

Lesson Practice



Coached Reading

DIRECTIONS

Read this passage. While you are reading, look for text features.

Alligators and Crocodiles

How They Are the Same

Many people can't tell alligators from crocodiles. Alligators and crocodiles look a lot alike. They both have long scaly bodies and long scaly tails. Both are reptiles.

They are close kin to the dinosaurs, with which they coexisted two hundred million years ago. Crocodiles and alligators are smart. They can communicate with each other. They take care of their young for years after they are born, and they live up to sixty years.

How They Are Different

Still, alligators and crocodiles are different in some important ways. A crocodile has a pointy nose, but an alligator has a round nose. When an alligator's mouth is closed, you can't see any of its teeth. When a crocodile's mouth is closed, two bottom teeth, one on each side, stick out.

Alligator	Crocodile
scales on its long body and long tail	scales on its long body and long tail
round nose	pointy nose
when its mouth is closed, cant see its teeth	when its mouth is closed, can see two teeth, one on each side
reptile	reptile