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# The Ultimate Survival Guide for Kids

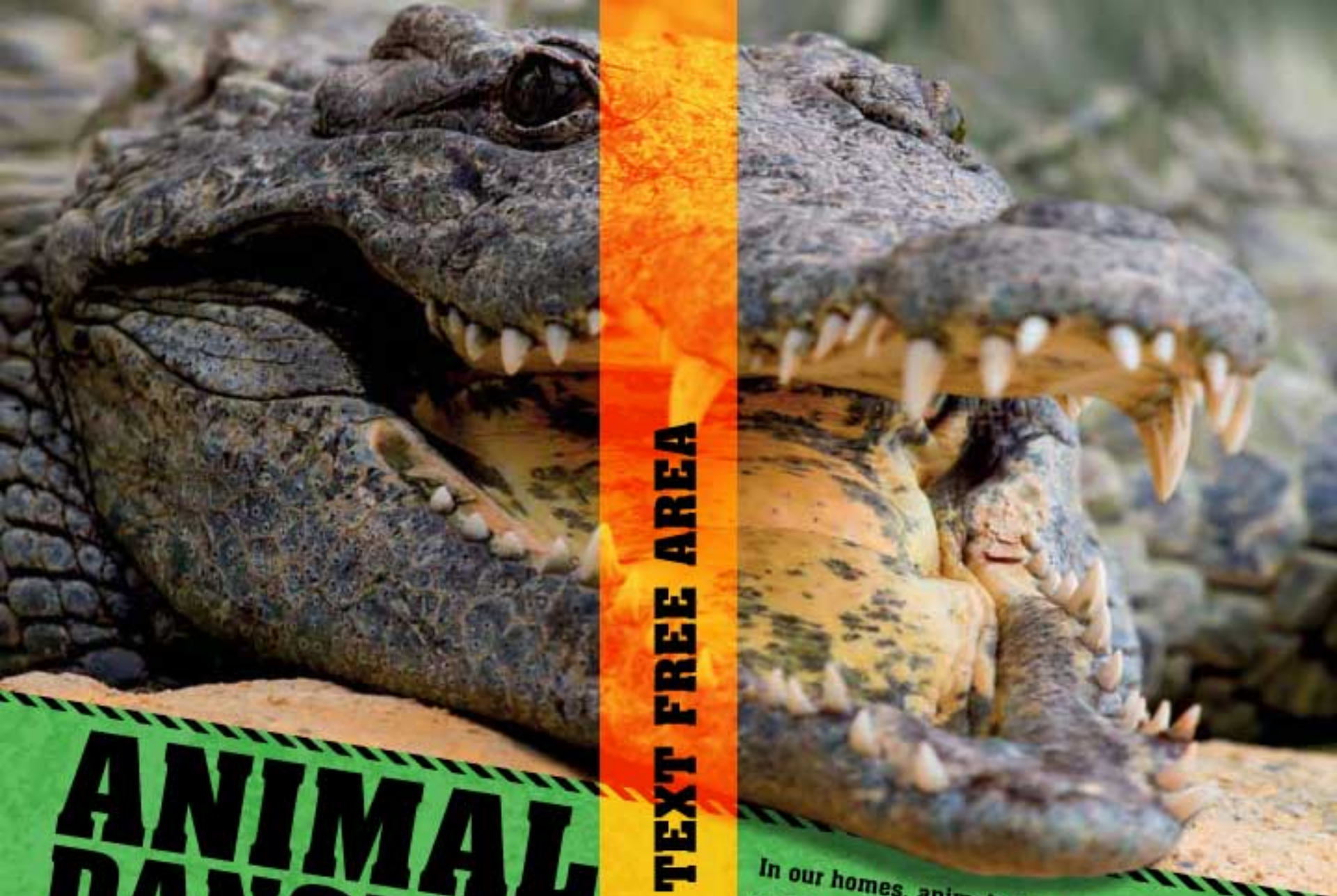
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# ANIMAL DANGERS

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In our homes, animals are cute, cuddly companions. But out in the wild, they can be dangerous enemies and potential predators.

# WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE BITTEN BY A SNAKE

**Snakes rarely eat people. They don't attack because they are hungry, but because they are frightened or have been provoked.**

**DID YOU KNOW?**
Snakes live all over the world, but especially in warm places such as deserts and rainforests.

*Snakes smell using the tip of their forked tongue.*

1. **Wash the bite with soap and water.** Keep it immobilized in a position lower than the heart to slow the flow of venom.
2. **Never try to cut out or suck out the poison.** Do not put anything cool, such as ice, on the bite.
3. **Find a doctor.** If you can't reach a doctor in 30 minutes, wrap a bandage tightly 8 cm above the bite.

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**There are around 2,700 species of snake, of which 375 are venomous.** Snakes inject venom into their prey using two sharp fangs.

**Snake bites can be treated using special medicine called antivenom.** Venom is extracted (or milked) from snakes (shown right). This is then injected into an animal, which produces antibodies in its blood. The blood is then extracted to make the medicine.



FAST FACTS

*Rattlesnakes shake their tails to warn potential predators.*




# IF YOU SEE A SNAKE

**Stand very still. Don't go near it or try to touch it. And never try to prod it or kill it.** Back away slowly and give it lots of room. Snakes can strike over half their body length in an instant.

The world's largest crocodiles can grow more than 7 m in length

# HOW TO ESCAPE FROM A CROCODILE

**Most crocodiles and alligators rush away into the water if they see humans – unless they feel cornered or are defending their nest.**

## Covering a croc's eyes can calm it down





**Crocodiles lay eggs in nests, which they guard fiercely.** Never approach the eggs or babies. The mother will almost certainly attack.

**Crocodiles can snap their jaws shut with enormous force.** But the muscles controlling the opening of the jaws are much weaker. In fact, it's possible to keep a croc's jaws shut just using an elastic band.

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1. **Try to hit the animal on the nose or in the eyes.** Use a weapon if you can.
2. **If you are on land, try to get on the animal's back and push down on its neck.** This will force its head down.
3. **If the animal has you in its jaws, try to keep its mouth clamped shut.** This will stop it from shaking and wounding you.



*Crocs hover at the water's surface looking for prey.*

*Each crocodile jaw has 24 sharp, crushing teeth.*

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Crocodiles and alligators are found in the slow-moving water of rivers, lakes and coastal mangrove swamps.

## IF YOU SEE A CROC

**Never approach it. Freeze and slowly back away.** Don't run. Crocodiles can move faster than you can. Never try to feed crocodiles, you may make them lose their fear of humans.

# WHAT TO DO IF YOU SEE A SHARK

**There are more than 370 types of shark, but very few of them are a danger to swimmers. Sharks that do attack usually live in warm waters.**

1. **If in the water, get out as fast as possible.** Do not shout or splash – the shark may mistake you for a wounded animal.
2. **If diving or surfing, don't lie at the surface.** From below, you may look like a turtle or a seal, or other shark prey.
3. **If on a boat, do not enter the water.** Try scaring the shark with big actions. As a last resort, jab it on the nose with a paddle.

△ *Sensors along the length of the shark's body detect vibrations in the water.*

**DID YOU KNOW?**

People kill about 100 million sharks every year. Yet only about 100 people die each year in shark attacks.

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△ *Sharks' teeth are serrated for tearing and slicing flesh.*

## IF YOU ARE ATTACKED

**Try to punch or poke the shark hard in the eyes or gills. If you have equipment in your hands, use it as a weapon.** Keep hitting the shark. It may decide to give up the attack. If a shark bumps you in the water and then swims away, it may be preparing to attack. Get out of the water!

## FAST FACTS

**Sharks have an incredibly keen sense of smell.** They can detect a single drop of blood in a million drops of water, and they can smell blood in the sea from 0.4 km away.

**Sharks have good eyesight.** Like cats, they have a mirror-like layer at the back of the eye, which doubles the amount of incoming light in dim water.

# HOW TO ESCAPE FROM A BEAR

**Bears live in mountains and forests. They are shy creatures, but also curious, so if you hike or camp in a forest, there is a chance you will see one.**

**A large bear may stand up to 3 m high**

**Bears can smell food from a long way away.** Wrap any food you have in a 'bear safe' container. If you are camping, never eat or keep any food in your tent – not even a bar of chocolate.

**Bears are timid animals.** If you walk in a group and make lots of noise, they will be scared away. Never wander alone or hike at night.



LIFE SAVERS

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▽ *Except during breeding times, bears remain solitary for most of the year.*

## IF YOU ARE ATTACKED

**Fall to the ground and roll into a ball. Play dead until the bear leaves you alone.** If it attacks you at night in your tent, try to strike its eyes and nose. Make as much noise as you can.

1. **Do not make eye contact.** Stand still, keep quiet and slowly back away. The bear will probably leave you alone.
2. **Never shout or run away.** A bear can run much faster than you. If you climb a tree, a bear may climb up after you.
3. **If you are in a car, stay where you are.** Never stop to take a photo. Do not get out of the car or open the windows.