

MEET THE RHINO

ABOUT ME

I can't see very well, so I sometimes charge objects like trees and rocks, mistaking them as threats, but I have a good sense of smell and hearing. Did you know there are 5 different species of rhinos in the world? I am a black rhino, I am slightly darker than the other rhinos and am a 'browser', meaning I eat leaves and twigs.

Can you see well?

DID YOU KNOW

The white rhino is said to have gotten its name from the Afrikaans word for wide ('wyd'), referring to its wide, square lip. White rhinos are the largest of our species and can weigh up to **3,500kg**. When I am fully grown, I will weigh up to **1,500kg**.

How much do you weigh?

MY FAMILY

Male rhinos are called 'bulls' and females are called 'cows'. The young are called 'calves'. Females tend to be more sociable than the males and have a strong bond with their calves. Together, a group of rhinos is called a 'crash'(how cool is that?!)

Do you have a strong bond with your mom?

WHY WE ARE IMPORTANT

We eat large amounts of vegetation, some of us graze, and some browse, this helps shape the African landscape, benefitting other animals. I am one of Africa's big five, people from all over the world like to come and see me.

OUR BIGGEST THREAT

I am an endangered mammal and my biggest threat is humans. Sadly, some people hunt us for our horns to sell, which is illegal.



DID YOU KNOW

We talk through honks and sneezes. We make lots of funny noises when we talk to each other. When we are angry we growl and make 'trumpet calls', we snort too. We make sneeze-like calls as alarms, scream if we're scared and 'mmwonk' when relaxed.

What funny noises do you make?

LIKE TO EAT

I am a **HERBIVORE**. I eat leafy plants, branches, shoots, thorny wood bushes, and fruit, while white rhinos graze on grasses. I look for food in the morning and evening. When I look for food, I use my lips to strip the branches of their leaves. I like to rest, sleep or play in mud pools during the day when it's hot, helping me cool down my body during the day and protecting me against parasites.

Do you like playing in the mud like me?

OUR HORNS

I have two horns on my nose. They are made of keratin and not bone, keratin is similar to human fingernails. Like your fingernails our horns can sometimes break off, but they do grow back.

Do your fingernails grow as long as my horns?

MY NAMES

My name, '**BLACK RHINO**' or **HOOK-LIPPED RHINOCEROS**.

I am actually grey in colour, but as we play in the mud we appear to be darker in colour. Black Rhinos have a hooked top lip, white Rhinos have a square top lip and that is how you can tell us apart.

Do you have more than one name?

