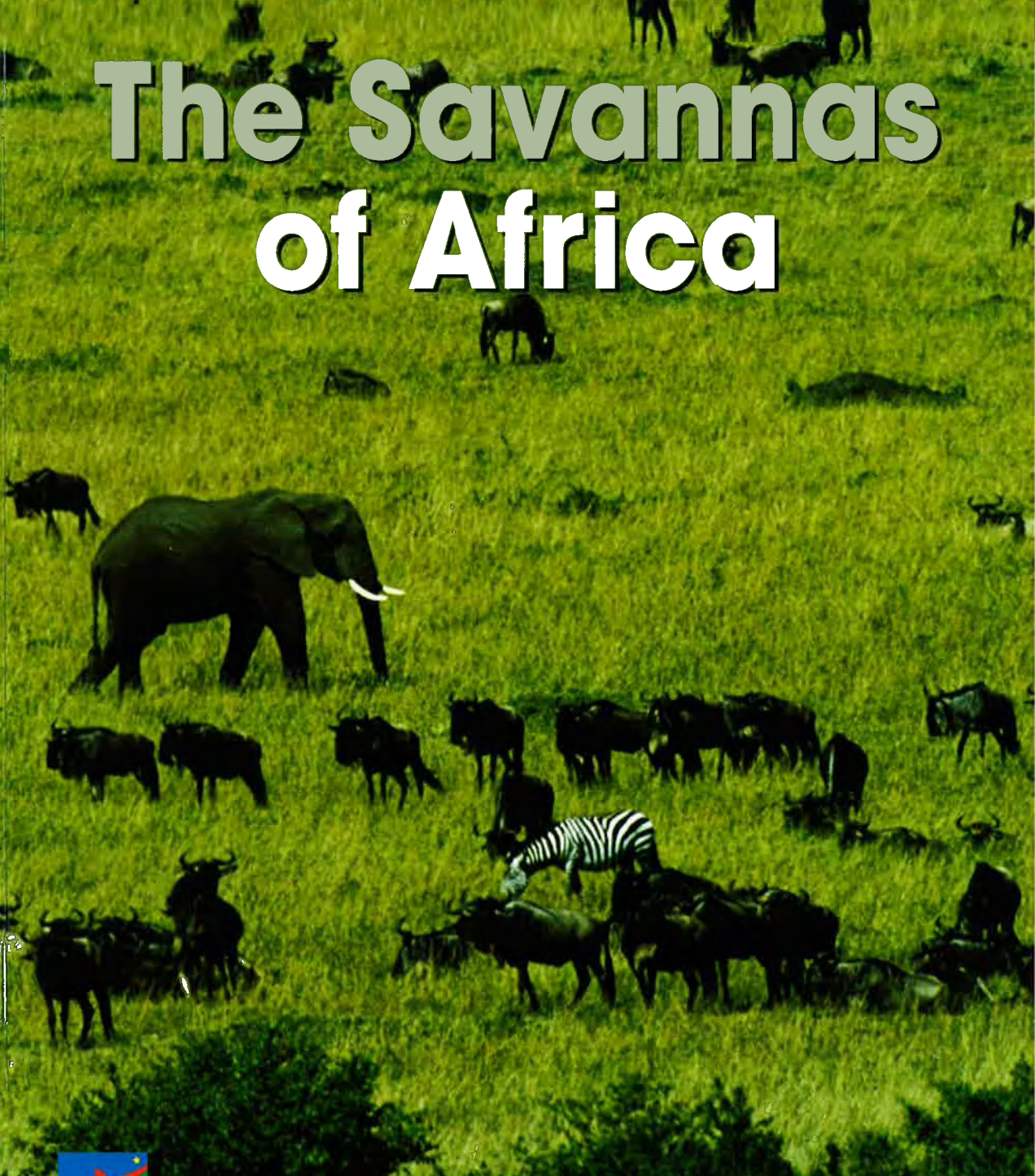
The Savannas of Africa



by Katherine Scraper

Benchmark EDUCATION

Level 14 H Word Count: 323*

The Big Idea

The savannas of Africa are home to many animals and plants.

Skills at a Glance

Monitor-Reading:
- Retell what you've read

Comprehension:
- Identify cause and effect

Phonics:
- Variant vowel /o͞o/ (cool, few, food, new, taproot, too)

Fluency:
- Read smoothly with minimal breaks

Content Vocabulary:
- Africa, animals, dry season, elephant, giraffe, grasses, grassland, graze, habitat, migrate, mole rat, ostrich, plants, rainy season, savanna, taproot, tusks

Grammar, Word Study, and Language Development:
- Use adjectives (bare, dry, hot, large, long, rainy, small)
- Use compound words (cannot, grasslands, mole rat, taproot, treetops, underground, without)

Sentence Patterns:
- One _____ is _____.
- _____ live on _____.

* Numerals, vocabulary words on pages 2 and 3, and words in photo captions, labels, diagrams, and charts are not included in the word count for this book.

Early Explorers

Benchmark Education Company
629 Fifth Avenue • Pelham, NY 10803

Credits:
Editor: Tara Funk
Creative Director: Jonette Jakobson
Director of Photography: Doug Schneider

© 2008 Benchmark Education Company, LLC. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or any information storage or retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher. Printed in China.

ISBN: 978-1-60437-441-4

What is a savanna?



For ordering information, call **Toll-Free 1-877-236-2465** or visit our Web site at **www.benchmarkeducation.com**.

The Savannas of Africa

For teachers' instruction ONLY

by Katherine Scraper

Table of Contents

What Is a Savanna? 4
What Animals Live on a Savanna? 6
What Plants Live on a Savanna? 10
Why Are the Animals and Plants in Danger? 12



I need to know these words.

For teachers' inspection ONLY

elephant



giraffe



mole rat



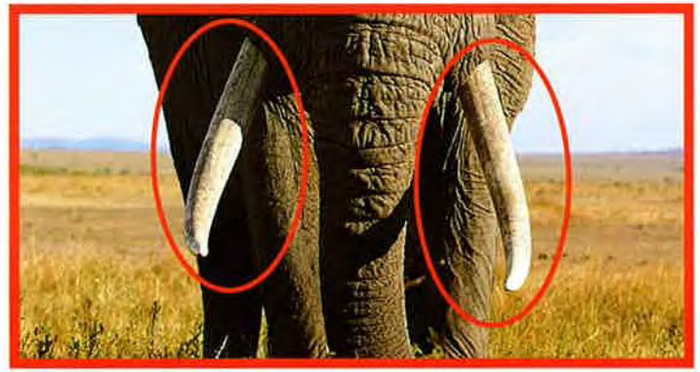
ostrich



savanna



tusks



For teachers' inspection ONLY

What Is a Savanna?

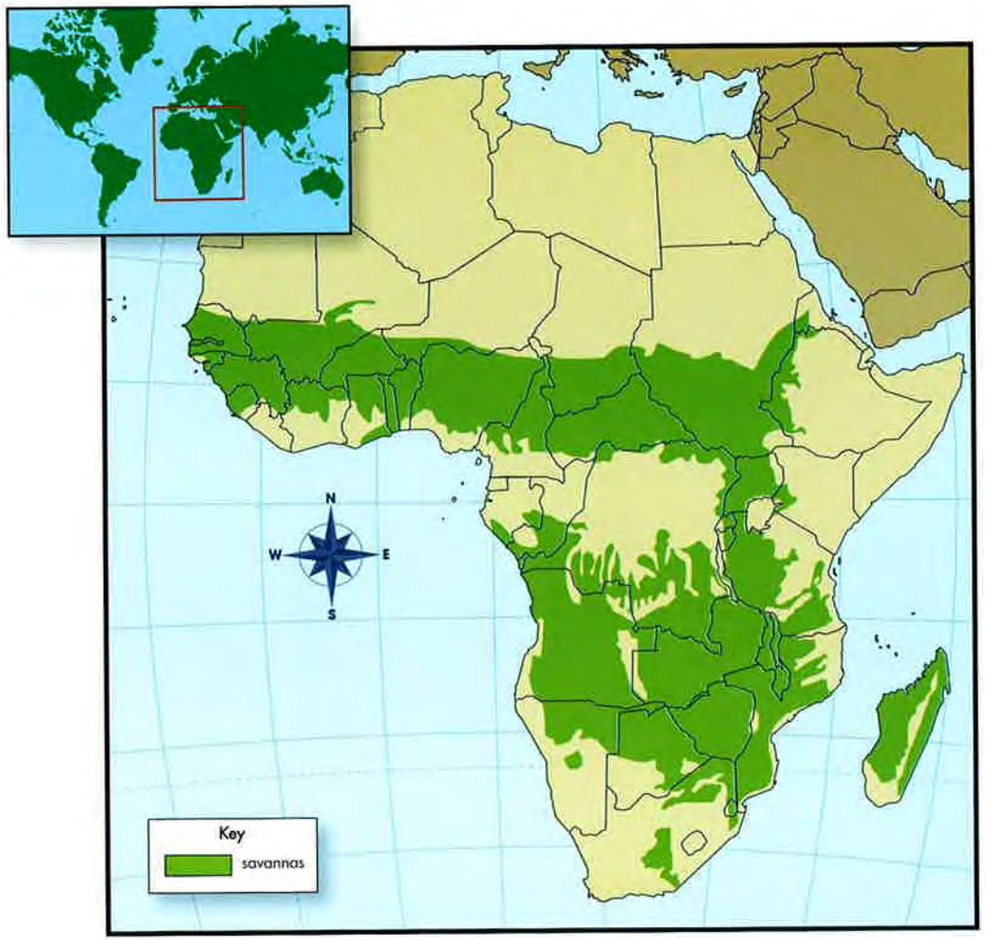
Many places in the world have grasslands. The grasslands are a habitat for plants and animals. One type of grassland is a **savanna**. Africa has savannas. Africa has other grasslands, too.

Grasslands Around the World	
Africa, South America	savanna
Southern Africa	veld
Southern South America	pampas
Australia	grassland
Africa, Asia, Europe	steppe
Canada, United States	prairie



▲ Africa has many types of grasslands.

A savanna is a large grassland.
Most savannas have few trees.
A savanna is hot all year.
A savanna has a long dry season.



▲ Africa has many savannas.

For teachers' inspection ONLY

What Animals Live on a Savanna?

Many animals live on the savannas. One animal is the **giraffe**. A giraffe can eat leaves from the treetops.



▲ Giraffes live in groups.

An **ostrich** can live on a savanna. An ostrich eats mostly plants. These ostriches migrate, or move, to find food. The ostriches migrate to find water in the dry season.



▲ Ostriches can run very fast.

For teachers' inspection ONLY

An **elephant** can live on a savanna. The elephant's large ears help the animal to keep cool.



▲ Some elephants eat more than 400 pounds (181 kilograms) of plants every day.

Many small animals live on the savannas, too. These **mole rats** live in an underground tunnel.



▲ A mole rat is only 3 inches (7 centimeters) long.