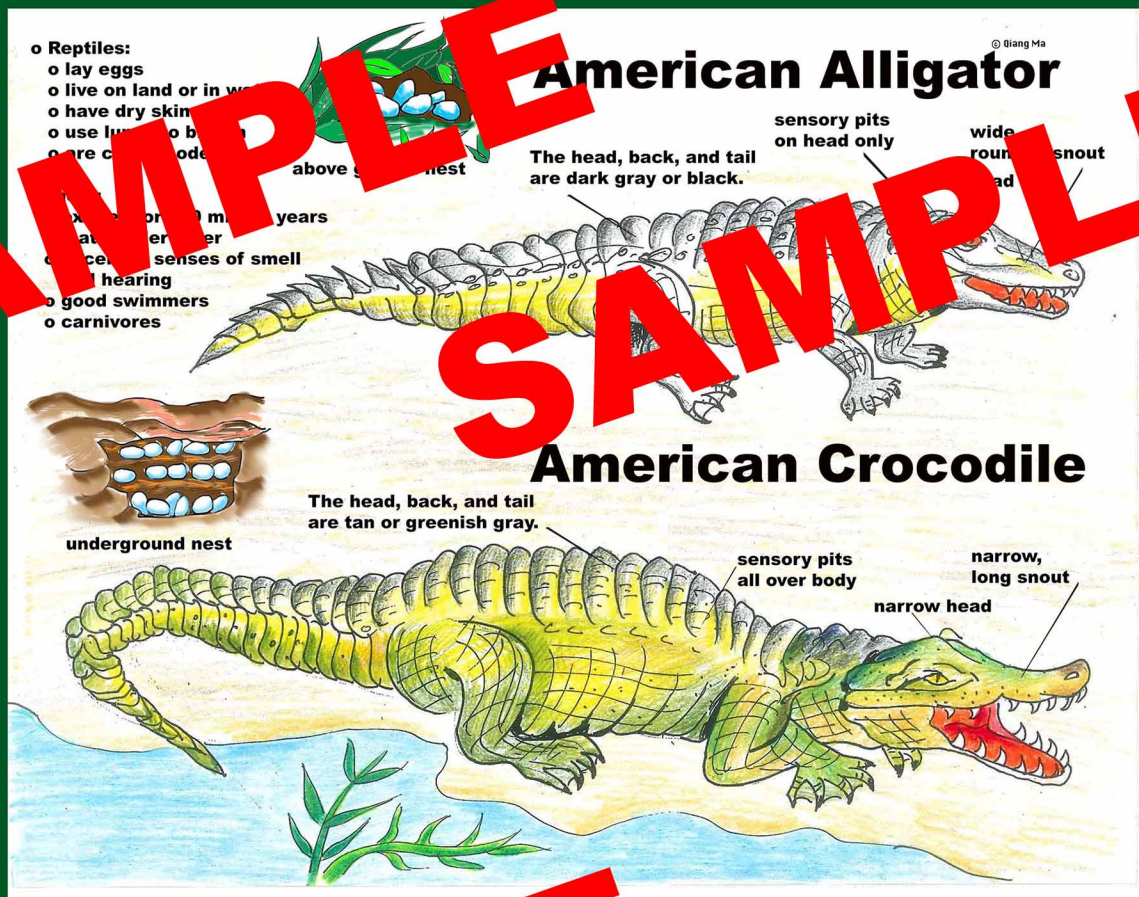


Close Reading

Plus Writing Activities

Alligators and Crocodiles By Gail Gibbons

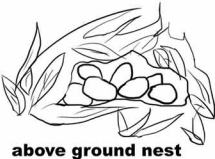


Teaching science through
Reading, Comprehension, Vocabulary,
Posters, and Reflection

Qiang Ma

- o Reptiles:
- o lay eggs
- o live on land or in water
- o have dry skin
- o use lungs to breathe
- o are cold-blooded

- o Facts:
- o existed for 230 million years
- o mate underwater
- o excellent senses of smell and hearing
- o good swimmers
- o carnivores



above ground nest

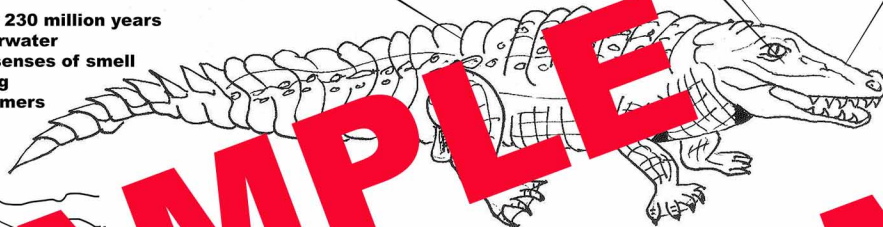
American Alligator

© Liang Ma

The head, back, and tail are dark gray or black.

sensory pits on head only

wide, rounded snout
wide head



American Crocodile

The head, back, and tail are tan or greenish gray.

all over body

narrow, long snout
narrow head



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above ground nest

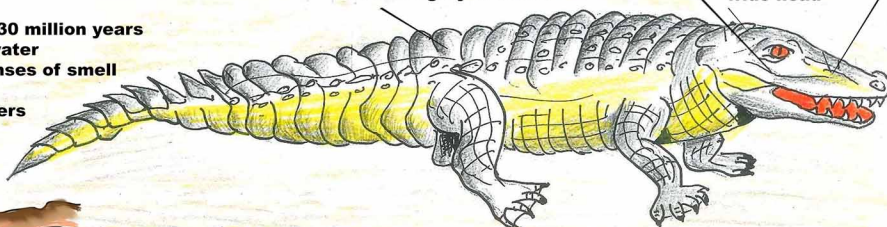
American Alligator

© Liang Ma

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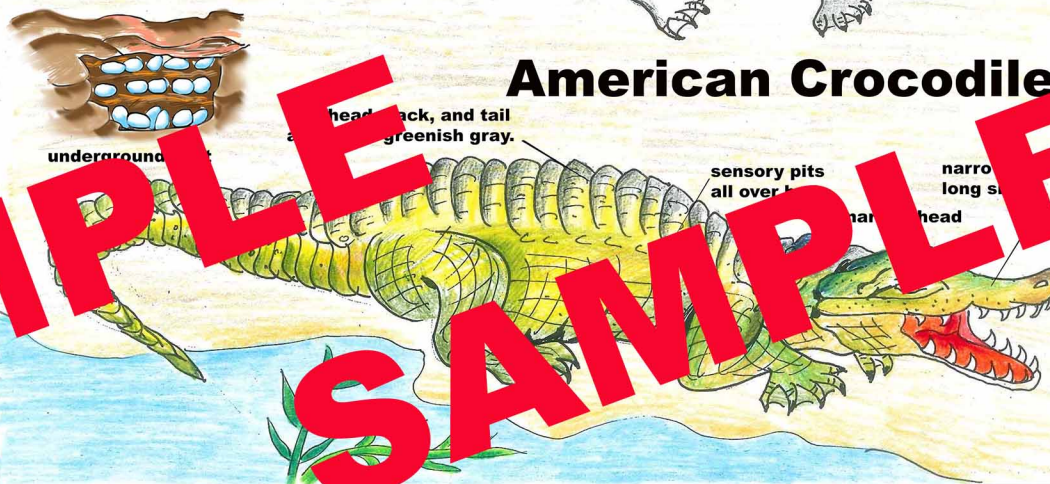
American Crocodile

head, back, and tail are greenish gray.

underground

sensory pits all over body

narrow, long snout
narrow head



Name: _____ P: _____ Date: _____

Alligators and Crocodiles Close Reading O

Title: _____

Things to remember**Colors to mark the passage:**

- Highlight the title in yellow.
- Underline topic sentence in green.
- Circle the important words in red.
- Use close reading symbols throughout text.

CLOSE reading symbols:

- Check Mark(✓) – understands story
- Star (*) – something is important
- Exclamation mark (!) – something new, something that is surprising
- Question mark (?) – unsure, don't understand it

The main idea of these passages is to _____

What have you learned about alligators and crocodiles?

I learned that both alligators and crocodiles are nocturnal.

Name: _____ P: _____ Date: _____

Alligators and Crocodiles Close Reading OrganizerTitle: Alligators and Crocodiles**Things to remember****Colors to mark the passage:**

- Highlight the title in yellow.
- Underline topic sentence in green.
- Circle the important words in red.
- Use close reading symbols throughout text.

The main idea of these passages is to introduce alligators and crocodiles.

What have you learned about alligators and crocodiles?

I learned that both alligators and crocodiles are nocturnal.

Alligators and Crocodiles (1)

Alligators and crocodiles are members of a group of reptiles called the closest living relatives of dinosaurs and the world's largest reptiles.

Alligators and crocodiles usually live in climates where the water is warm all year long. Some alligators live in cooler climates where it gets too cold.

Alligators and crocodiles are carnivores. To catch their prey, they still. When an animal comes near...SNAP! The animal is grabbed in a and crocodiles may also swim slowly and quietly to their unaware p alligators and crocodiles usually feed on small prey such as fish, frog powerful jaws and sharp teeth. Larger, older alligators and crocodiles n as raccoons and deer. Often they grab their prey and hold it nose und drowns. Also, they may leap to catch their prey. They eat by rippli swallowing the pieces whole.

Alligators and crocodiles can be in water and on land. They a spend most of their time in the water. They use their powerful, swishin They are able to steer using their tails and back legs. By tuckin swim faster. They can crawl, walk, and run. Sometimes the ground. This is called the "high walk."

Alligators and crocodiles are nocturnal. They see very well in the dark. They also see far away very well. They cannot see well underwater. Alligators have e and crocodiles have e. They can pick up vibrations in the air or water, using their ears as well as the shallow nerves on top of their heads. Sensory pits on their bodies also help detect vibrations in the water. Vibrations alert them to any nearby prey.

Alligators and crocodiles can make roaring, grumbling, and hissing sounds when they are angry. They will pull out their necks to show that they are ready to fight.

Alligators and Crocodiles (1)

Alligators and crocodiles are members of a group of reptiles called crocodiles. They are the closest living relatives of dinosaurs and the world's largest reptiles.

Alligators and crocodiles usually live in climates where the water and air temperatures are warm all year long. Some alligators live in cooler climates where they must hibernate. It gets too cold.

Alligators and crocodiles are carnivores. To catch their prey, they may still. When an animal comes near...SNAP! The animal is grabbed in a and crocodiles may also swim slowly and quietly to their unaware p alligators and crocodiles usually feed on small prey such as fish, frog powerful jaws and sharp teeth. Larger, older alligators and crocodiles n as raccoons and deer. Often they grab their prey and hold it nose und drowns. Also, they may leap to catch their prey. They eat by rippli swallowing the pieces whole.

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Alligators and crocodiles can make roaring, grumbling, and hissing sounds when they are angry. They will pull out their necks to show that they are ready to fight.

✓ ☆ ! ?

Text Dependent Questions

How do alligators and crocodiles catch their prey?	
How do alligators and crocodiles swim?	
What is "high walk"?	
What parts of the bodies do crocodiles and alligators use to hear the vibrations?	

Text Dependent Questions (1)

How do alligators and crocodiles catch their prey?	To catch their prey, they may <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay perfectly still and snap their prey when it comes. Swim slowly and quietly to their prey and attack.
How do alligators and crocodiles swim?	They swim in the following ways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> They can swim slowly and quietly to their prey. They can swim quickly and powerfully to catch their prey.
What is "high walk"?	"High walk" refers to the movement of alligators and crocodiles when they walk with their bodies high off the ground.
What parts of the bodies do crocodiles and alligators use to hear the vibrations?	Crocodiles and alligators use: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Their ears and the shallow nerves on top of their head to pick up vibrations in the air or water. Sensory pits on their bodies to help detect vibrations in the water.

Alligators and Crocodiles (2)

Spring is the mating season. Males and females communicate by making grunts, barks, and low, rumbling sounds. Often they rub snouts the water's surface, and swim together in circles. Sometimes sounds by slapping the surface of the water to attract a pr underwater.

A few weeks later the females lay their eggs in nests, where kept warm and protected. Mother alligators and crocodiles alert, guarding their nests to protect their young from any ex such as skunks and raccoons.

Usually it takes about sixty-five days before the alligat eggs begin to hatch. Newborns are called hatchlings. Most ha 10 inches (25.4 centimeters) long. Within minutes of hatching t them to the water.

The female alligator and crocodile stay close to their young for about a year. They protect them from harm before the young ones go off on their own. Y

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Usually it takes about sixty-five days before the alligator and crocodiles begin to hatch. Newborns are called hatchlings. Most hatchlings are about 10 inches (25.4 centimeters) long. Within minutes of hatching their mother takes them to the water.

The female alligator and crocodile stay close to their young for about a year. They protect them from harm before the young ones go off on their own. Y

Alligators and crocodiles have been around for millions of years. Now they are endangered. They were hunted for hundreds of years for their meat and skins. There are fewer and fewer places where alligators and crocodiles can live in their natural environment.

✓ ☆ ! ?

Text Dependent Questions (2)

Where and when do alligators and crocodiles mate?	
Explain the process from eggs to hatchlings?	
How do alligators and crocodiles take care of their young?	
Why are alligators and crocodiles endangered?	

Text Dependent Questions (2)

Where and when do alligators and crocodiles mate?	They mate underwater in the spring. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It takes about 65 days for eggs to become hatchlings. Females lay their eggs in nests to keep the eggs warm and protected. Mothers alligators and crocodiles stay close to their young for about a year to protect them from harm.
Explain the process from eggs to hatchlings?	
How do alligators and crocodiles take care of their young?	
Why are alligators and crocodiles endangered?	They are endangered because they were hunted for hundreds of years for their meat and skins and there are fewer and fewer natural living environments for them.

Vocabulary

reptiles	
prey	
nocturnal	
detect	
vibrations	
endangered	

Vocabulary

reptiles	An animal that has cold blood, lays eggs, and has a body covered with scales or hard parts.
prey	An animal that is hunted and killed by another animal for food.
nocturnal	Active at night.
detect	Discover, find, or identify.
vibrations	Continuous quick, slight shaking movement.
endangered	A species at serious risk of extinction.

Getting Started: Alligator Close Reading

1. It is suggested to get the following items ready.

Item	Teacher	Student
1 Lesson Plan	V	
1 Lesson Plan		
Vocab Poster	Teacher can blow the original black and white sample into a poster.	
Info Organizer	V	V
Blank Paper for Drawing on Day 1	V	V
2 Reading Passages	V	V
2 Text Dependent Questions Sets	V	V
Vocabulary	V	V
1 Alligators and Crocodiles Black Line Drawing Set	V	
1 Alligators and Crocodiles Color Drawing Set	* Teacher can blow the original black and white sample into a poster and color it.	* Students may create the poster in groups by using teacher sample
Teacher Finish Sample Lesson Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Alligators and Crocodiles Color Drawing 1 Vocab Poster with Post-it notes 1 Info Organizer completed 1 Reading Passage with marked answers 1 Text Dependent Questions with answers 1 Vocab Sheet with answers 	* I tried to make as many as possible for you to use. I tried to make it as easy as possible for you to use. I tried to make it as easy as possible for you to use.	
Sharpie	V	V
Crayon/Markers	V	V
Post-It	*	

V: must, *: optional

2. Read the lesson plan.
3. Look at the finished sample works included.
4. Photocopy 7 page package (1 Empty page, 1 Info Organizer, 2 Reading Passages, 2 Text Dependent Questions Sets, and 1 Vocab Sheet) for students. Make an extra set for the teacher to use.
5. The lesson is designed as cross-curriculum among FLA, Science/Animal/Reptile/Alligator & Crocodile, and Fine Arts using close reading and GLAD strategies.

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Credits

I draw all the clipart myself for all the products in my store.

Thank you so much and I hope you enjoy this lesson.

