

Splashing into the scene is our friend, the American crocodile, one of the many fascinating creatures living in our world! With its long, v-shaped snout and a body covered in a suit of armor-like skin, it's a sight to behold. This cool reptile can grow up to 15 feet long, that's longer than most cars! Their skin is usually a grey-green or olive color, perfect for blending into their swampy homes.



Speaking of homes, American crocodiles have a pretty interesting choice of residence. They can be found in the sunny parts of Florida, the Caribbean, Mexico, and South America, usually near water such as rivers, coastal lagoons, and marshes. Their homes aren't just for lounging though, that's where they find their food! They prefer to dine on fish, birds, and small mammals, but aren't too picky when they're hungry.

Now, let's dive into the life cycle of these amazing reptiles. Mama crocodiles lay between 20-60 eggs in a nest and guard them for about 85 days until they hatch. When the baby crocs are born, they're only about 8 inches long but grow 1 foot per year until they're fully grown. American crocodiles can live up to 70 years, which is a pretty long time in the animal kingdom!



creatures!

Now, you might be wondering how American crocodiles get along with other animals and humans. Well, they're generally not a danger to humans unless they feel threatened. They do play a big part in the ecosystem, though, by controlling the population of their prey. So, as you can see, American crocodiles are not just interesting, they're important, too. Let's keep learning and protecting these incredible



American Crocodile

Solve each problem.

| Uso | the article to answer the question. | | |
|-----|--|-----|---|
| | How long can an American crocodile grow? | | |
| _, | A. Up to 10 feet | B. | Up to 20 feet |
| | C. Up to 30 feet | D. | Up to 15 feet |
| 2) | What role do American crocodiles play in the | eco | nevetem? |
| 2) | A. They clean the air | | They spread seeds for plants |
| | C. They contribute to soil fertility | | They control the population of their prey |
| 3) | What do American crocodiles eat? | | |
| , | A. Seeds, nuts, and berries | B. | Plants, fruits, and vegetables |
| | C. Fish, birds, and small mammals | D. | Coral, seagrass, and algae |
| 4) | How long do American crocodiles live? | | |
| | A. Up to 50 years | B. | Up to 70 years |
| | C. Up to 90 years | | Up to 100 years |
| 5) | How loss one holes one of when these one how f | , | |
| 5) | How long are baby crocs when they are born? A. About 8 inches long | | Less than 1 inch long |
| | C. About 4 feet long | | About 2 feet long |
| | - | | |
| 6) | Where can you find American crocodiles? | п | Asia Africa and Antonatica |
| | A. Arctic, Greenland, and ScandinaviaC. Florida, the Caribbean, Mexico, and | | Asia, Africa, and Antarctica Canada, Europe, Australia, and Africa |
| | South America | D. | Canada, Europe, Austrana, and Arrea |
| | H 1 14 1 0 | | |
| 7) | How many eggs do mama crocodiles lay? A. 70-100 eggs | р | 200-300 eggs |
| | C. 5-10 eggs | | 200-500 eggs 20-60 eggs |
| | | D. | 20 00 0253 |
| 8) | How long do mama crocs guard their eggs? | Б | |
| | A. About 120 days | | About 85 days |
| | C. About 100 days | D. | About 60 days |
| 9) | Are American crocodiles a danger to humans | | |
| | A. Yes, if they feel threatened | В. | Only if humans come close to their |
| | C No pover | Л | nests |
| | C. No, never | υ. | Only if humans invade their territory |
| 10) | How much do baby crocs grow each year? | | |
| | A. 1 foot | | 2 feet |
| | C. 6 inches | D. | 3 feet |

Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).

11) "I live in Florida near the river."

| | American Crocodile | Name: | |
|-----|--|------------|--|
| 12) | "I love the colder, icy regions. You can often find me sliding around on | glaciers!" | |
| 13) | "Did you know, we crocs have a life span of over 100 years?" | | |
| 14) | "We produce only a couple of eggs at a time, keeping it small and mana | geable." | |
| 15) | "Did you know that I can grow up to 15 feet long?" | | |

- 16) "My skin is olive colored, it helps me blend in with my swampy home."
- 17) "You'll often find me in the desert. I love the dry, sandy landscape away from water."
- 18) "I'm a vegetarian! I just gobble up leaves and water plants all day."
- 19) "When I was born, I was already 2 feet long!"
- 20) "I can live up to 70 years, that's a long time, even for a crocodile!"
- 21) "I don't lay eggs. My little ones are born all ready to go, just like mammals!"
- 22) "My mom lays around 20-60 eggs in a nest and guards them until I hatch!"
- 23) "Oh, I'm a small guy! I barely reach five feet in length."

Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- 24) American crocodiles lay between 20 to 60 eggs, which they guard until they hatch.
- 25) It is amazing that American crocodiles can live up to 70 years!
- 26) American crocodiles make homes near water like rivers and marshes.
- 27) It is fascinating to watch American crocodiles swim gracefully in the water.
- 28) American crocodiles are mostly found in parts of America.
- **29)** American crocodiles are the scariest kind of crocodile.
- **30)** American crocodile babies are approximately 8 inches long when they are born.
- **31**) American crocodiles can live up to 70 years.
- **32**) American crocodiles are way cooler than any other reptile because they can grow up to 15 feet long.
- 33) The fact that American crocodiles guard their eggs until they hatch is kind of sweet.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- **34)** American crocodiles can live up to 70 years.
- **35)** The American crocodile is a vegetarian and eats only plants.
- **36)** Female American crocodiles lay can lay up to 60 eggs in a nest.
- **37**) American crocodiles only live for 3 years.
- **38)** The baby crocs are about 8 inches long when they are born.
- **39**) American crocodiles can only be found in Florida.
- **40**) Baby crocodile grow to 6 ft in their first year.
- **41**) Female American crocodile can lay up 100 eggs.
- 42) American crocodiles guard their eggs until they hatch.
- **43**) American crocodiles can grow up to 15 feet long.

Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

| | American Crocodile | Name: | |
|-------------|--|-------|--|
| 44) | American crocodiles are more common in southern Florida. | | |
| 45) | Why are American crocodiles important to the ecosystem? | | |
| 46) | American crocodiles can stay underwater for up to an hour. | | |
| 47) | American crocodiles are excellent swimmers. | | |

- **48)** Do American crocodiles lay eggs?
- **49)** What are some interesting facts about American crocodiles?

| | American Croco | dile Name: |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| 1. | 26 | |
| 2. | 27 | |
| 3. | 28. | |
| 4. | 29. | |
| 5. | 30. | |
| 6. | 31. | |
| | | |
| 8. | 32 | |
| o 9 | 34. | |
| 9 10. | 35. | |
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| | | |
| 12 | 37 | |
| 13 | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| 16. | 41 | |
| 17 | 42. | |
| 18. | 43. | |
| 19 | 44 | |
| 20. | 45. | |
| 21 | 46 | |
| 22. | 47 | |
| 23. | 48. | |
| 24. | 49 | |
| 25. Reading | | Dage 5 of 5 |



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Now, let's dive into the life cycle of these amazing reptiles. Mama crocodiles lay between 20-60 eggs in a nest and guard them for about 85 days until they hatch. When the baby crocs are born, they're only about 8 inches long but grow 1 foot per year until they're fully grown. American crocodiles can live up to 70 years, which is a pretty long time in the animal kingdom!



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Name: Answer Key

Solve each problem.

| | the article to answer the question. How long can an American crocodile grow? | | |
|-----|---|----|---|
| 1) | A. Up to 10 feet | B | Up to 20 feet |
| | C. Up to 30 feet | | Up to 15 feet |
| | - | | - |
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| | C. They contribute to soil fertility | | They control the population of their |
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| 3) | What do American crocodiles eat? | | |
| - / | A. Seeds, nuts, and berries | B. | Plants, fruits, and vegetables |
| | C. Fish, birds, and small mammals | D. | Coral, seagrass, and algae |
| 4) | How long do American crocodiles live? | | |
| , | A. Up to 50 years | B. | Up to 70 years |
| | C. Up to 90 years | D. | Up to 100 years |
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| - 1 | A. About 8 inches long | | Less than 1 inch long |
| | C. About 4 feet long | D. | About 2 feet long |
| 6) | Where can you find American crocodiles? | | |
| , | A. Arctic, Greenland, and Scandinavia | B. | Asia, Africa, and Antarctica |
| | C. Florida, the Caribbean, Mexico, and South America | D. | Canada, Europe, Australia, and Africa |
| 7) | How many eggs do mama crocodiles lay? | | |
| , | A. 70-100 eggs | B. | 200-300 eggs |
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| -) | A. Yes, if they feel threatened | | Only if humans come close to their |
| | | | nests |
| | C. No, never | D. | Only if humans invade their territory |
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Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).

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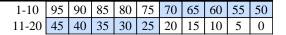
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| | | 1 | American Croco | odile | Name | Answer Key |
|-----|----------|-----|----------------|-------|------|------------|
| 1. | D | 26. | fact | | | |
| 2. | D | 27. | opinion | | | |
| 3. | С | 28. | fact | | | |
| 4. | <u> </u> | 29. | opinion | | | |
| 5. | A | 30. | fact | | | |
| 6. | C | 31. | fact | | | |
| 7. | D | 32. | opinion | | | |
| 8. | B | 33. | opinion | | | |
| 9. | A | 34. | true | | | |
| 10. | A | 35. | false | | | |
| 11. | true | 36. | true | | | |
| 12. | false | 37. | false | | | |
| 13. | false | 38. | true | | | |
| 14. | false | 39. | false | | | |
| 15. | true | 40. | false | | | |
| 16. | true | 41. | false | | | |
| 17. | false | 42. | true | | | |
| 18. | false | 43. | true | | | |
| 19. | false | 44. | declarative | | | |
| 20. | true | 45. | interrogative | | | |
| 21. | false | 46. | declarative | | | |
| 22. | true | 47. | declarative | | | |
| 23. | false | 48. | interrogative | | | |
| 24. | fact | 49. | interrogative | | | |
| 25. | opinion | | | | | |

Reading

American Crocodile

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|------------|---|-------------------------------|--|
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| | С. | | Up to 15 feet |
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| 3) | What do American crocodiles eat? (paragraph 2)A. Seeds, nuts, and berriesC. Fish, birds, and small mammals | B. D. | Plants, fruits, and vegetables |
| 4) | How long do American crocodiles live? (paragr A. Up to 50 years C. | | Up to 70 years |
| 5) | How long are baby crocs when they are born? A. About 8 inches long C. | ? _{(par} B. D. | agraph 3) |
| 6) | Where can you find American crocodiles? (par A. Arctic, Greenland, and ScandinaviaC. Florida, the Caribbean, Mexico, and South America | agrap B. D. | h 2) |
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| 8) | How long do mama crocs guard their eggs? (p A. C. | | aph 3) About 85 days |
| 9) | Are American crocodiles a danger to humans A. Yes, if they feel threatened C. | ? (pa B. D. | ragraph 4) |
| 10) | How much do baby crocs grow each year? (pa A. 1 foot C. | ragraf B. D. | oh 3) |

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American Crocodile

11) "I live in Florida near the river." (paragraph 2)

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