



Imagine being in the wild, and you spot a creature with a wide snout, and a body covered in scales - that's a broad-snouted caiman for you! These fascinating creatures, known scientifically as 'Caiman latirostris', are medium-sized crocodylians found in freshwater habitats. They have a broad snout, as their name suggests, and their body is covered with hard, bony plates for protection. Their eyes and nostrils are positioned on top of their heads, which allows them to see and breathe while the rest of their body is underwater, pretty cool huh?



Now, taking a swim in the waters with our caiman friend, let's explore what they munch on. Broad-snouted caimans are carnivores, which means they love to eat meat. Their diet mainly consists of fish, amphibians, and small mammals that they find near or in the water. Sometimes, they even eat insects and birds if they can catch them!

From munching on a fish, let's dive into where these caimans love to hang out. They are found in South America, in countries like Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay. They prefer freshwater habitats like rivers, lakes, and marshes where they can camouflage and wait for their prey. But do you know, during the dry season when their watery homes shrink, they can dig burrows in the mud to stay cool and hydrated - they are smart, aren't they?



Now that we know where they live and what they eat, let's learn about their life cycle and their relationship with us humans. Broad-snouted caimans lay eggs, and the mother guards her nest until the babies, called hatchlings, are born. Humans, on the other hand, have different relationships with these creatures; some people see them as dangerous while others protect them as important parts of the ecosystem. So, while they may seem scary with their wide snouts and sharp teeth, remember they are just trying to survive, just like us, in this big, wide world.



Solve each problem.

Use the article to answer the question.

- 1) What is the scientific name of broad-snouted caimans?
 - A. *Crocodylus latirostris*
 - B. *Caiman latirostris*
 - C. Broad-snouted comin
 - D. Broad-caimansaurus snouticus

- 2) What do broad-snouted caimans do during the dry season?
 - A. They travel to a different region
 - B. They dig burrows in the mud
 - C. They hide in thick vegetation
 - D. They venture into cities looking for water

- 3) What do broad-snouted caimans mainly eat?
 - A. Reptiles, big mammals and small insects
 - B. Fish, amphibians and small mammals
 - C. Grass, fruits and vegetables
 - D. Plants, insects and small birds

- 4) What kind of habitats do broad-snouted caimans prefer?
 - A. Desert habitats like sand dunes and scrublands
 - B. Mountain habitats like highlands and alpine regions
 - C. Freshwater habitats like rivers and lakes
 - D. Forest habitats like jungles and woodlands

- 5) How are the eyes and nostrils of a broad-snouted caiman positioned?
 - A. At the bottom of their heads
 - B. On top of their heads
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 - D. At the side of their heads

- 6) What kind of diet do broad-snouted caimans have?
 - A. Omnivorous
 - B. Insectivorous
 - C. Herbivorous
 - D. Carnivorous

- 7) Where can broad-snouted caimans usually be found?
 - A. Africa
 - B. North America
 - C. Europe
 - D. South America

- 8) What are the babies of broad-snouted caimans called?
 - A. Hatchlings
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- 9) Who guards the nest of broad-snouted caimans until the babies are born?
 - A. The mother caiman
 - B. Both parents
 - C. The oldest sibling
 - D. The father caiman

- 10) In which countries can broad-snouted caimans be found?
 - A. France, Italy, and Spain
 - B. Australia, China, and Germany
 - C. India, Japan, and Korea
 - D. Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay

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|-------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1-10 | 95 | 90 | 85 | 80 | 75 | 70 | 65 | 60 | 55 | 50 |
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- 39) Broad-snouted caimans are found in North America.
- 40) Broad-snouted caimans do not have eyes or nostrils.
- 41) Broad snouted caimans prefer salty, ocean waters.
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Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

- 44) Broad-snouted caimans are carnivorous and mainly feed on fish, amphibians, and small mammals.
- 45) What do broad-snouted caimans eat?
- 46) Broad-snouted caimans live in freshwater habitats such as rivers and swamps.
- 47) Broad-snouted caimans can grow up to 8 feet long.
- 48) Are broad-snouted caimans herbivores or carnivores?
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 - A. France, Italy, and Spain
 - B. Australia, China, and Germany
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- 11) What is the body of a broad-snouted caiman covered with?
- A. Hard, bony plates B. Soft, smooth skin
C. Tough, rough scales D. Thick, woolly fur

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

- 12) "I give live birth to my little ones."
13) "My diet includes tasty fish, small mammals, and even insects."
14) "In dry seasons I dig burrows in the mud to stay cool and hydrated."
15) "Starting from an egg, we hatchlings grow up with our mom's protection until we can look after ourselves."
16) "My snout's actually quite narrow, not broad at all."
17) "Nah, I'd never eat a bird. They're our friends, not food."
18) "Freshwater habitats are not my thing. I am more of a desert dweller."
19) "I don't need to see or breathe while underwater, I hold my breath and close my eyes."
20) "We hate water! We'd rather stay on dry land all the time."
21) "You will find me in rivers, lakes, and marshes in countries like Argentina and Brazil."
22) "I detest fish, they're too squishy. I prefer munching on forest berries."
23) "I can breathe and see while I stay underwater!"

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

- 24) Water bodies such as rivers, lakes, and marshes are the preferred habitats of broad-snouted caimans.
25) Caimans are the scariest looking among all crocodilians.
26) Broad-snouted caimans inhabit primarily South American countries.
27) Caimans are the most interesting creatures that live in South America.
28) Broad-snouted caimans have their eyes and nostrils positioned on top of their heads.
29) Caimans are much more interesting than alligators and crocodiles.
30) Broad-snouted caimans protect their eggs until they hatch.
31) Broad-snouted caimans are carnivores.
32) Caimans have the most interesting camouflage abilities among all the predators in the wild.
33) It is amazing how a creature as big as a caiman can hold its breath underwater for such a long time.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 34) Broad-snouted caimans are carnivores.
35) Broad-snouted caimans lay eggs and then leave their young to fend for themselves.
36) The eyes and nostrils of broad-snouted caimans are positioned on top of their heads.
37) Caimans are herbivores.
38) During the dry season, broad-snouted caimans can dig burrows in the mud.



- 39) Broad-snouted caimans are found in North America.
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|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
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| 2. <u> B </u> | 27. <u> opinion </u> |
| 3. <u> B </u> | 28. <u> fact </u> |
| 4. <u> C </u> | 29. <u> opinion </u> |
| 5. <u> B </u> | 30. <u> fact </u> |
| 6. <u> D </u> | 31. <u> fact </u> |
| 7. <u> D </u> | 32. <u> opinion </u> |
| 8. <u> A </u> | 33. <u> opinion </u> |
| 9. <u> A </u> | 34. <u> true </u> |
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A. _____ B. Caiman latirostris
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A. They travel to a different region B. They dig burrows in the mud
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12) "I give live birth to my little ones." (paragraph 4)