

CHOMP Alligators & Crocs



Welcome to the Story & STEAM Lab!

Welcome back, young scientists!

You might be wondering what we are going to learn about today. Let me give you a hint. What are large lizard-like animals with long, rounded snouts and powerful tails?

I'll give you a hint. It's not a mouse, or a mole, or a rabbit. If you guessed an alligator--you're right! Great job.

Thankfully alligators don't live in New Hampshire. They live in the southeastern part of the United States. Everyone say, "Phew." So, we can look from afar and say, "Alligators are so cool!" (And a little bit scary!)

Think about it: thick skin with scales and plates--almost like armor! They float silently through the water to surprise their next meal or snack. And no, they don't eat cupcakes or pizza or cauliflower. They like fish, small mammals, and birds.

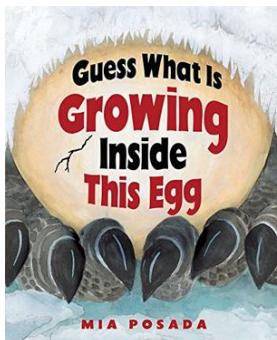
What's the difference between an alligator and a crocodile?

Well, alligators have a rounded snout, and crocodiles have a pointed snout. Alligators live in swamps and rivers, and some crocodiles live in salt water.

Let's start by listening to some stories about alligators!

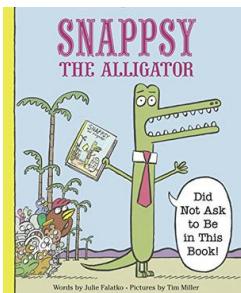


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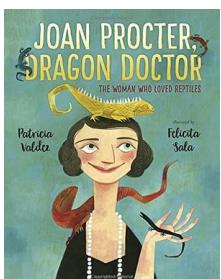
Guess What is Growing Inside This Egg
on Tumble Books

Sign into our catalogue with your card number and password, scroll down and click on TumbleBooks, type into the search bar: Guess What is Growing Inside This Egg and view video. (Tip: if you'd rather read it then turn off the volume!)



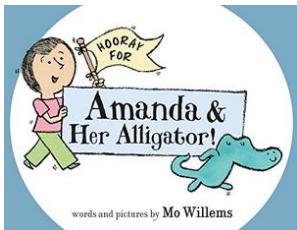
Snappy the Alligator
by Julie Falatko

Read aloud on YouTube.



Joan Proctor Dragon Doctor
by Patricia Valdez

Read aloud on YouTube



Hooray for Amanda and Her Alligator
on Kanopy. Visit the library website.
Sign into Kanopy with your library card
and create an account. Go to Kids
Kanopy. Search the book title in the
search bar at the top. Click on it to
view.

Stack'em or Sink'em

Experiment 1: Fresh water vs salt water



MATERIALS:

1. 2 clear cups
2. Water
3. Salt
4. Food coloring
5. Grapes or other small object to fit in the cup.

EXPERIMENT:

1. Put about 1 cup of water in each cup.
2. Add 1-2 tablespoons of salt in one of the cups.
3. Squeeze food coloring into "fresh water" cup. Watch how it spreads through the water.

ASK & PREDICT:

1. Before adding food coloring to the salt water cup. What do you think will happen? Will it spread the same or differently? Talk about it!

EXPERIMENT:

4. Squeeze food coloring into the salt water cup. Watch and talk about the differences.

ASK & PREDICT:

1. Will a grape float in the fresh water? In the salt water? Will we need to add more salt? What other object might float?

(When you add salt the density of the solution increases. An item will float if it is less dense than the solution.)

Name -----

Experiment -----

My prediction: Write and/or draw

Results: Write and/or draw

Talk about your conclusions. What worked?
What did you learn?

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Alligator Art



MATERIALS:

1. Paper
2. Old yogurt containors or cups to use as stamps.
3. Bubble wrap or anything that might create texture on the bottom of the containor/cup.
4. Paint or yogurt with green food coloring added.

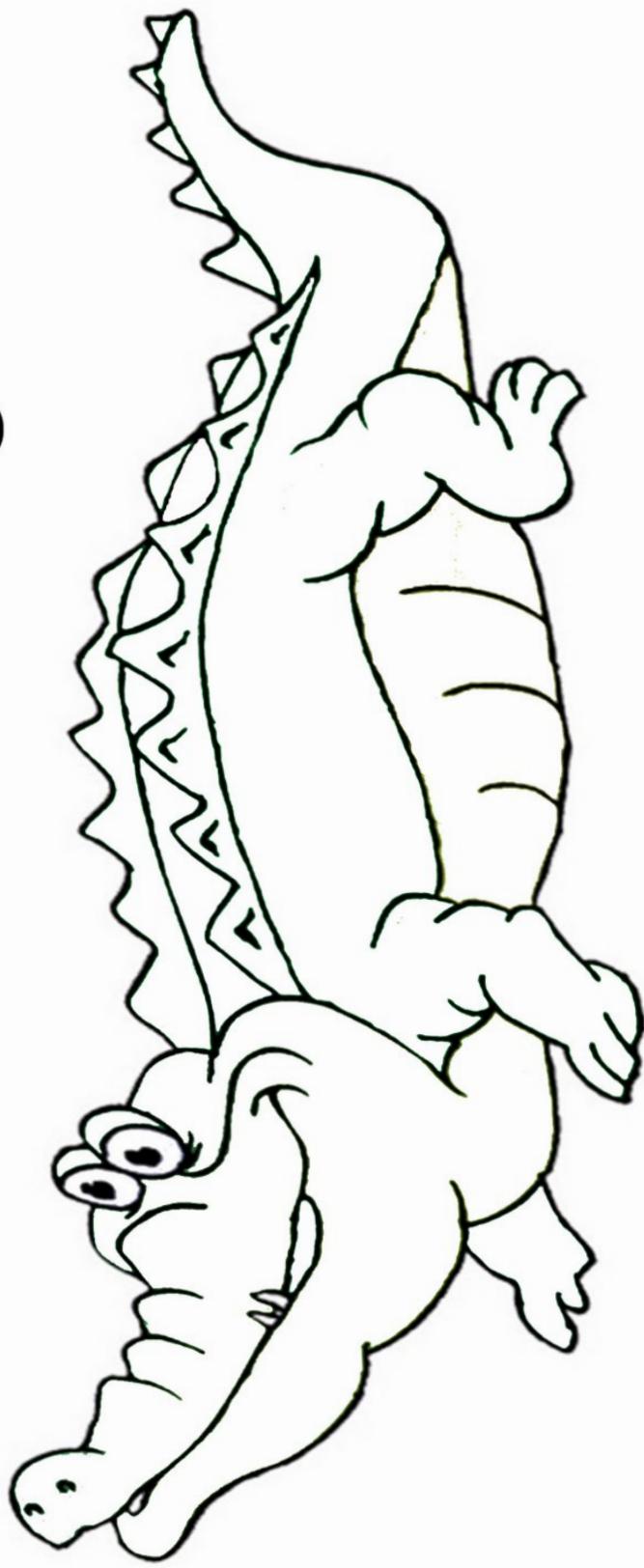
Instruction:

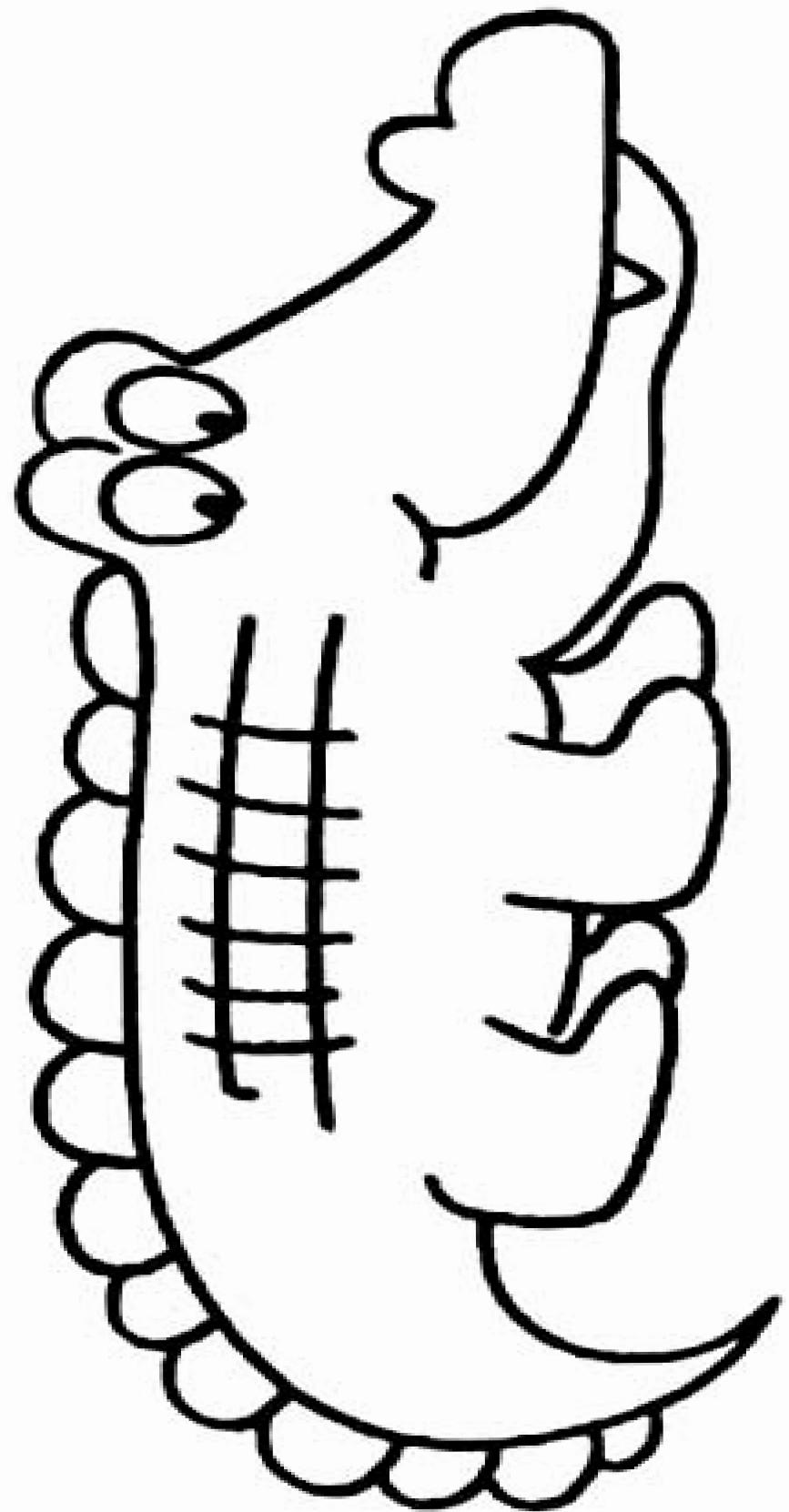
1. Draw an alligator on a piece of paper or on a piece of large cardboard or print the alligator outline included.
2. Create alligator skin on the alligator using the stamp. (Or paint or fingerpaint, or tear construction paper and glue on!)
3. Have fun!

D



is for Alligator





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Thanks so much for joining us for the Story & STEAM Lab library program!

We hope you had fun listening to the stories and then doing the experiments. Sometimes experiments don't work out at all the way we planned or sometimes they work out and our predictions were perfect.

We learn just as much or more from our failures!

We'd love your feedback on this new program. If you'd like, take a picture with your experiment, alone or as a family, and email them to Miss Laura. With your permission, she'd love to post them to our website!

See you next time!

