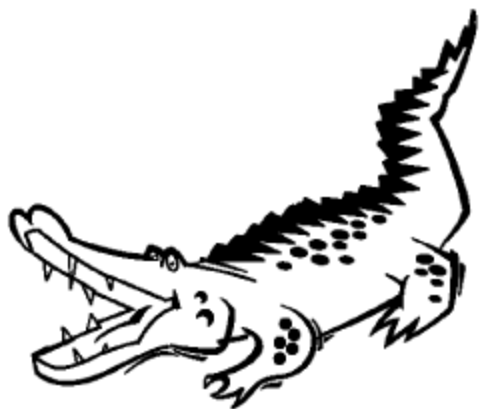


## A for ALLIGATOR

Alligators live in America. They are giant, intelligent reptiles directly descended from ancient crocodilians that were alive before the dinosaurs.



There once was an alligator  
Sitting on a log,  
Down in the pool  
He saw a little frog,

In jumped the alligator  
And went around the log,  
Splash went the water  
And away swam the frog!

The temperature of baby's nest determines if the baby alligator will be a boy or a girl.

Alligators can live for a century.

They can wait a year between meals.

Alligators eat almost everything!

Primarily they eat fish, small mammals and snakes.

Alligators spend most of their time in the water.

They swim by moving their tails back and forth like fish.

Alligators are cold-blooded.

We often see them sunning on logs or banks near water.

Alligators can run very fast over short distances.

Also, they are great swimmers.