

Benchmark Passage



| Name | Word Count: 128 |
|--------|------------------|
| 191116 | Word Courter 120 |

Crocodiles: The Cousins of Dinosaurs

Dinosaurs died out about 65 million years ago. But some animals that were cousins to the dinosaurs are still around today. These dinosaur cousins are the crocodiles.

In 2009, scientists found the fossils of some very old crocodiles. These ancient crocodiles lived 100 million years ago. They were not exactly the same as crocodiles today. But they were close.

The fossils showed scientists that there were different kinds of ancient crocodiles. Crocodiles the size of dogs ate plants and grubs. Others were twenty feet long and had three rows of teeth. These toothy crocodiles even ate dinosaurs!

Today's crocodiles live in many different parts of the world. It does not take much effort to picture them among those long-gone dinosaurs. Unlike dinosaurs, though, these creatures are still around.

