Alligator vs. Crocodile

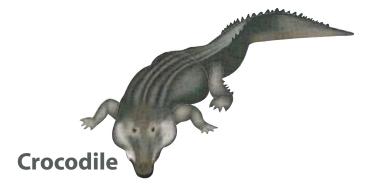
Did you know alligators are actually a kind of crocodile? The crocodile family has been around for 240 million years, longer than dinosaurs lived!

Crocodiles and alligators...

- $\cdot \text{ are reptiles}$
- · live both in the water and on land
- · swim up to 20 miles per hour
- · can hold their breath for an hour
- · run up to 11 miles per hour
- · have eyes on the top of their heads
- · can see well in the dark
- · have good hearing with slits for ears
- · have a good sense of smell

What makes Alligators a special kind of Crocodile?





Snout wide U-shaped, round,

looks like a shovel

longer, more narrow V-shaped

Jaw overlaps the lower jaw

hiding its lower teeth

"overbite"

upper and lower jaws are the same size

Hind legs no fringe

webbed feet

fringe on legs and feet

Size American alligators

6-19 feet long

Chinese alligators

5-7 feet long

African and Australian

crocodiles up to 20 feet long and weigh over 2,200 pounds smaller crocodiles 6 feet long

Habitat

prefer fresh water

no salt glands

can live easily in salt water due to salt glands on their tongues

Crocodile Quiz

Circle your answers.

1. Which one has an "overbite"?

2. Which one has fringe on its legs and feet?

3. Which one likes fresh water?

4. Which one can swim 20 miles per hour and hold its breath for an hour?

Alligator

Crocodile

Alligator

Crocodile

Alligator

Crocodile



