

Dear Caregivers:



Today we used some of these books, fingerplays, and other materials in our storytime. Please continue helping your child develop by sharing these at home!

# ALLIGATORS/CROCODILES

## LETTER OF THE DAY

# A a

## BOOKS TO SHARE

*Egg*  
by Kevin Henkes

*The Crocodile Who Didn't Like Water*  
by Gemma Merino

*A Frog In The Bog*  
by Karma Wilson

*Snip Snap! What's That?*  
by Mara Bergman

*Clarabella's Teeth*  
by An Vrombaut

*Beware Of The Crocodile (non-fic)*  
by Martin Jenkins

*Princess Cora And The Crocodile*  
by Laura Amy Schlitz

*Professional Crocodile*  
by Giovanna Zoboli

*Snappy The Alligator (Did Not Ask To Be In This Book!)*  
by Julie Falatko

*Oliver And His Alligator*  
by Paul Schmid

*Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile*  
by Bernard Waber

## FUN WITH FINGERPLAYS AND SONGS

### Alligator, Alligator

Alligator, alligator,  
Long and green,  
Alligator, alligator,  
Teeth so mean.  
Snapping at a fly  
Snapping at a bee  
Snapping at a frog  
But you can't catch me!

### Five Little Alligators

One little alligator swimming in a pool,  
Another comes along and now there are two.  
Two little alligators swimming by a tree,  
Another comes along and now there are three.  
Three little alligators swimming near the shore,  
Another comes along and now there are four.  
Four little alligators swim, splash, and dive,  
Another comes along and now there are five.  
Five little alligators having lots of fun,  
Mama calls, "It's time for bed!" and now the fun is done!

### Alligator's Jaws [action rhyme]

The alligator's jaws go snap snap snap **[snap arms in front of you]**

The alligator's tail goes thwack thwack thwack **[swish arms like a tail]**

And he's getting closer . . . **[repeat as many times as you like]**

...

GOTCHA! **[grab/hug someone you know!]**

## ASL SIGN OF THE DAY

### "Alligator/Crocodile"



To sign "alligator," open and close "curved-five-handshapes" to represent the mouth and teeth of an alligator as it catches its next meal.

## Ten Little Crocodiles [fingerplay]

*[count up and then down on fingers as you recite the rhyme]*

One little, two little, three little crocodiles,  
Four little, five little, six little crocodiles,  
Seven little, eight little, nine little crocodiles,  
Ten little crocodiles hatch from eggs.

Ten little, nine little, eight little crocodiles,  
Seven little, six little, five little crocodiles,  
Four little, three little, two little crocodiles,  
One little crocodile swims away.

## Alligators Rap [action rhyme]

Clap, clap, clap **[clap 3 times]**  
Do the alligator rap.  
Swish your tail in time **[shake bottom]**  
To the alligator rhyme.  
Spread those scaly claws **[hold up hands]**  
On your alligator paws  
Stomp your scaly feet **[stomp feet]**  
To the alligator beat.  
Clap, clap, clap **[clap 3 times]**  
Do the alligator rap!

**"See You Later, Alligator" by Bill Haley and His Comets (1956)**

## MORE FUN!

**Note:** It can be tempting, when making a craft or working on an art project to do the craft yourself instead of allowing your child to try, struggle, (and sometimes fail) to make the craft 'correctly.'

**However, it is the PROCESS, not the PRODUCT that is most important part of making something with a child. Have fun and don't worry about perfection!**

## A Is For Alligator Craft

### Materials:

Scissors  
Glue  
Construction paper  
Marker/pen  
(Optional) Googly eyes



Draw a large, capital letter "A" on a piece of construction paper. Show it to your child and ask if they recognize the letter. They can even practice drawing it themselves!

Now, turn the paper sideways so the "A" looks like an open alligator mouth! Your child can cut out some scraps of paper to cover the lines of the letter and to add teeth and eyes to their 'alligator.'

***This is a perfect craft for your child(ren) to practice their shape and letter knowledge -- both of which will be crucial when they're ready to learn to read.***

.....

How do you tell the difference between an alligator and a crocodile? One difference is in head shape and size: the crocodile's head is slightly smaller, with a triangular-shaped head, and the alligator has a wide, flat head and nose. What is the same between alligators and crocodiles?

Do some research together with your child(ren) on alligators and crocodiles.

***Comparing and contrasting alligators and crocodiles is a great way for your child(ren) to practice their understanding of same and different.***

# LINCOLNWOOD LIBRARY

4000 W. Pratt Avenue | Lincolnwood, IL 60712 | (847) 677-5277