

Resource 2

Look at the resource below, which tells us more about the black rhino.

Black Rhinoceros

What do you like about the black rhino? How does it make you feel knowing it is an endangered species?

The black rhino is a critically endangered species. It is estimated that there are only 5500 black rhinos left in the world.

The black rhino is a solitary animal, which means it lives on its own, although, a mother black rhinoceros and her calf will stay together until the calf is about three years old. It has poor eyesight so depends on its hearing, using its wide ears, and its sense of smell.

In order to pluck leaves and fruit from trees and bushes, the black rhino has a pointed upper lip. It mainly feeds during the night, dawn or dusk, when it is cooler. During the day, it will find shade to shelter from the sun. It enjoys wallowing in shallow watering holes to keep cool and will often cover itself in the mud.

The black rhino has two horns, growing up to 8cm per year. Females use them to protect their young and males to battle attackers. Many black rhinos were killed for these horns, which were used for medicines or decorative, carved handles for daggers.



Source: Derek Keats

Black Rhino Facts!

- Height: 1.3-1.8m to the shoulder
- Weight: 800-1400kg
- Lifespan: 35-50 years
- Diet: Herbivore
- Habitat: Open plains, savannas, thorn scrub, thickets, dry forest, mountain forest.
- Speed: Up to 34mph

Did you know?

The black rhino is actually a grey colour!