



ANIMALS OF THE WORLD

Alligators and Other Crocodilians

Why are alligators such good hunters? What do alligators eat? Which crocodile runs the fastest? Read *Alligators and Other Crocodilians* to find out!

What did you learn?

QUESTIONS

- American alligators live in the ...
 - Southeastern United States
 - Southwestern United States
 - Northeastern United States
 - Northwestern United States
- A full-grown male alligator may be more than ...
 - 10 feet long
 - 12 feet long
 - 14 feet long
 - 16 feet long
- The caiman that lives in the rain forest is the ...
 - Spectacled caiman
 - Yacare caiman
 - Black caiman
 - Schneider's dwarf caiman
- The largest reptile in the world is the ...
 - American alligator
 - Chinese alligator
 - Australian saltwater crocodile
 - Spectacled caiman
- What does *bask* mean?
- What does *dormant* mean?

TRUE OR FALSE?

- | | |
|---|--|
| _____ 1. Crocodilians are cold-blooded. | _____ 4. There are four different kinds of alligators. |
| _____ 2. Alligators eat fish, frogs, snakes, and crabs. | _____ 5. In the wild, alligators usually live between 30 and 60 years. |
| _____ 3. If a nest stays warm, female alligators hatch. | _____ 6. Several species of crocodilians are endangered. |

ANSWERS

1. a. Southeastern United States.

According to section "What Is Home to American Alligators?" on page 8, we know that "American alligators live in watery areas of the southeastern United States." So, the correct answer is A.

2. b. 12 feet long. According to section "Do American Alligators Have Predators?" on page 28, we know that "Alligators are very large animals. A full-grown male may be more than 12 feet (3.7 meters) long." So, the correct answer is B.

3. d. Schneider's dwarf caiman.

According to section "Which Caiman Likes the Rain Forest?" on page 34, we know that "The Schneider's dwarf caiman lives in the dense rain forest of South America." So, the correct answer is D.

4. c. Australian saltwater crocodile.

According to section "Which Crocodiles Are at Home in the Sea?" on page 52, we know that "Australian saltwater crocodiles are the largest reptiles in the world." So, the correct answer is C.

5. According to page 63, *bask* means "To lie in the sun for warmth."

6. According to page 63, *dormant* means "Not awake or active."

TRUE OR FALSE? ANSWERS

1. True. According to section "What Is a Crocodilian?" on page 6, we know that "Like other reptiles, crocodiles lay eggs and breathe air through lungs. They are also cold-blooded." So, the correct answer is True.

2. True. According to section "What Do Alligators Eat?" on page 18, we know that "Alligators eat many different animals. They eat fish, frogs, snakes, and crabs." So, the correct answer is True.

3. False. According to section "Who's That Chirping from the Nest?" on page 26, we know that "If a nest stays warm, males hatch. If a nest is cool, females hatch. If the temperature is in between, both males and females hatch." So, the correct answer is False.

4. False. According to section "How Many Kinds of Alligators Are There?" on page 30, we know that "There are only two kinds of alligators." So, the correct answer is False.

5. True. According to section "How Long Do Alligators Live?" on page 40, we know that "In the wild, an alligator may have an average life span between 30 and 60 years." So, the correct answer is True.

6. True. According to section "Are Crocodilians in Danger?" on page 60, we know that "Today, several species of crocodilians are endangered, or in danger of becoming extinct." So, the correct answer is True.