



RHINOS



(800) 295-5010

Disney's ANIMAL WORLD

RHINOS

Objectives

The student in grades K-2 will:

- Become familiar with the physical characteristics of rhinos
- Learn how rhinos adapt to their environment
- Be introduced to the behavior of rhinos and their offspring

Synopsis

Through live-action footage, students observe wild rhinos in Africa. Clips from Disney animated films such as *The Jungle Book* further illustrate key facts about the second-largest land animal after the elephant. Students learn that, like our fingernails, rhino horns are made of keratin. Students watch rhinos indulging in two of their favorite pastimes, wallowing in mud and charging one another in rhino-style jousting tournaments. Students discover that rhinos have been around millions of years longer than humans. Two short, fun quizzes help students focus on what they've learned.

Preview Questions

1. Which do you think is bigger, a hippo or a rhino? Does a rhino live on land or in water? What color is a rhino's skin? Is its skin slimy, rough, or furry?
2. What special body part does a rhino have that it uses to fight predators and other rhinos?

Suggested Activities

1. Read students a picture book on rhinos. Nonfiction children's books on this topic include *Black Rhinos* by Rod Theodorou (Heinemann Library, 2000) and *Indian Rhinos and Their Babies* by Marianne Johnston (Rosen Publishing Group, 2001). Fiction stories include *Baby Rhino's Escape* by Adrienne Kennaway (Star Bright Books, 1998) and *You Look Ridiculous, Said the Rhinoceros to the Hippopotamus* by Bernard Waber (Houghton Mifflin, 1979). Invite students to tell about parts of the book that remind them of facts they learned from the rhino episode of *Disney's Animal World*.
2. Help students complete a chart such as the one below that tells how the special physical characteristics of rhinos help them survive.



Special parts of a rhino's body	How they help rhinos survive
swiveling ears	help them hear enemies coming (since their eyesight is very bad)
heavy, sharp horns on their noses	help them threaten or fight predators and other rhinos; also, rhinos mark their territory by rubbing their horns on trees
huge size	helps them scare predators away
agile body	helps them turn quickly
thick skin	shields them from predators' claws and other rhinos' horns

- Print the following names on separate cards: blue whale, elephant, rhino, hippo, lion, hyena, meerkat, mouse, fly. Mix up the cards and ask pairs of student to arrange them in order from largest to smallest creature (the order given above). If students have difficulty, give them hints such as: "The rhino is the second-largest land animal. Which do you think is the largest land animal?"
- Remind students that rhino horns are made of keratin, the same material that our fingernails are made of. Read them an illustrated picture book on animal horns, such as *Horns and Antlers* by Allan Fowler (Scholastic, 1998). Then have students write or dictate fun facts on horned animals. Invite them to illustrate their fun facts, too.
- Point out that rhinos are plant eaters, or herbivores. Choose several herbivores such as rhinos, elephants, and giraffes, and several carnivores such as lions, crocodiles, and leopards. Write each animal's name on a separate slip of paper, place the slips in a bag, and mix them up. Draw the slips from the bag one by one. Read each animal's name aloud and ask, "Herbivore or carnivore?" Students can say "Munch, munch, plants for lunch!" if they think the animal eats plants. If they think it eats meat, they can say, "Meat is neat, and it's a treat!" After the class comes to a consensus, write the animal's name on the board under the heading Plant Eaters/Herbivores or Meat Eaters/Carnivores.

On the DVD

Scene Selection

The program on this DVD is divided into 5 chapters. This allows the user to enter at different points in the program.

- Chapter 1: Meet the Rhinoceros
- Chapter 2: Quiz Time 1
- Chapter 3: Keeping Cool
- Chapter 4: Quiz Time 2
- Chapter 5: About those Horns



DVD Activities

These classroom activities, found on the DVD, include relevant short scenes from the program.

Big Picture

Work together using a large sheet of paper and poster paints to create a huge picture of a rhinoceros. Discuss what you learned about rhinos from the video while you work.

Stay Cool

Name some of the ways rhinos try to keep cool. How do you stay cool on a hot day?

Additional Resources

Disney Educational Productions

<http://www.Edustation.Disney.com>

This award-winning site contains additional activities and resources for use with this DVD.

Wikipedia: Rhinos

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rhinoceros>

This site contains, facts, photos and habitat maps.

San Diego Zoo

http://www.sandiegozoo.org/kids/animal_profile_rhinoceros.html

Information for younger students.

San Diego Zoo

<http://www.sandiegozoo.org/animalbytes/t-rhinoceros.html>

This site contains facts, photos, references and maps.

