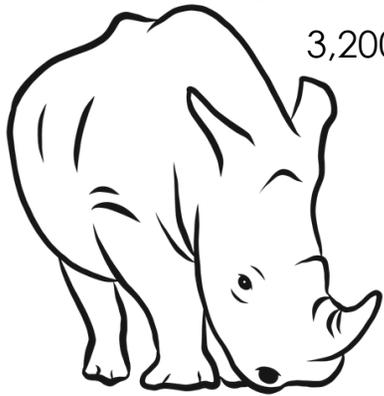
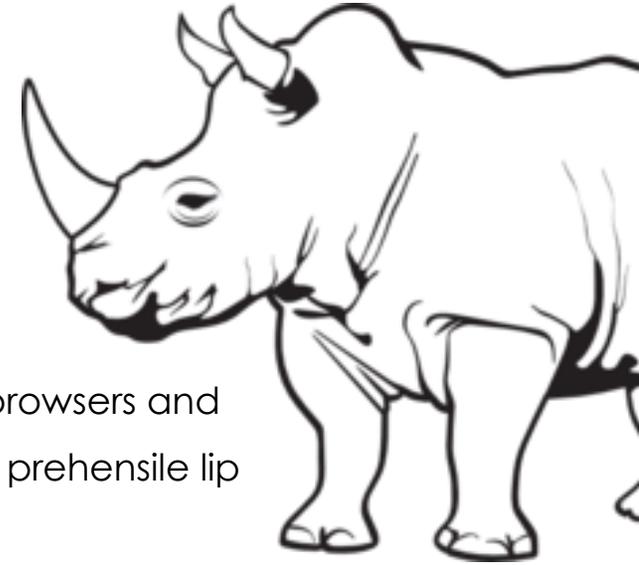


# Comparing African Rhinoceros

**Directions:** Read and learn about black and white rhinoceros and then on the following page, compare their similarities and differences.

There are currently are five species of rhinoceros that exist in the world. They are the Sumatran rhino, Indian rhino, Java rhino, black rhino, and white rhino. Today, we are going to focus on the two species that are from Africa – the black rhino and the white rhino.

Black rhinos are unique because they have a pointed upper lip which is called a *prehensile lip*. This lip is an adaption for their diet! Black rhinos are browsers and they use their lip to feed off branches and shrubs. White rhinos do not have a prehensile lip and instead, they use their flat lips to graze off the ground foliage.



Although both are gray, white rhinos are much larger than black rhinos. White rhinos weigh 3,200 – 8,000 pounds while black rhinos 1,760 – 3,080 pounds. White rhinos and hippos are head-to-head for 2<sup>nd</sup> place of the largest land mammal following elephants! Both black and white rhinos have two horns on their heads. White rhino's front horn tends to be much longer and thinner than the back horn. The two horns on a black rhino are usually more similar in size and sometimes, the back horn is longer than the front horn. Their horns are made of *keratin*, and is one of the major causes of their threatened species. Poaching has rapidly decreased both species population. By 1970, rhino numbers dropped to 70,000, and today, as few as 29,000 rhinos remain in the wild

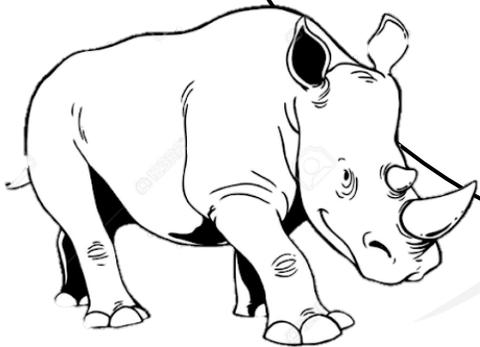
The current population of white rhinos is near threatened and the population of black rhinos is critically endangered. With the power of awareness and amazing conservation efforts, the black rhino population is slowly, but surely increasing!!

# Comparing African Rhinoceros

Black Rhinos

White Rhinos

Both



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