

# ENDANGERED SPECIES: BLACK RHINO

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**Black Rhinos are now endangered and are a species that could go extinct; they live in Africa and in wildlife parks.**

## THE EVENT:

In 2011 the Black Rhino was declared endangered. In 1995 there were about 2,000 left but then they realised that they should make more wildlife parks to bring them back and now there are about 5,000 (2020). They live in South Africa. Black Rhinos have prehensile meaning that they have a hooked lip for pulling leaves off. They have two big horns on their head which helps them protect them from predators. Black Rhinos live in large groups called a crash.

## THE EFFECTS:

The effects of Black Rhinos endangered are that the numbers of Black Rhinos have dropped. They have built wildlife parks but the Black Rhinos are still not populating fast enough and they are dying faster. Poaching is now illegal but people still try to do it. People have planned to dehorn all Black Rhinos making them worthless to poachers, but when they release them back into the wild they will have no horns to defend them against predators.

## SOCIAL ACTION - WHAT'S BEING DONE:

WWF is one of the many animal defence and protection forces, it stands for 'World Wide Found'. They helped bring Black Rhinos from all over the continent to wildlife parks. After Black Rhinos were declared endangered many more African wildlife parks were made. The punishment for poaching Black Rhinos is from 200,000 to 25 million NZ dollars and up to 20 years in prison.

## THE CAUSE:

The main reason that Black Rhinos are endangered is because of poaching. Poachers went around South Africa looking for Black Rhinos. The reason they wanted the Black Rhinos is because of their horn which sells for very high prices in the black market (a market where illegal goods are sold). Poachers go around and shoot Black Rhinos, hack their horns off and just leave them there. People use rhino horn for many things but the main two are, dagger handles and they ground up the horn to make it into a 'miracle' medicine. The second reason that Black Rhinos are endangered is because of habitat loss. South Africa is drying up and the water holes are too and so is nature, this is the main habitat to many African animals and they depend on it to survive. One of these many animals is the Black Rhino and it needs food and water to survive, sadly the greenery and water is drying up and dying and so are the Black Rhinos.



**This is a picture of a Black Rhino that is dehorned.**

## MY OPINION:

In my opinion i think that it is very sad that people go around killing Black Rhinos and just leaving them there hornless. I think that Black Rhinos are amazing animals and I hope that we can bring them back from being endangered. I think that it is good that poaching is illegal because I don't want any more animals going endangered or extinct.



**Picture of Black Rhino in an African wildlife park.**



**These are the horns of the Black Rhino.**

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