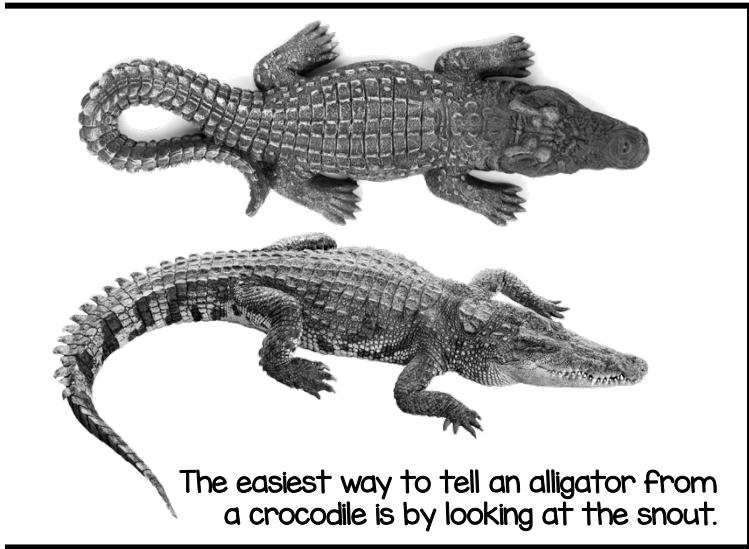


Alligator or Crocodile?

People often confuse alligators and crocodiles. Alligators and crocodiles are both reptiles. They both live in the water and they both have sharp teeth.

Crocodiles live in salt water. They have special glands on their tongues to get rid of the extra salt. Alligators don't have these glands, so they live in fresh water.

Alligators have wide, U-shaped snouts. A crocodile's snout is longer and more pointed, like a V. Also, crocodiles have teeth on their lower jaws that stick out. You can see them even when the crocodile's mouth is closed. Alligators do not have any teeth that stick out.



◆ IT: compare and contrast, interpreting an illustration

Name _____ Date _____



Show What You Know

1. What do alligators and crocodiles have in common?

2. How are alligators and crocodiles different?

3. Which text structure did the author use?
a) description b) cause and effect
c) problem and solution d) compare and contrast
4. Is the animal closest to the bottom of the page an alligator or a crocodile? _____

How do you know?

