

LEWA PROJECT

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About Rhinos and the issue:

Rhinoceroses are large, herbivorous mammals and are famous for their horned snouts. The word "rhinoceros" comes from the Greek "rhino" (nose) and "ceros" (horn). Because the animals' horns are used in folk medicine for their supposed healing properties, rhinos have been hunted nearly to extinction. Their horns are sometimes sold as trophies or decorations, but more often they are ground up and used in traditional Chinese medicine. The powder is often added to food or brewed in a tea in the belief that the horns are a powerful aphrodisiac, a hangover cure and treatment for fever, rheumatism, gout and other disorders, according to the International Rhino Foundation. Save the Rhino estimates that there were 500,000 rhinos across Africa and Asia at the beginning of the 20th century. Today, the group says, there are 29,000 rhinos in the wild. Poaching and loss of habitat have put all rhino species in danger of extinction.



This is a picture of a white rhino killed by poachers and dehorned and was found during aerial surveillance. The rest of its body is just left to rot.

Article retrieved online:

Since 2008 poachers have killed at least 5,940 African rhinos.

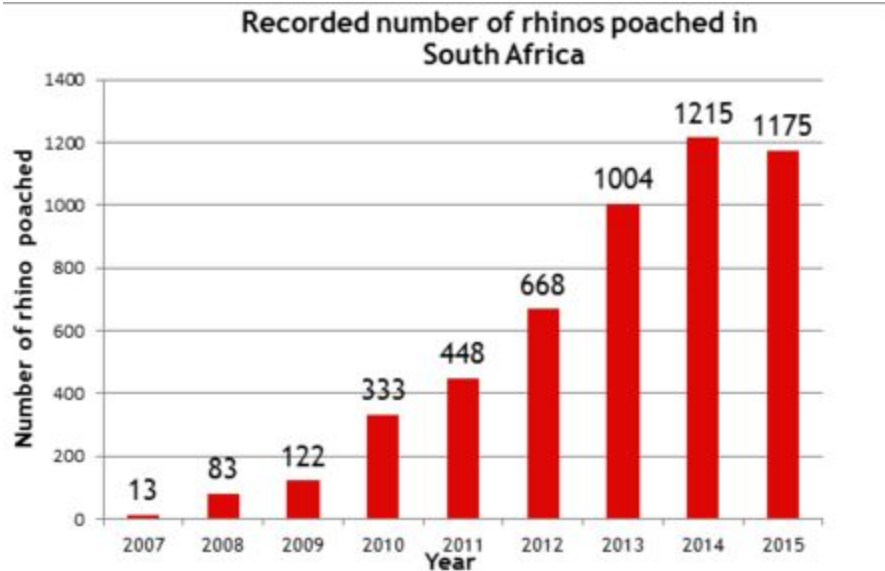
Rhino poaching is as of now at an emergency point. Before the end of 2015, the quantity of African rhinos murdered by poachers had expanded for the 6th year consecutively with no less than 1,338 rhinos slaughtered by poachers crosswise over Africa in 2015. These measurements are assembled by International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Species Survival Commission's African Rhino Specialist Group (AfRSG). South Africa has by a long shot the biggest populace of rhinos on the planet and is an extraordinarily essential nation for rhino protection. However rhino poaching levels have drastically heightened over late years. The underneath chart demonstrates the exponential increment in poaching from 2007 - 2015. 1,175 rhinos were poached in South Africa amid 2015, a slight diminishing on the earlier year when a record 1,215 rhinos were wrongfully murdered. This is the first run through the nation has recorded a dunk in poaching levels subsequent to 2007, when the rate of poaching started to raise quickly. In spite of the fact that it is urging to see South Africa's poaching levels fall somewhat, poaching misfortunes are still to a great degree high. 40 less rhinos murdered in 2015 than in 2014 is measurably inconsequential when you're talking such substantial quantities of poaching passings.

Rhino poaching is currently at a crisis point. By the end of 2015, the number of African rhinos killed by poachers had increased for the sixth year in a row with at least 1,338 rhinos killed by poachers across Africa in 2015. These statistics are compiled by by International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Species Survival Commission's African Rhino Specialist Group (AfRSG). South Africa has by far the largest population of rhinos in the world and is an incredibly important country for rhino conservation. However rhino poaching levels have dramatically escalated over recent years. The below graph shows the exponential increase in poaching from 2007 - 2015. 1,175 rhinos were poached in South Africa during 2015, a slight decrease on the previous year when a record 1,215 rhinos were illegally killed. This is the first time the country has recorded a dip in poaching levels since 2007, when the rate of poaching began to escalate rapidly. Although it is encouraging to see South Africa's poaching levels fall

slightly, poaching losses are still extremely high. 40 fewer rhinos killed in 2015 than in 2014 is statistically insignificant when you're talking such large numbers of poaching deaths.

Simplified Version for kids to understand: (going to be on game as typing section)

Did you know that the full name for Rhinos is Rhinoceros? Also did you know that rhinoceros means nose-horn? Rhinos are very big but are very gentle and friendly animals. They are the second biggest land animal! The white rhino are very heavy! They can weigh up to 3500 kilograms! Also, Rhinoceros have thick and rough skin to protect them from danger. Rhinos have very small brains so they are not very smart. Rhinoceros horns are made from keratin, the same material that our fingernails and hair are made of. Rhinoceros are herbivores (they eat plants). White Rhinoceros are actually gray. The white rhino are very friendly and beautiful animals, but sadly, they are being hurt for only their very large horns. Poachers are bad people kill a lot of White Rhinos. They kill the rhinos because they can make a lot of money if they sell the rhino horn. Each year more than 1100 rhinos are killed by poachers. Poachers only kill rhinos because they are very poor. Help the poachers so they will not have to kill rhinos.



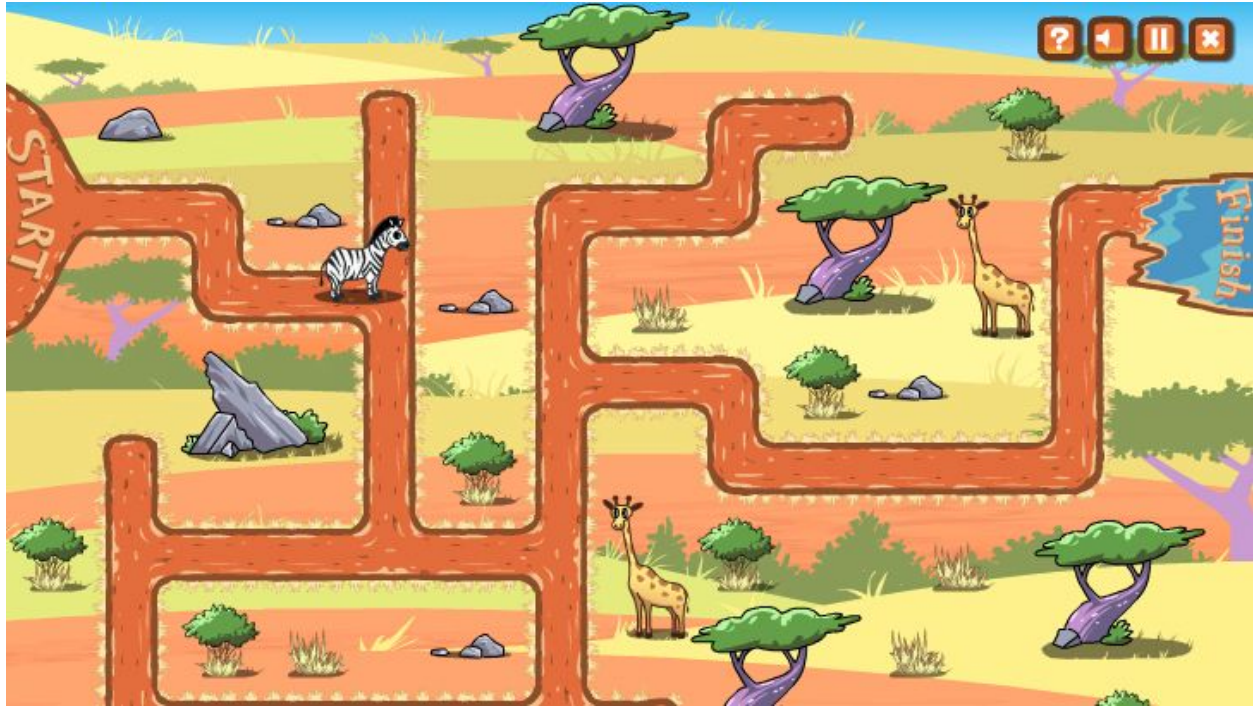
Typo Rhino

Game purpose:

To educate young kenyans that continuous hunting of this beautiful creature may cause extinction. This will also help kids with their typing skills as they will need to type quickly before the word on the screen to disappear. The background of the game will have a familiar african savanna so it is more easy for them to relate.

Game idea:

This game will incorporate a desert/african savanna type of background and a zigzag trail for the rhino to get away from the poacher.



The game will look somewhat like this except with a Poacher with a gun on the top left side of the screen and a rhino nearby attempting to get away from the poacher. There will be a random word wrapped in a bubble that will appear on the screen. The player will type the word before the timer expires or the poacher will get closer to the rhino. It will be game over if the poacher touches the rhino. If the player types the word correctly and before the timer expires, the rhino will move 2 steps to the right. You win if the rhino reaches the end of the trail. We also made the poacher look very mean and scary to show the kids that these are very bad people. We made the typing section of the game very relevant to the topic of rhinos and

More information about Lewa:

Lewa is located in the heart of northern Kenya. Lewa is considered globally as one of the most beautiful wildlife conservatory in the northern part of Kenya. Some animals that are often seen in Lewa include: Elephants, Lions, Wild Dogs, Cheetahs and Monkeys to only name a few. Lewa was started in 1995 as a wildlife conservatory with security for the animals within Lewa. Since 2001 there have only been a couple of white rhino's protected within Lewa. The conservatory covers approximately 62,500 acres across northern Kenya which makes it the 97th largest conservatory within Kenya. Lewa originated as a cattle ranch. Currently they have approximately 5 security guards patrolling the rhino to protect it from poachers trying to abduct their horns.

Sounds needed for the game:

Noise for the game when the user clicks start

Noise for the rhino

Noise for the poacher

Noise for the end of the game

Walking noises for when rhino gets away from poacher

Wrong answer noise for not typing a word correctly or if the word is not typed in time

Right answer noise for typing a word correctly in time

Images (.svg) needed for the game:

Image for the Rhino



Image for the background

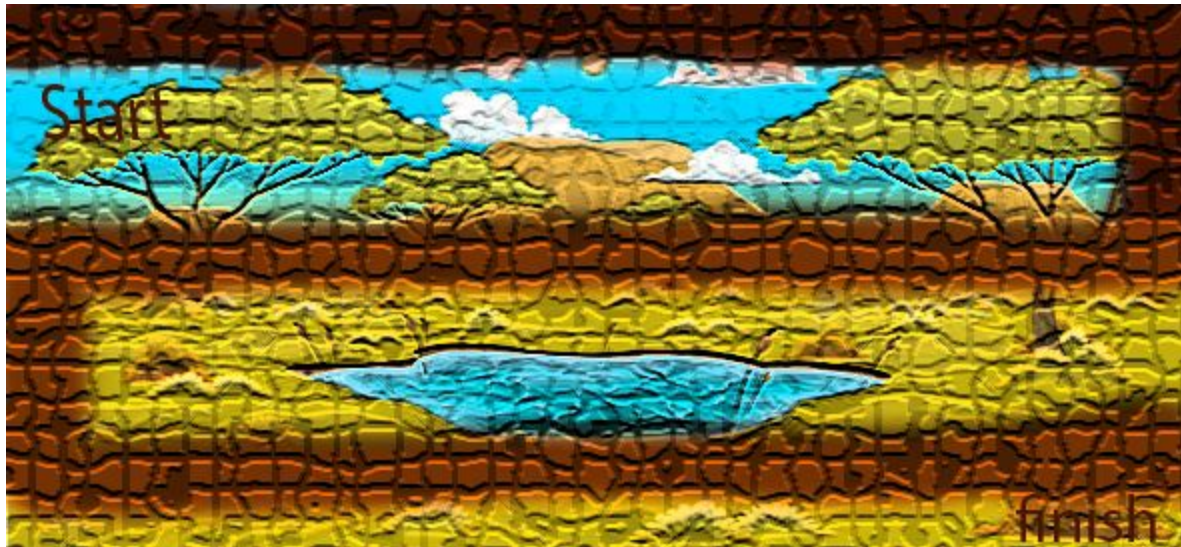


Image for the app icon for the sugar labs store.



Photo for Start Game:



Instructions on how to play game:

Can you save the Rhinos?

Type the following words as fast as you can! Make sure you type the word correctly though. If you type incorrectly the poacher will get closer to the Rhino, and if the poacher gets too close to the Rhino it's game over! Good luck! Remember to type quickly but also **accurately**.

Click start to begin!

Reflection

1. What possible impact will this project have on students in Kenya?

I believe this project will have a very large impact on students in Kenya in a very beneficial way because this game will teach the students very important life skills (typing) as well as educate them about the issue of rhinos being poached. In addition, it will help these students read while they are having fun. It will educate these students about Rhinos and why they are very beautiful creatures that do not deserve to be poached for their horns as they are actually made of the same material as human fingernails (keratin).

2. How can technology help Lewa and its surrounding communities?

Technology will be very beneficial for Lewa and its surrounding communities in many ways. Technology can be very essential in solving some of Africa's major problems such as the lack of clean water. Having clean water can change lives. It can provide decent jobs, boost economic development and change entire societies. Currently, 17 million people in Kenya lack access to clean water. With added and improved filtering systems and water cleaning technology within these African communities, many lives may be saved and the living condition of these people will be improved without question.

3. How can technology promote conservation?

Our human tendency to innovate and advance our current technology, can come up with solutions for saving many species on Earth from becoming endangered, or even extinct. From low-tech ideas to new farfetched technology, there's a wide variety of concepts for using science and technology to preserve endangered species. One innovative example of how technology can be used to promote conservation is to implement smart collars on endangered species. Biologists can use these new "smart collars" that use GPS and accelerometer technology to track not only a wild animal's location but also how it is moving, when it is hunting, what it is hunting -So basically these collars can tell us every move the animal makes. Researchers aspire that by knowing exactly what certain species of animals are up to, they can understand them much more in depth which can lead to possibly even predict behavior of these animal. This can reduce human-animal conflicts, transforming the way we interact with and manage wildlife. In addition, technological advance will allow for easier communication and education among communities. With much easier ways to educate such as using the XO, articles and activities and games can be

produced to educate and inform these people about poaching.

4. What impact did this project have on you and your understanding of conservation?

This project impacted and informed me on the issue of animal poaching and the overall living conditions in east africa such as in lewa. This project has made me much more keen on this subject and has sparked interest in me to take action in global issues as much as I can. I have learned about the horrifying number of rhinos poached each year despite it being illegal, reasons for why they are being poached and a lot of general information about Rhinos as well. I have learned that the northern white rhino once thrived in southern Chad, the Central African Republic, southwestern Sudan, northern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), and northwestern Uganda. As recently as 1960, there were more than 2,000 remaining. However, poaching has led to their extinction in the wild. And now there are only 3 individuals left on earth - all of them in captivity. The future for this subspecies is very bleak. The issue of poaching that brought the Rhino population to near extinction is just a small example of what we are doing to nature for our selfish reasons. The bigger message about this project is to conserve and protect our environment and animals in general or else one day we might never see them again.