

Rhinos, Poachers and Drones - The Game

Once students have learned the basics about rhino poaching, the focus may move to what it takes to protect rhinos. Watch this [video](#) in class, follow with a discussion and then play the below game.

Discussion may focus on what action needs to be taken to safeguard rhinos. For example, rangers, their dogs and technology are important. What tasks would a ranger have? What training would he/she need? Think of the dangers that may be involved in protecting rhinos and the resources that would be advantageous to rhinos. Why are drones so helpful to rangers?

This game is suitable for kids up to 12 years old.

Materials needed:

- 1 paper per student marked with either a R, D or P (R for Rhino, P for Poacher and D for Drone Operator). This number will vary depending on the number of students (for example, in a class of 25, 18 will be rhinos, 3 poachers, and 3 drone operators)

Before you begin:

- One student is designated as the ranger who oversees everything (ranger can also be the teacher too)
- Remember to watch this [video](#) prior to playing game!

Instructions:

- 1) Have all students sit in a circle.
- 2) Hand each of them a folded piece of paper. Each paper should have a P, R, or D on it. If their piece of paper says P on it, they are a Poacher. If it has an R on it, they are a Rhino. If it has a D on it, they are the Drone Airplane Operators.
- 3) The students should look at their papers, but not share with anyone who they are.
- 4) The Ranger instructs all students to close their eyes.
- 5) Then the Ranger instructs the Poachers only to open their eyes and quietly point to any of the students with their eyes closed to “poach.” Once they have chosen



their victim, the ranger instructs the Poachers to close their eyes. The Ranger must remember who has been 'poached'.

- 6) Then the Ranger asks the Drone Operators to open their eyes. They each choose a person in the circle for the Drone Operators to "catch or save". Once the Drone Operators have chosen the Ranger instructs them to close their eyes again. (It is important that the Ranger remembers who has been chosen).
- 7) The Ranger instructs everyone to open their eyes and identifies who has been 'poached' to stand up.
- 8) Next, the Ranger identifies if those students who are standing have been chosen by drone operators. (No one should know who the Poachers or the Drone Operators are).
- 9) If the students who are standing are a rhino that was 'poached' and were also chosen by Drone Operator, then they have been saved, and may sit, they are back in the game.
- 10) If the students who are standing are poachers and were chosen by the drone operator, then they are 'caught' and out of the game.
- 11) Rhinos that were 'poached' and not saved by the drones are out of the game. Drones that were also caught by the poachers are also out of the game.
- 12) At this time, all students participate in a debate on who the Poachers might be. Remember, even the Poachers are in on the debate as they are a secret!!
- 13) Together, the kids vote one child to be removed from the game, the ranger will identify them as Poacher, Rhino, or Drone Operator, and that student is out.

Keep playing these rounds until either all the Poachers have been removed, or all the Drone Operators have been killed, or possibly all the rhinos have been 'poached'.

Whoever is left is the winner.

