What Has Four Legs, a Trunk and a Behavioral Database?

A detailed field guide to African elephants includes thousands of video and audio clips.

JAVELIN POOLE WAS 17 YEARS OLD AND IN SPAIN WHEN SHE FIRST DISCOVERED THE WILD AFRICAN ELEPHANTS OF WHAT IS NOW SOUTHERN NAMIBIA. She was captivated by the majestic, almost human-like creatures she saw. Today, she is a scientist and conservationist, studying the behavior of elephants in the wild.

In the early 2000s, Poole and her team were working on a project to track and study the movements of elephants using GPS collars. They discovered that the elephants were using complex navigational strategies, such as using landmarks and the position of the sun to navigate long distances.

In 2015, Poole and her team captured the attention of the scientific community when they published a paper describing how elephants use a combination of celestial cues and memory to navigate. They found that elephants were able to find their way back to their herds after being separated from them for days or even weeks, using the position of the sun, the stars, and their memories of the landscape.

In recent years, Poole and her team have been working on developing a behavioral database for elephants, which includes video footage and audio recordings of the animals. This database is being used to study the behavior of elephants in the wild, and to help conservationists understand how to best protect these magnificent creatures.

Meanwhile, researchers at the University of California, Los Angeles, have been using artificial intelligence to study the behavior of elephants. They have been analyzing footage of elephants captured by cameras placed in remote areas of Africa, and using machine learning algorithms to identify patterns in the behavior of the animals.

The researchers have found that elephants are able to recognize and remember the faces of other elephants, and that they use these memories to form social bonds with other members of their herd. They have also found that elephants are able to use a variety of vocalizations to communicate with each other, including trumpeting, trumpeting, and trumpeting.

In conclusion, the study of elephant behavior is an exciting and rapidly advancing field. As our understanding of these magnificent creatures grows, so too does our ability to protect them and ensure their survival for future generations.