



A big adventure for young explorers By actionforrhinos.com





The word rhinoceros is actually made from two ancient Greek words. Rhino means 'nose' and Keros means 'horn'. Rhinoceros is a long name that is usually shortened to rhino.

There are five species of rhino. White, black, Indian, Javan and Sumatran



Rhino physical characteristics

Large, bulky body with short, stumpy legs, armour like skin, horn or horns on their heads, poor eyesight and good hearing & sense of smell







There are now less than 27,500 wild rhinos left in the world. That sounds like a lot, right? The entire rhino population could fit into Wembley Stadium more than three times over!

Large animals like
elephants and rhinos
are known as
megaherbivores. 'Mega'
refers to 'large' and
'herbivore' refers to an
animal that eats plants





There are 13 subspecies of rhino. A subspecies is a division within a species

After the African elephant (which is larger than its Asian cousin), rhinos are the world's second largest land animal





Of the 13 subspecies, 5 are extinct (no longer in existance) and 8 are extant (still in existance)





There are only two continents where rhinos live wild, Africa and Asia



Three species of rhino live in Asia. Indian, Javan and Sumatran



Rhinos are ungulates (un-gu-lates).

An ungulate is an animal with hoofed feet.

Rhinos belong to the Perissodactyla (pe-re-so-dac-tila) group of ungulates.
That means an ungulate with an odd number of toes.





A rhinos middle toe supports most of their weight and their foorprint has a radius between 30 and 50cm wide!

As with horses, zebras, and tapirs, rhinos have three toes on each foot. These three animals are also rhinos' closest living relatives

Rhinos are a keystone species. They contribute to biodiversity (the variety of plants and animals) and maintain a healthy ecosystem in which they live



we usually refer to a group of hoofed animals as a herd, but rhinos are much better known as a crash!

Rhinos are also an umbrella species. This means their conservation results in the preservation of other smaller species. A rhino population disappearing and becoming extinct could lead to the extinction of other species

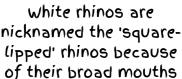
There were once more than 60 different species of rhinos and possibly as many as 500,000 rhinos at the beginning of the 20th century.

Three rhino families (running rhinos, aquatic rhinos, and rhinocerotidae) evolved into today's rhinos.











There are two subspecies of white rhino. Southern & Northern



White rhinos are more effective at shearing grass than an electric (lawnmower



They are the largest of the five rhino species, weighing between 1800 and 2500kg



South Africa has the largest population of white rhinos in the world





Population Southern: 17,464 Northern: 2 (Najin & her daughter Fatu)

Their bodies measure between 3-3.8 meters in length and they stand 1.4-1.7 meters tall

WHITE RHINOS

white rhinos are the most social of the five rhino species



white rhinos can run up to 50kmh (31mph)





Males are usually solitary. Females can live in groups of up to 15

wild rhinos live between 35-40 years. Captive rhinos can live up to 50 years





Their tails measure between 70-100cm in length and have bristles on the end



Black rhinos are nicknamed 'hooklipped' rhinos because of their pointy mouths



There are four subspecies of black rhino. Southern, eastern, southwestern & the now extinct western



There are an estimated 6421 black rhinos



wild rhinos live between 35-50 years. Captive rhinos live to approximately 35 years



They weigh between 700 and 1800kg (females are smaller than males)



Black rhinos can charge up to 35kmh (22mph)

BLACK RHINOS



Their tails measure approximately soom in length and have bristles on the end



The scientific name for the Black Rhino is Diceros bicornis. Diceros being from the Greek di for "two" and ceros meaning "horn". Bicornis is from the Latin bi for "two" and cornis meaning "horn"

They're predominantly solitary and territorial





South Africa and Namibia have the largest populations of black rhinos in the world



Their bodies measure between 2.9-3.5 meters in length and they stand 1.4-1.8 meters to the shoulder Shyer, more aggressive and less sociable than white rhinos







Because Indian rhinos have only one horn and are the largest of the one-horned rhinos, they are nicknamed 'Greater one-horned rhinos' There are no subspecies

of Indian rhino



There are an estimated 4014 Indian rhinos

They have heavy, armourlike skin folds (especially around their necks) and warty bumps on their skin





INDIAN RHINOS



Wild rhinos live between 35-45 years

> Indian rhinos weigh between 1600-2200kg



Their scientific name is rhinoceros unicornis. 'Unicornis' comes from Latin, where 'uni' means 'one' and 'cornis' means horn

Males are solitary.
Without a calf,
females are
usually solitary



Males are fiercely territorial









Indian rhinos are only found in protected parks in India, Bhutan and Nepal





As the smallest of the one-horned rhinos, Javan rhinos are nicknamed

There are three subspecies of Javan rhino. Indonesian is the only subspecies alive today. Both the Indian and Vietnamese are now extinct



'lesser one-horned' rhinos



They weigh between 900-2300kg and stand 120-170cm tall to the shoulder

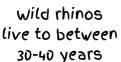


There are less than 50 Javan rhinos left in the world

JAVAN RHINOS



Javan rhinos are the least vocal of the five rhino Species





Both males and females are usually solitary



Ujung Kulon National Park, Java, Indonesia, is the only place where Javan rhinos can be found



Due to their low numbers and inhospitable environment, Javan (and Sumatran) rhinos are the least studied and photographed of the five rhino species

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Only be found in protected parks on the islands of Sumatra and Borneo



There are officially 80 Sumatran rhinos, but it is believed there could be as few as 34-37





Sumatran rhinos are nicknamed the 'hairy' rhinos because they are the hairiest of the five rhino species

Males are usually solitary. Unless they have small calves, females are also solitary

SUMATRAN RHINOS



wild rhinos live between 30-40 years

They are the most vocal of the five rhino species and use a wide range of sounds including eeps and whistle blows





There are three subspecies of Sumatran rhino. The western, the extinct northern, and the assumed extinct eastern

are really agile and can make a turn of 180 degrees in one single jump?





Their skin is dark orange-red in colour and covered with a thick layer of bristly hair



Sumatran rhinos are the smallest of the five rhino species and weigh between 500-950kg