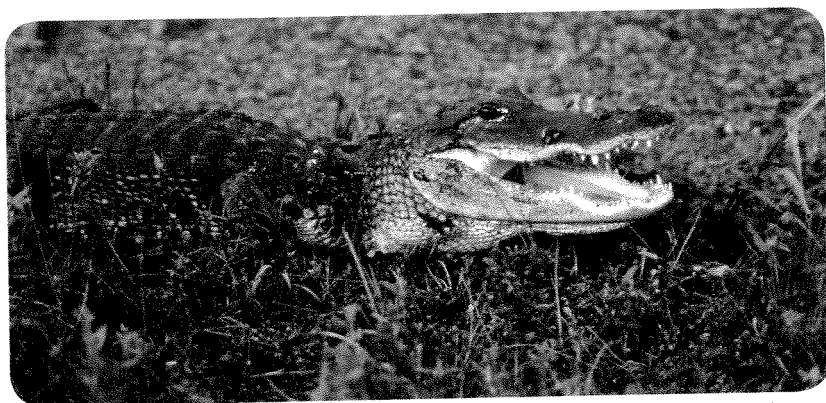


Contents

	<i>To Parents and Teachers</i>	1
<i>Lesson 1</i>	A is for Alligator	2
<i>Lesson 2</i>	B is for Beetle.....	4
<i>Lesson 3</i>	C is for Camel	6
<i>Lesson 4</i>	D is for Dolphin	8
<i>Lesson 5</i>	E is for Elephant	10
<i>Lesson 6</i>	F is for Fox.....	12
<i>Lesson 7</i>	G is for Giraffe.....	14
<i>Lesson 8</i>	H is for Hippo	16
<i>Lesson 9</i>	I is for Iguana	18
<i>Lesson 10</i>	J is for Jellyfish	20
<i>Lesson 11</i>	K is for Kangaroo	22
<i>Lesson 12</i>	L is for Leopard	24
<i>Lesson 13</i>	M is for Manatee.....	26
<i>Lesson 14</i>	N is for Newt	28
<i>Lesson 15</i>	O is for Ostrich	30
<i>Lesson 16</i>	P is for Penguin.....	32
<i>Lesson 17</i>	Q is for Quail	34
<i>Lesson 18</i>	R is for Raccoon.....	36
<i>Lesson 19</i>	S is for Snake	38
<i>Lesson 20</i>	T is for Turtle.....	40
<i>Lesson 21</i>	U is for Urchin	42
<i>Lesson 22</i>	V is for Vulture	44
<i>Lesson 23</i>	W is for Walrus.....	46
<i>Lesson 24</i>	X is for Xami Hairstreak.....	48
<i>Lesson 25</i>	Y is for Yak.....	50
<i>Lesson 26</i>	Z is for Zebra	52
	<i>Words You Should Know</i>	54



© Bob Fine

A is for Alligator

The alligator is an amazing creature! A mother alligator lays about twenty to seventy eggs on high ground that she has made smooth. She covers them with a big pile of grass and other plants. Then she slips into nearby water and waits. She watches closely to see if any snake or raccoon comes to steal her eggs. Her sharp teeth will take care of any thief.

The mother alligator waits close by for about two months. The pile of grass gives off heat that keeps the eggs warm. Now is the time for the mother to take the pile off the eggs. Are the eggs ready to hatch? The mother makes a low **grunting** sound. She waits and listens. If there is no

noise, she goes back into the water for a couple of days. If she hears a sound, she knows the babies are ready. She must come at the right time or the babies will die. She helps them get out of their shells. Out crawl the eight-inch babies from their three-inch eggs! This is a **dangerous** time for the babies. Many animals would like to have them for lunch.

A young alligator can grow almost a foot longer each year. It can grow to be up to sixteen feet long. It may live for fifty-six years. **God** put its eyes on the top of its head. It is able to swim under water and sneak up on something to eat. It uses its tongue to close off its throat so water does not go into its stomach. The alligator cannot stick out its tongue.

The alligator eats all kinds of animals, such as pigs and turtles; it may also eat bottles, **chunks** of wood, and stones. Its teeth are for grabbing, not for chewing. It swallows its food whole. If one of its teeth wears out, another pushes its way up through the middle of the old tooth.

It is not safe to play near an alligator. A puppy or kitty would be a much better pet to have.