

WORLD RHINO DAY

September 22nd

13 to 16-year olds



Show your learners the pictures of **Rhinos flashcards** provided so that learners may know exactly what a rhino looks like. Show learners the **flashcard** depicting a **rhino whose horn was stolen** and how they feel about this.



Explain to the learners that rhinos are one of the most endangered species on earth; some people think that rhino horn has medicinal value and kill them for it. There used to be 1 million of them two hundred years ago. Today there are only 30.000.



Ask learners how they would like to raise awareness of the problem that rhinos face. They can select one of the following two activities:



Design a poster showing the plight of rhinos.



Write letters asking governments to take firmer action against poaching and habitat loss in Kenya, south Africa and Namibia, (three key African countries as identified by WWF)



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Extra resource and ideas



Discuss the following 12 rhino facts with your learners:

1. Rhinos are the second biggest land mammal after elephants.
2. The word 'rhinoceros' means 'horn nose' in Greek.
3. There are five species of rhinos: white, black (found in Africa), Indian, Javan, and Sumatran (found in southern Asia).
4. Rhinos are one of the most endangered species on earth; some people think that rhino horn has medicinal value and kill them for it. There used to be 1 million of them 2 hundred years ago. Today there are only 30.000.
5. Rhino horns are made of keratin, which is what our nails and hair are made of. It has no medical properties despite being used in traditional Asian medicine.
6. Rhinos have fantastic hearing and a great sense of smell, but have terrible eyesight. They will struggle to spot something further than 30m away.
7. Despite their weight (between 600 and 3600kg), Rhino can run very fast, (up to 40 miles per hour in short distances.)
8. Rhinos love wallowing. They cover themselves with mud and let it dry to protect their skin from the sun.
9. Rhino females are pregnant for 15 to 16 months and usually give birth to just one calf. Young rhinos will remain with their mothers until they are between two or three years old.
10. Rhinos eat a lot to feed their large bodies. They eat different types of vegetation depending on the species. The long lips of black rhinos allow them to pick fruits and leaves from long trees and bushes. White rhinos often feed on grass because of their short snout.
11. Rhinos spread out their dung to let others know where they are and whether they are ready to mate.

12. Birds called 'Oxpeckers' and rhinos help each other out: Rhinos let oxpeckers stay on their backs and eat their parasites. The birds also raise the alarm whenever there is danger about.

➤➤➤ If you wanted to make these facts more interactive, you could get learners to guess some of the key words when you read out each fact.

➤➤➤ You could turn each fact into a question and give a choice of 3 answers to choose from.

➤➤➤ Once the learners are aware of these facts, ask them to design a poster aiming to create awareness about rhinos using one or 2 facts of their choice.

