

Deep Sea Learning with Georgia Aquarium



EDUCATION

GEORGIA AQUARIUM

Alligators

Key Terms:

- **Reptile** – an animal with scaly skin, cold blood, which generally lays eggs.
- **Oviparous** – an animal that lays eggs
- **IUCN Red List** – a list of species and their global risk of extinction – ranges from “Critically Endangered” for those at the most risk to “Least Concern” for those at the least (www.iucn.org)



Alligator Facts

Activity: Alligator Mythbusters Kahoot

- You’ve been challenged! Click here to access the [Alligator Mythbusters Kahoot Challenge](#).
- See how your alligator mythbusting skills stack up against others. Your score will be recorded and displayed at the end.
- You can also play live against your friends on your tablets, laptops and phones by clicking [here](#). Choose a classic game or play in teams. When you and your friends are ready to play, simply share the Game Pin with them and tell them to visit www.kahoot.it, or download the Kahoot app from the Apple or Android app store. Good luck!

- Alligators are aquatic **reptiles** found primarily in freshwater swamps and marshes, as well as in rivers, lakes and smaller bodies of water.
- American alligators inhabit a wide range of habitats in the southeastern U.S. and consume nearly any prey that comes within range.
- American alligators can reach up to 13-14.7 feet (4.0-4.5 m) in length. Males are generally larger than females.
- Alligators are **oviparous**. Female alligators build an elevated nest in which she lays 20-50 eggs. The mother alligator protects her eggs and hatchlings from larger predators. She even carries the hatchlings on her back when they are tired!
- American alligators in the U.S. were nearly hunted to extinction during the first half of the twentieth century. Legal protection created in the 1960s and successful conservation efforts are credited for the recovery of this species. Current wild populations are estimated to be in the millions. An estimated 200,000 American alligators live in Georgia alone.
- The American alligator is a species of Least Concern, according to the **IUCN Red List**.
- American alligators can live 35-50 years in a natural habitat and 65-80 years in human care.



Visit <https://www.georgiaaquarium.org/at-home-learning-with-georgia-aquarium/> for more online resources to use at home!

As seen on Deep Sea Learning with Georgia Aquarium:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/GeorgiaAquarium>