

iRASP

***I** = interact Read the question underline/box important words

***R** = Restate the Question!! Change the question into a statement!!
Don't just copy the question, but change it into a statement and introduce answer.

***A** = Answer the Question Completely. There will be two parts to my answer.

***S** = Support/ Quotes from the TEXT!! I must copy the support WORD FOR WORD from the text. I cannot change the words in the quote!!

***P** = Never start an answer with a pronoun. Eliminated all unclear pronouns. Common pronouns are he, she, it, and they. I can use these pronouns after I answer the question, but they must be clear.

Step 1: Interact with the text (underline key words, number the parts needing attention in the question, number paragraphs as you read the text, underline the answers in the text while you read))

Topic Sentence **Step 2:** Change the question into a statement and answer ALL parts of the question.

1st Key Idea Sentence **Step 3:** Write a detail sentence which further explains the first part of your answer

Step 4: Find the best sentence in the story which supports your answer. THEN COPY IT WORD FOR WORD.

Supporting/Elaborating Sentence 1

2nd Key Idea Sentence **Step 5:** Write a second detail sentence which further explains the second part of your answer

Supporting/Elaborating Sentence 1 **Step 6:** Find the best sentence in the story which supports your answer. THEN COPY IT WORD FOR WORD.

Closing **Step 7:** Write a closing sentence

Explain how you can tell the difference between an alligator and a crocodile. Use at least two details and examples from the text to support your answer.

Topic Sentence

Key Idea

Elaboration

Elaboration

Key Idea

Elaboration

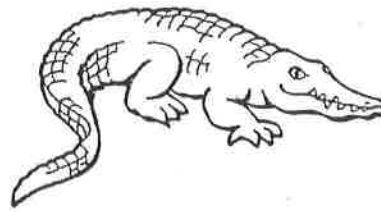
Elaboration

Conclusion

Have you ever seen a crocodile or an alligator? If you have, then you know how difficult it can be to tell them apart. Because they are both members of the same family, there are many ways in which these cold-blooded reptiles are alike. For example, both crocodiles and alligators love to be warm. In fact, they bask in the warmth of the sun for hours each day. Like other reptiles, the body temperature of crocodiles and alligators is always the same as that of their surroundings. To survive, they must live in areas that provide the heat they require. Crocodiles can be found in the swamps and rivers of warm regions in the Americas. They also live in parts of Africa, Asia, and Australia. Alligators are commonly found along warm coastal areas in the United States and in parts of China.



Finding differences between a crocodile and an alligator can be difficult. The first thing you can do to try to tell them apart is to look at the jaws of each reptile. If the lower teeth



stick out when the jaw is closed, then the animal is a crocodile. If you cannot see the teeth when the jaw is closed, then the animal is an alligator.

Another way to distinguish between a crocodile and an alligator is by their size. Crocodiles can be as much as 20 feet long, but most alligators are about 12 feet long or smaller. An alligator's body is smaller than a crocodile's, but that does not mean that every part of it is. In fact, the alligator's snout is large and rounded like a worn crayon tip. The crocodile's snout is thin and pointed like a sharp pencil.

One final way to tell these two reptiles apart is by their skin. Crocodiles have hard, tough skin. An alligator's skin is just as hard but somewhat smoother. You now should have enough information to tell the difference between a crocodile and an alligator. If you should ever have the opportunity to test your knowledge, be careful! Crocodiles and alligators can be swift and dangerous, so always keep a safe distance.

