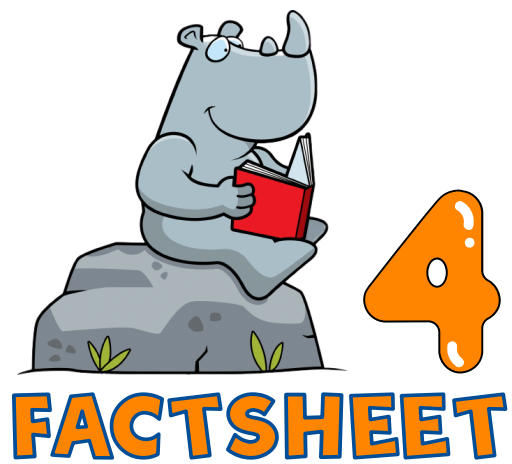


# RHINO EDUCATION PROJECT



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Rhinos in captivity eat diets similar to those found in the wild, but not exactly the same. Their diets are often supplemented with readily available foods, such as grass, alfalfa, and soy

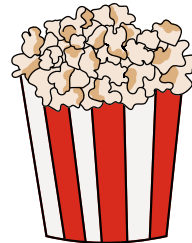


Wild rhinos consume more than 200 types of vegetation, including grasses, shrubs, bark, roots, bushes, berries, buds, flowers, fruits, leaves, herbs and aquatic plants

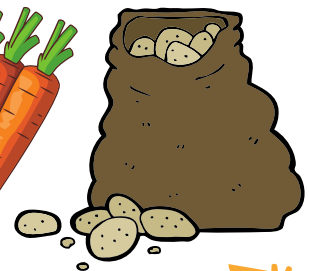
When you eat as much as rhinos do you poop a lot too! Each rhino poops between 20 and 25 kg of waste at a time!



All five species of rhinos are herbivores. Herbivores eat mostly or exclusively plants and vegetation

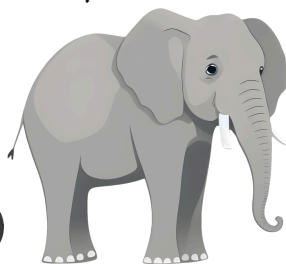


Each rhino eats between 30-50kg of food per day. That's roughly equivalent to 500 chocolate bars, 405 carrots, 1425 popcorn boxes, or 42 sacks of potatoes!



It is possible for black and white rhinos to go four days without drinking water due to the moisture they get from their diet!

Rhinos are the world's second largest herbivores after elephants. There are other familiar herbivores as well, such as giraffes, camels, pandas, and koalas



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Rhinos can eat plants that are toxic to humans and other animals, like Euphorbia Damarana (milk bush) or the candelabra euphorbia (candelabra tree). The black rhino is one of the few animals that can consume these plants without becoming ill



Both of these plants are an important source of water for black rhinos

You might think that this area is just muddy, but it is actually a midden



Rhinos have between 24-34 teeth. Each rhino's upper and lower jaw contains 3 premolars and 3 molars. Their teeth are used to grind and crush food

White rhinos are grazers. Around 40% of their diet comes from grass. Their necks naturally point downwards and they typically feed low to the ground. They are well adapted to shearing short grasses with their wide, flat mouth

Indian and Sumatran rhinos also have incisor teeth used to strip, cut, and bite foliage



We can tell the diet a rhino has by looking at the shape of their mouth. Rhinos are either grazers or browsers. Grazers have wide, flat mouths while browsers have pointy, hook lips



White rhinos spend around half the day grazing and are more effective at shearing grass than an electric lawnmower!



This rhino has a flat mouth and is a grazer



This rhino has a pointy mouth and is a browser



# RHINO EDUCATION PROJECT



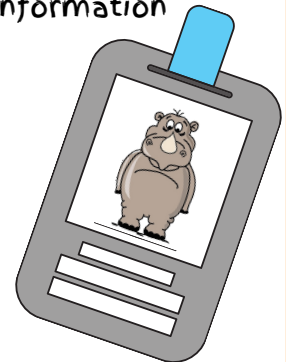
Black, Sumatran, Javan and Indian rhinos are browsers. Browsers have pointy, hook-shaped lips. Pointy lips are called prehensile (pre-hen-sile), which means they are capable of grasping

By using their pointy lips, browsers grab and pluck food. Heads point upward to reach high-growing vegetation

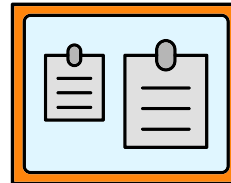


When rhinos poop in middens, they leave a virtual I.D card detailing their sex, age, territorial status, and other personal information

They use both visual and olfactory (scent) senses to receive the information



Middens function like giant public notice boards or social networks and are an essential form of communication



Middens are used by all rhinos, but only dominant males poop in the middle

The dominant male spreads his poop over the midden, covering the scent of the other rhinos. As he walks away, he will leave a trail of his scent behind



Male rhinos also use their poop (and pee) to mark their territories. Territories are areas where animals frequent and control

The correct name for rhino poop is dung



A dung pile is called a midden. Middens are rhino versions of communal toilets

The environment also benefits from rhino dung. Besides fertilising the soil, dung helps spread plant seeds, breeds dung beetles, and provides food for birds and small wildlife. In the rainy season, middens become watering holes

