

Javan Rhinos

Rhinos, or rhinoceroses, to give them their full name, are found in various places around the world. They do not function well in cold climates, so can be found in warm countries in Africa and Asia, as well as India.

About Javan Rhinos

Javan rhinos are found in Malaysia and Indonesia. They like to be in habitats which supply plenty of water. They are often found in hot and humid rainforests or by the side of swamps. Rhinos are herbivores. This means that they have a diet made up from plants and fruit. They cannot climb, so must wait for ripe fruit to fall from the branches. Though they are not strictly nocturnal, they do sleep throughout the hottest part of the day and forage and graze when it is cooler and at night. Javan rhinos, like all other rhinos, have horns, but theirs are smaller, they only have one, and only the male rhinos have them. Javan rhinos are similar to African rhinos as they have tough, armour-like skin but they are smaller than their African cousins.



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Javan Rhinos

An Endangered Species

Javan rhinos can live between 30 and 40 years, though this is rarely true now as they are being hunted and many are often killed before they become adults. This hunting is known as poaching. Sadly, most Javan rhinos are poached so that they can have their horns removed. Some people believe that Javan rhino horn can be used in medicine and they are willing to pay thousands of pounds for a single horn. To make matters worse, there is no proof that rhino horn helps to improve people's health. Javan rhinos are one of the most endangered species in the world (which means there are not many left), with an estimated 63 remaining in the wild. If they are not protected, soon they will become extinct.

Javan Rhinos - Questions

1. What is 'rhino' short for?

2. In which countries might you find a Javan rhino?

3. How do they get fruit to eat?

4. What are the similarities and differences between Javan and African rhinos?

5. What other word is used for 'hunting'?

6. What does 'endangered' mean?

7. How do Javan rhinos stay cool?

8. Why are people prepared to pay money for a rhino horn?

9. What is a habitat?

10. How do you feel about rhino hunting? Why?
