

# Family Field Trip Days: Instructions



Step 1: Watch "**Alligators**" Deep Sea Learning Videos and "**Gator Talk with Ranger Nate**" with Georgia Aquarium's Adventurers Club (Found on the 'At Home Learning' tab of our website).

Step 2: Review the "**Alligators**" Fact Sheets.

Step 3: Visit Georgia Aquarium to complete the questions and activity sheets in this packet!

Step 4: Learn more about cold water animals at home through the [Georgia Aquarium Website](#).



# Gallery Scavenger Hunt: Alligator Allies



**EDUCATION**

GEORGIA AQUARIUM

**Instructions:** Explore Georgia Aquarium galleries and exhibits to find the answers to the questions below!

The oldest known ancestor of American alligators is from the late Triassic. What is one shark ancestor present during the late Triassic? \_\_\_\_\_

Crocodylians are ectothermic and thus limited in habitat range. Some species of coral is also limited in range due to water temperatures. What species abounds globally and is considered invasive? \_\_\_\_\_

American alligators are heterotrophic carnivores pertinent to the health of their local ecosystem. What animal in Cold Water Quest is also a heterotrophic carnivore and maintains the balance of a kelp forest ecosystem? \_\_\_\_\_

Crocodylians have “armored” backs with bony plates called scutes. Tank in Ocean Voyager has scutes on his shell and is the largest species of the Cheloniidae family. What is Tank? \_\_\_\_\_

Saltwater crocodiles are the largest living reptiles. They are apex predators in coastal marshes, mangrove swamps, river mouths and at times the open ocean. What animals in River Scout are in a mangrove swamp habitat and can be found in estuaries? \_\_\_\_\_

As one travels deeper in the ocean, the pressure increased. At what depth does it feel like an alligator is standing on your big toe (give in feet and psi)? \_\_\_\_\_



# Crocodilian Traits:

## Alligator Allies



**Instructions:** Label the differences and similarities between the albino alligator and the crocodile.

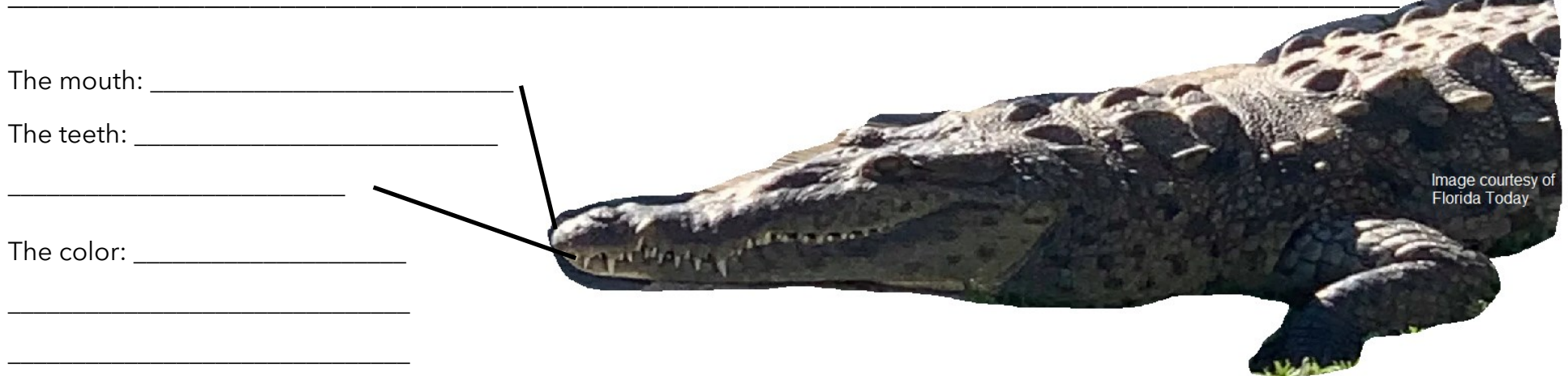


The mouth: \_\_\_\_\_

The teeth: \_\_\_\_\_

The color of a typical alligator is very dark to black with light ventral side.

Similarities between the two: \_\_\_\_\_



The mouth: \_\_\_\_\_

The teeth: \_\_\_\_\_

The color: \_\_\_\_\_

# Gallery Scavenger Hunt:

## Alligator Allies **KEY**



**Instructions:** Explore Georgia Aquarium galleries and exhibits to find the answers to the questions below!

The oldest known ancestor of American alligators is from the late Triassic. What is one shark ancestor present during the late Triassic? **Cretoxyrhina**

Crocodylians are ectothermic and thus limited in habitat range. Some species of coral is also limited in range due to water temperatures. What species abounds globally and is considered invasive?

**Orange Cup Coral**

American alligators are heterotrophic carnivores pertinent to the health of their local ecosystem. What animal in Cold Water Quest is also a heterotrophic carnivore and maintains the balance of a kelp forest ecosystem?

**Southern Sea Otter**

Crocodylians have "armored" backs with bony plates called scutes. Tank in Ocean Voyager has scutes on his shell and is the largest species of the Cheloniidae family. What is Tank? **Green Sea Turtle**

Saltwater crocodiles are the largest living reptiles. They are apex predators in coastal marshes, mangrove swamps, river mouths and at times the open ocean. What animals in River Scout are in a mangrove swamp habitat and can be found in estuaries? **African Moony, Banded Archerfish and Clouded Archerfish**

As one travels deeper in the ocean, the pressure increased. At what depth does it feel like an alligator is standing on your big toe (give in feet and psi)?

**1,600 feet = 726 psi**



# Crocodilian Traits:

## Alligator Allies **KEY**



**Instructions:** Label the differences and similarities between the albino alligator and the crocodile.



The mouth: **Is in a U shape or rounded**

The teeth: **Are visible only from the upper jaw if at all, when snout is closed.**

The color of a typical alligator is very dark to black with light ventral side.

Similarities between the two: **Scutes on back, ectotherms, common ancestor, carnivores, apex predators in their habitats, found in wetland type habitats, camouflage as logs.**

The mouth: **Is in a V shape or pointed**

The teeth: **Are visible from both upper and lower jaw, when snout is closed.**

The color: **Has a light gray color with stripes or spots on the sides and ventral side.**

