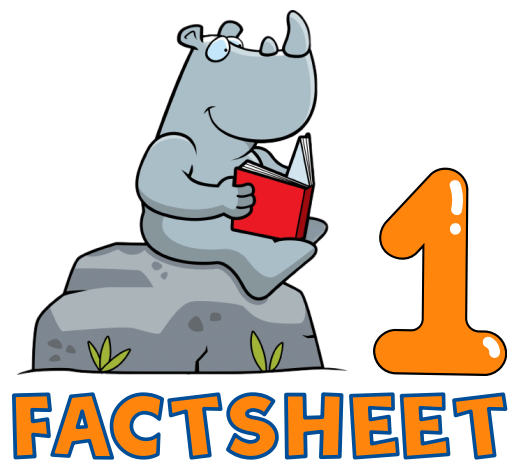
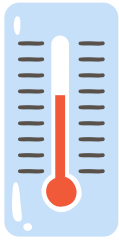


RHINO EDUCATION PROJECT



RHINO EDUCATION PROJECT



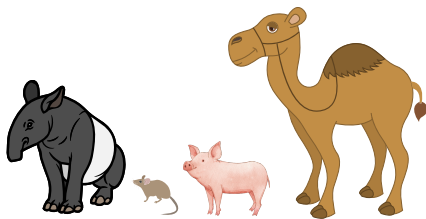
The Eocene was one of the hottest periods in the earth's history



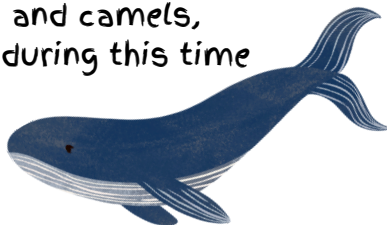
From the north pole to the south pole, tropical rainforests covered the planet at the beginning of the Eocene



This was a time when the huge continents drifted apart and the Himalayan mountains were formed when India separated from Africa



The ancestors of some of today's animals, including whales, pigs, rodents, tapirs, and camels, appeared during this time



The Eocene was the second geological epoch (time period) in the Palaeogene (meaning 'ancient born' in Greek).

The Eocene began 56 million years ago and ended 33.9 million years ago.



The first known rhino was called Hyrachyus (hi-rack-e-us) and is the earliest ancestor of tapirs



Metamynodon (met-a-my-no-don) was also one of the first known rhinos although it looked more like a hippo. The animal was over 4 meters in length

RHINO EDUCATION PROJECT

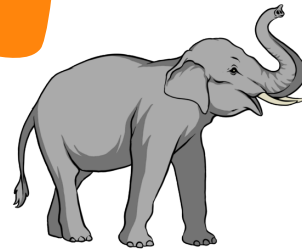


The Oligocene, a period of time between 33.9 million and 23 million years ago, followed the Eocene.

During this time, temperatures lowered, rainforests disappeared and became grasslands, savannas and deserts.



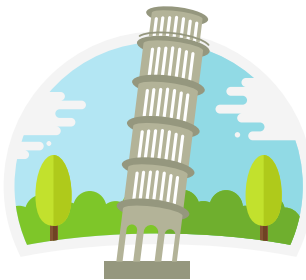
Temperate forests also replaced rainforests and became home to a variety of plant life such as roses, pines and lychee trees. These forests were also home to varieties of beans and peas



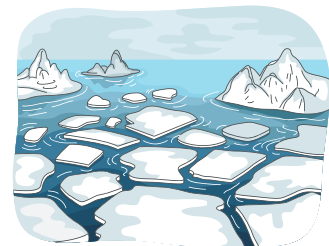
Several giant animals appeared, like elephants and Kairuku (ki-roo-koo) penguins that stood over 5 feet tall



During the Oligocene there was an increase in volcanic activity



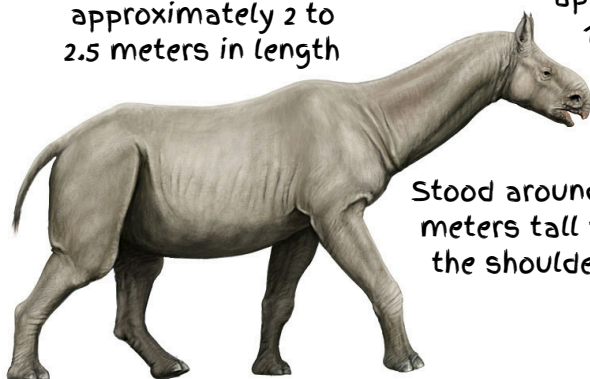
Sea levels dropped around 181 feet (that's roughly the same height as the Leaning Tower of Pisa in Italy)



The first icecaps formed at the north and south poles

Paraceratherium's neck was approximately 2 to 2.5 meters in length

The skull was approximately 1.3 meters



Stood around 5 meters tall to the shoulder

Weighed around 20 tonnes & body was 26 feet long

Paraceratherium (pa-ra-ce-ra-ther-e-um) was the largest land mammal to ever exist and, due to its size, probably had few predators.

Its bones were first discovered in 1907/08 by a geologist called Guy Ellcock Pilgrim and have been found across Europe, China, Mongolia, India, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Georgia, Turkey, Romania, Bulgaria & the Balkans