

Talking Points

Interesting Facts about Crocodiles

One of the main characters in the Night Buddies series is Crosley, the crocodile. What do we really know about crocodiles? What does it mean to cry crocodile tears, for example?

To weep crocodile tears is to put on an insincere show of sorrow.

The first crocodiles appeared 240 million years ago, at the same time with the dinosaurs.

Crocodiles are much more closely related to birds and dinosaurs than the other reptiles.

Crocs can live up to eighty years!

Crocodiles sweat through their mouth, so when they lie on the riverbanks with their mouths wide open, that's not an aggressive posture, but a way to cool off.

Crocodiles have very sharp teeth. However, they cannot open their mouth if it is held closed, even with the help of an adhesive tape.

Each crocodile jaw has 24 sharp teeth, used for grasping and crushing, but not chewing. The teeth of a crocodile get replaced continuously, throughout its life.

The eggs of a crocodile are almost the same size as that of a goose.

The crocodiles have a four-chambered heart, which behaves like a three-chambered reptilian one, when underwater.

The eyes of a crocodile reflect light, making them appear red, and make night vision possible.

Crocodiles do not shed their skin, rather they grow into it.