

ECHOLS MIDDLE SCHOOL CONTINUITY ASSIGNMENT

ACADEMIC HELP LINE: Open Monday-Thursday from 8:30-11:30

WEEK _____

GRADE 7

SUBJECT English

I can read the informational text and answer the questions using textual evidence.

I can practice 7th grade grammar skills.

ACTIVITY:

Grammar: Complete the worksheet "Daily Language Review: Week one"
• A cheat sheet has been provided to help with difficult concepts

Reading: Read the passage "Crocodiles" and answer the text dependent questions.

RESOURCES/WEBSITES/DIRECTIONS TO ACCESS:

Optional reading practice { Step 1: log into clever
Step 2: click edute app
Step 3: take a quiz

Other helpful apps to explore

on clever: Grammaropolis
Vocabulary.com

↳ There are 7 total quizzes, take them at your own pace!

ALTERNATIVE ASSIGNMENT (NO TECHNOLOGY REQUIRED):

None

Hi 7th Grade Families,

We are sad we have to finish the year this way, but we will continue to learn together. Each week you will receive a packet that will have a grammar and reading activity to complete. There will be a handout to help you with the unfamiliar grammar terms.

We have also provided optional reading practice. It can be accessed through Clever. The app is called EDCite. It has seven different quizzes. Take them at your own pace. Also on clever, you will find Grammaropolis, which can help with your grammar packet, and Vocabulary.com, which is a way to build your vocabulary. Another way to help you progress is to make sure you are reading at least 20 minutes a day. Mrs. Eldridge will be hosting a reading challenge on her classroom instagram weekly. Mrs. Till's kids are welcome to participate as well.

If you have any questions you can contact your English teacher with the information provided below.

We miss you guys a lot and hope you are staying safe.

Love,

Mrs. Eldridge and Mrs. Till

Contact Information

Mrs. Eldridge

Email	kbeldridge@tcss.net
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Mrs. Till

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Week One Cheat Sheet

- **Possessive nouns** are nouns that show ownership or possession. To make a noun possessive you add 's. Ex: cat collar ---> cat's collar
- **Helping verbs** are used together with a main verb to show the verb's tense or to form a negative or question. The most common helping verbs are have, be, and do.



Helping Verbs

Helping verbs /auxiliary verb help the main verb to describe action. That action happened in the past or is happening in the present or will happen in the future.

am	do	might
are	does	must
be	going to	need
be able to	had	ought to
been	had better	shall
being	has	should
can	have	was
could	have to	were
dare	is	will
did	may	would

www.englishgrammarhere.com

- The definition of a **guide word** is a word printed at the top of a page indicating the first or last word entry on that page. They occur alphabetically.

Week one

Name: _____

Write these sentences correctly.

1. Daphne said my faverit book is the giver.

2. I also like too read j k rowlings books

Rewrite this phrase using possessive nouns.

3. the bikes belonging to Dave and Marty

Circle the subject of this sentence.

4. Please stop at the store after work and get some milk.

we they she you

Circle the helping, verb in this sentence.

5. Our student government has held fundraisers in the fall and spring terms.

Name: _____

Write these sentences correctly.

1. they each eated to peaces of pizza for lunch

2. my Mom and dad is from havana cuba.

Circle the best word to complete each sentence.

3. Insects are the _____ class of animals on Earth.

larger largest large smaller

4. Horseshoe crabs are believed to be the _____ kind of animal living.

oldest older smallest old

If the guide words on a dictionary page are *early* and *easy*, which word will not be on the page?

5. earn east earth eaves easily

Finding Information

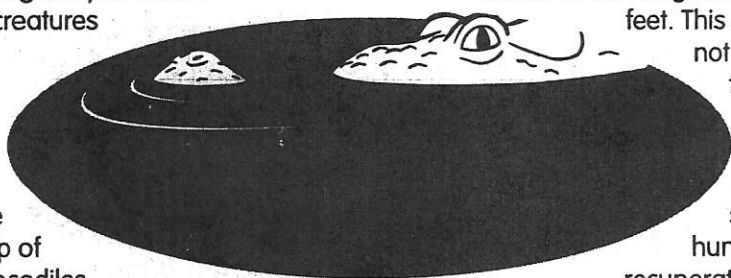
Name _____

When you read text, you can usually remember some of the information. If you are asked about details, you should refer back to the text to locate and check that the information is correct. Remember, the answer you are looking for is there in the text—you just need to find it.

Activity: Read the passage below and complete pages 20–22.

Crocodiles

1. Crocodile-like reptiles existed before dinosaurs about 230 million years ago (mya). These remarkably adaptable creatures outlasted the mass extinction of the dinosaurs to evolve into the 23 species of crocodilians around today. *Crocodylian* is the name given to the group of reptiles that includes crocodiles, alligators, and caimans. They have changed very little over the last 65 million years.
2. One prehistoric species was the *Sarchosuchus imperator* (flesh crocodile emperor), also known as “super-croc.” It was discovered in Niger in Africa and lived about 110 mya. It grew to a length of around 35 feet (dwarfing the crocodilians of today) and weighed in at a hefty 17,500 pounds; the skull alone measured 6.5 feet in length and held 132 teeth. This carnivore had a voracious appetite and probably died out as a result of this. It is not a direct relative of the crocodile of today but is a very impressive close cousin. The link between the ancient and the modern crocodile was finally discovered in Isisford, a small town in central-western Queensland, Australia. The discovery of *Isisfordia duncani* in the mid-1990s gave scientists the direct ancestor to modern-day crocodiles. This crocodile lived about 98–95 mya, grew to over 3 feet in length, and weighed in at around 6½ pounds—relatively small in comparison to the crocodiles of today.
3. Crocodiles are a formidable reptile considered to be at the top of the food chain. They are believed to be highly intelligent animals that have been known to hunt and stalk their prey. Crocodiles are able to last long periods between feeding—probably contributing to the success of the species. The continent of Australia is home to two species of the modern crocodile: the freshwater crocodile (*Crocodylus johnstoni*) and the saltwater or estuarine crocodile (*Crocodylus porosus*).
4. The freshwater crocodile is found in Northern Australia and lives in freshwater rivers, gorges, and billabongs. The freshwater crocodile is smaller than



its saltwater counterpart, with males growing to about 10 feet long and females to about 6½ feet. This species of crocodile is not considered dangerous to humans, as its diet generally consists of fish, frogs, snakes, turtles, waterbirds, and other small animals. It mainly hunts at night and rests and recuperates during the day. The freshwater crocodile has a long, smooth, slender snout, as opposed to the saltwater crocodile, which has a shorter, wider snout.

5. The saltwater crocodile is the largest species of crocodile, with males growing up to 23 feet in length and weighing in at around 2,200 pounds, while the females can grow to a length of about 13 feet. The saltwater crocodile can be found along estuaries, rivers, lagoons, swamps, and beaches in Southeast Asia and Northern Australia. The stealthy crocodile waits near the water's edge, pounces out of the water at its unsuspecting prey, then drags it under the water. The prey is usually stored underwater for several days to soften before the crocodile returns for its meal. The saltwater crocodile dines on a variety of foods from fish, crabs, and insects to turtles, birds, other reptiles, dingoes, wallabies, cattle, horses, and occasionally people who do not follow safety precautions. Because of this, saltwater crocodiles were hunted almost to extinction in Australia until they became a protected species in 1970. Since then, numbers have increased.
6. One has to marvel at the power of the saltwater crocodile; its body was built to prey. The jaws deliver an incredible impact, and the 68 teeth are designed to hold prey, penetrate the skin, and crush the victim. The tail propels the crocodile over 30 feet out of the water at speeds faster than a racehorse, and it can administer a huge blow, easily breaking the legs of its victim to prevent an escape!

Name _____

Follow the steps below to learn how to find information in text.

- Underline the keywords in the question to make sure you know what information is needed.
- Find and underline the keywords in the text, and read the information around them carefully.
- Always check all possible answers before making a decision.

1. Crocodiles are:

- (a) herbivores, eating only plants.
- (b) omnivores, eating meat and plants.
- (c) cannibals, eating each other.
- (d) carnivores, eating only meat.

2. Choose the best answer. Think about each choice carefully.

- (a) Crocodiles eat fish, frogs, snakes, turtles, waterbirds, small animals, and larger animals. No plants are mentioned, so this wouldn't be the best answer.
- (b) There is no mention of crocodiles eating meat and plants. This answer seems unlikely.
- (c) Nowhere in the text does it talk about crocodiles eating other crocodiles. This answer is not likely.
- (d) The text clearly lists the food crocodiles generally eat. The entire list is made up of animals, which means crocodiles are carnivores. This would be the best answer.

1. Which species of crocodile is the largest living reptile in the world?

- (a) *Sarchosuchus imperator*
- (b) *Crocodylus porosus*
- (c) *Crocodylus johnstoni*
- (d) *Isisfordia duncani*

2. Choose the best answer. Think about each choice carefully.

- (a) *Sarchosuchus imperator* was definitely large, probably the largest crocodile to ever roam Earth, but it isn't living. This is not the best answer.
- (b) *Crocodylus porosus* is the proper name for the saltwater crocodile, which is the largest species of crocodile in the world today. It is also a reptile, so this would make it the largest living reptile in the world. This would be the best answer.
- (c) *Crocodylus johnstoni* is the freshwater crocodile, which is smaller than the saltwater crocodile, so it can't be the largest. This wouldn't be a good choice.
- (d) *Isisfordia duncani* is now extinct, so it's not living and was also smaller than the crocodiles of today. This wouldn't be a suitable answer.

Name _____

Use the strategies you learned to practice finding information. Use the clues in the "Think!" boxes to help you.

1. List the reptiles that belong in the *Crocodylian* family.

Think!

This information is in the first paragraph.

2. What features make the saltwater crocodile so formidable?

Think!

Read paragraph 6, and consider the parts of the crocodile that are strong and powerful.

3. Complete the sentences using words from the text.

(a) A freshwater crocodile's diet consists of . . .

(b) A saltwater crocodile's diet consists of . . .

Think!

Read paragraphs 4 and 5 to find the information needed.

4. Which species of crocodile is the direct ancestor of modern-day crocodiles?

- (a) *Crocodylus johnstoni*
- (b) *Crocodylus porosus*
- (c) *Sarchosuchus imperator*
- (d) *Isisfordia duncani*

Think!

Read paragraph 2.

5. What is considered to be the main cause of the extinction of the "super-croc"?

Think!

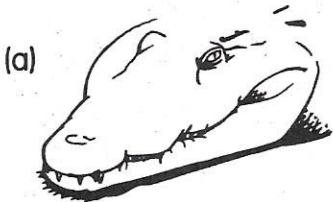
Consider the huge size of the species.

Name _____

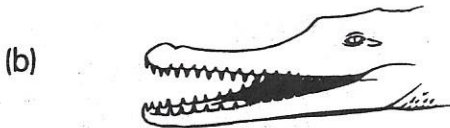
Use the strategies you have been practicing to help you find information in the text.

1. Explain the importance of the discovery at Isisford.

2. Look at the pictures of the two crocodiles below. Match them to their correct name.



- *Crocodylus johnstoni*



- *Crocodylus porosus*

3. Prehistoric *Sarchosuchus imperator* was discovered in:

- (a) Southeast Asia. (b) Africa.
(c) Northern Australia. (d) America.

4. In your own words, explain how a saltwater crocodile catches and kills its prey.

5. Complete these number facts using figures from the text.

- (a) A male saltwater crocodile weighs around _____ pounds and has _____ teeth.
(b) *Sarchosuchus imperator* weighed _____ pounds and had _____ teeth.
(c) In Australia, saltwater crocodiles became a protected species in _____.
(d) Male freshwater crocodiles grow to _____ feet and females to _____ feet.
(e) At the present time, _____ species of crocodilians exist.