

Steve Jones

From: Your Toronto Zoo <schools@torontozoo.ca>
Sent: June 1, 2023 1:41 PM
To: Steve Jones
Subject: White Rhinos At Your Toronto Zoo!

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 Daily 9:30am to 7:00pm



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WHITE RHINOS AT YOUR TORONTO ZOO

RHINO NEWS

exciting updates

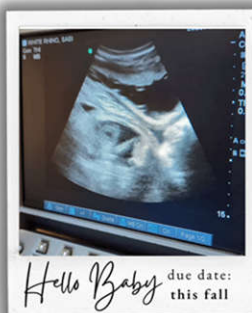
For the past five months, the three white rhinos that call your Toronto Zoo home — Zohari, Sabi and Tom — have been participating in a research study led by the American Institute of Rhinoceros Science (AIRS). The AIRS team, comprised of expert rhino scientists, is investigating the health and well-being of rhinos in human care. Their approach aligns closely with our primary duty at the

Toronto Zoo: to deliver the highest possible standard of care to the animals living here. Every day we ask ourselves “how can we do better?”; studies like this one, which will synthesize the collective experience of over 75 zoos, enable us to see the bigger picture, identify the areas where we excel, and show us ways to improve the lives of the animals in our care.

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**WE'RE EXPECTING A LITTLE SURPRISE FROM
A NOT-SO-LITTLE SPECIES!**

We are so excited to announce that 13-year-old white rhino Sabi is expecting her first calf! A white rhino's gestation period lasts 425-496 days (approximately 16 months), and we expect Sabi will give birth some time between early September and late October. Sabi is trained to participate in voluntary ultrasound examinations, which allowed our team to confirm pregnancy and monitor the calf's early development (the baby is now too big, and oriented too far forward internally, to be able to see well).

Given Sabi's challenges with conceiving, and those associated with a first pregnancy, we kept the news under wraps until she reached the beginning of her third trimester. This will be the second calf sired by 15-year-old male white rhino, Tom. His first calf, Theo, was born in December 2017, and left Toronto in late 2021 for the Greater Vancouver Zoo. Sabi was an incredible aunt to Theo, and we look forward to seeing her maternal instincts with her own little calf!

[Read Full Story](#)

IT'S A MATCH!



TOM
WHITE RHINO



MALE



AGE: 15



Love language = physical touch,
even if you try to hit me with your horn..
every howdy means so much to me <3



SABI
WHITE RHINO



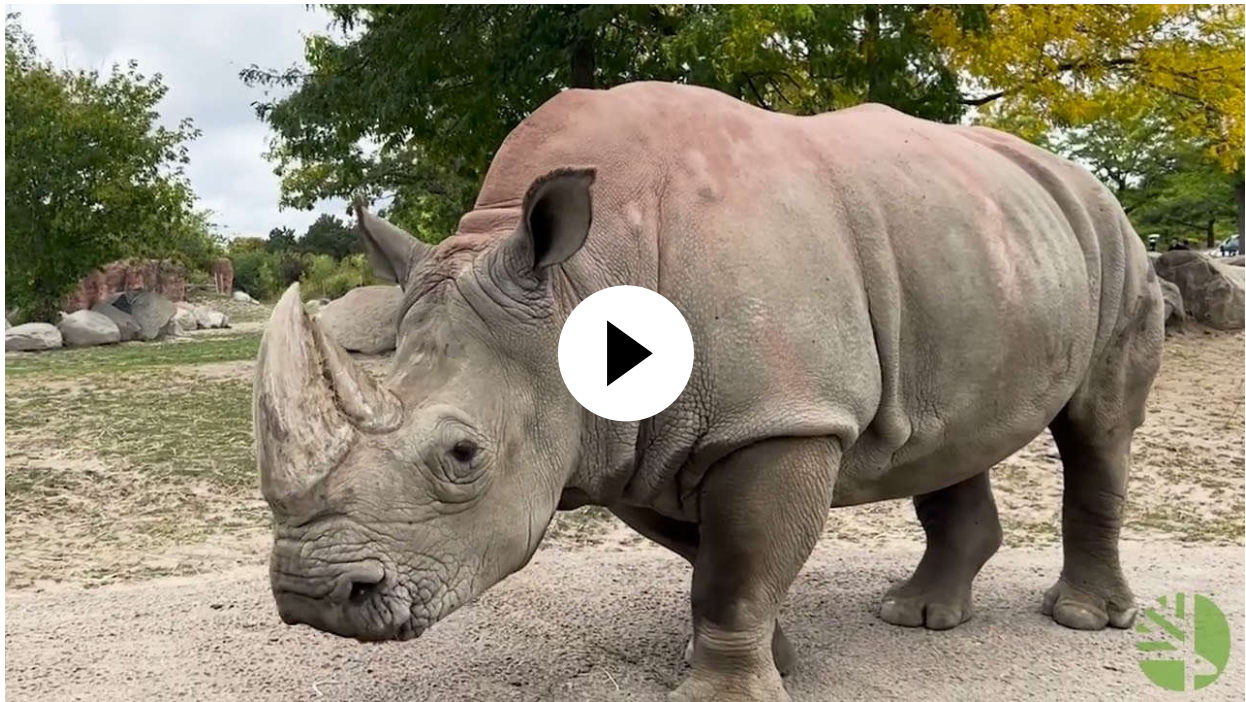
FEMALE



AGE: 13



Love language = personal space, and
acts of service. Act of service being
giving me space, k thanks bye



[Watch Video](#)

The white rhinoceros (*Ceratotherium simum*) is the second largest terrestrial mammal next to the elephant, inhabiting African's grassy plains. It currently consists of the northern species (*Ceratotherium simum cottoni*) which is critically endangered and possibly extinct in the wild, and the southern species (*Ceratotherium simum simum*) found at your Toronto Zoo. These mighty creatures, weighing up to 6,000 pounds can be identified by their two horns on their snout, with their front horn being larger than their rear. White rhinos have a distinctive broad, straight mouth, which is used for grazing in their herbivorous lifestyle, and are often found wallowing in muddy holes like many rhino species do. Female white rhinos and their young gather in groups, while males are more solitary.



THREATS TO *white rhinos* IN THE WILD

Like other rhinos, the white rhino falls victim to commercial exploitation, the biggest threat to their population being illegal hunting for their horns.

Currently, there are less than 16,000 southern white rhinos in the wild and are listed as Near Threatened on the IUCN Red List.

WAYS STUDENTS CAN HELP

- Learn as much as you can about white rhinos and share this knowledge with others!
- Celebrate World Rhino Day with us on September 22nd at your Toronto Zoo!
- Use sustainable wood and wood products (look for the FSC logo)
- Support organizations working directly with wild rhino populations like the [International Rhino Foundation](#)
- [Sign pledges](#) to stop wildlife crime involved in the poaching crisis.

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

Elementary:

- Share this quick [Rhi\(know\)](#) quiz with your students either verbally or in a written format to test their rhinoceros knowledge!

Intermediate:

- How many species of rhino exist? Make an infographic including their scientific names and current status on the [IUCN Red List of Threatened Species](#). What can be done to help their populations increase?

Secondary:

- Rhino populations have decreased by up to 96% over the last 100 years, with all five species now facing extinction from poaching and habitat loss. Together, we can take a stand and stop the killing. Unite with the International Rhino Foundation and fellow rhino lovers from around the world to help these species win their fight for survival. [Join Team Rhino](#) and [pledge to stop poaching](#) and commit to preserving the world's rhinos for future generations. Share your commitment on social media and encourage others to get involved as well!

Contact us at schools@torontozoo.ca if you have any questions or concerns.
Please do not reply to this email as this address is not monitored.



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Connecting people, animals, and conservation science to fight extinction.

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