

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



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

1) 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 ecosystem?

A. They contribute to soil fertility B. They clean the air

C. They spread seeds for plants D. They control the population of their prey

3) What do American crocodiles eat?

A. Fish, birds, and small mammals B. Coral, seagrass, and algae C. Seeds, nuts, and berries D. Plants, fruits, and vegetables

4) How long do American crocodiles live?

A. Up to 70 years B. Up to 90 years C. Up to 50 years D. Up to 100 years

5) How long are baby crocs when they are born?

A. About 8 inches long B. About 4 feet long C. Less than 1 inch long D. About 2 feet long

6) Where can you find American crocodiles?

A. Arctic, Greenland, and Scandinavia B. Canada, Europe, Australia, and Africa

C. Asia, Africa, and Antarctica D. Florida, the Caribbean, Mexico, and South America

7) How many eggs do mama crocodiles lay?

A. 70-100 eggs B. 200-300 eggs D. 20-60 eggs C. 5-10 eggs

8) How long do mama crocs guard their eggs?

A. About 85 days B. About 120 days C. About 100 days D. About 60 days

9) Are American crocodiles a danger to humans?

A. No, never B. Yes, if they feel threatened

D. Only if humans invade their territory C. Only if humans come close to their

10) How much do baby crocs grow each year?

A. 1 foot B. 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).

"I live in Florida near the river."



- 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 manageable."
- 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).



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?



Name:

1. _____ 26. ____

2. _____ 27. ____

3. _____ 28. ____

4. _____ 29. ____

5. _____ 30. ____

6. _____ 31. ____

7. _____ 32. ____

8. _____ 33. ____

9. _____ 34. ____

10. _____ 35. ____

11. _____ 36. ____

12. _____ 37. ____

13. _____ 38. ____

14. _____ 39. ____

15. _____ 40. ____

16. _____ 41. ____

17. _____ 42. ____

18. 43.

19. _____ 44. _____

20. 45.

21. _____ 46. ____

22. _____ 47. ____

23. _____ 48. ____

24. 49.



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



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Answer Key

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1.	D	26.	fact
2.	D	27.	opinion
3.	A	28.	fact
4.	<u>A</u>	29.	opinion
5.	A	30.	fact
6.	D	31.	fact
7.	D	32.	opinion
8.	A	33.	opinion
9.	B	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

opinion

Name:

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Use	the	article	to	answer	the	question.
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1) How long can an American crocodile grow? (paragraph 1)

A. B. Up to 20 feet

C. D. Up to 15 feet

2) What role do American crocodiles play in the ecosystem? (paragraph 4)

A. B. They clean the air

C. D. They control the population of their prey

3) What do American crocodiles eat? (paragraph 2)

A. Fish, birds, and small mammals B. Coral, seagrass, and algae

C.

4) How long do American crocodiles live? (paragraph 3)

A. Up to 70 years B. Up to 90 years

C. D.

5) How long are baby crocs when they are born? (paragraph 3)

A. About 8 inches long B.

C. D.

6) Where can you find American crocodiles? (paragraph 2)

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C. D.

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A. B. Yes, if they feel threatened

C. D.

10) How much do baby crocs grow each year? (paragraph 3)

A. 1 foot B.

C. D.

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

12) "I love the colder, icy regions. You can often find me sliding around on glaciers!" (paragraph

