



Saltwater Crocodiles:

There are 26 different species of crocodilian in the world, the largest of these is the Saltwater Crocodile.

This text will cover important facts and feature of the Saltwater Crocodile including Habitat, Diet, Strength, Size, Age and Reproduction.

1. Habitat

The saltwater crocodile can adapt to a great variety of landscapes. These can include rivers, wetlands, open ocean, and freshwater creeks.

The areas of our Earth that it inhabits are Eastern India, Southeast Asia and Northern Australia.



Fig. Map showing highlighted areas common to Saltwater Crocodiles.

2. Hunting style and Diet:

The Saltwater Crocodile is an ambush predator and is carnivorous. It has a very special technique to hunting, always aiming to attack the head of prey.

Crocodiles use underwater logs to “Food Bank” their meals to eat later.

The Saltwater Crocodiles diet primarily consists of fish; however they are also known to eat turtles, goannas, snakes, birds, cattle, buffalo, feral pigs, mud crabs and even people!



Fig. Showing ambush styled attack of feral pig. Notice the attempt to bite the head of prey.

3. Strength and Speed

The Saltwater Crocodile is an especially strong and fast animal.

It has the bite force of 1678 kg per square inch. That's the weight of an average car per inch!

Additionally, it can swim at speeds of 24 -29 km/h.

On land the Crocodile can reach a maximum speed of approximately 16km/h.

4. Size and Age

The largest Saltwater Crocodile ever recorded in the world was 6.1 meters in length. Commonly they can reach a maximum length of 5 meters.



Fig. Photo taken near Niger Rivers showing largest recorded croc.

In the wild, the Crocodile can live (on average) up to 70 years of age, however some captive crocs have aged to 100.

5. Reproduction

Saltwater crocodiles are reptiles and as such lay eggs to reproduce. The crocodile eggs are nested on the banks of their habitat. The temperature of the nest will determine the sex of the hatchlings. 30 degrees will result in all females, anything above this will turn all hatchlings male.

When it is time to hatch, the young will make a squeaking noise and the mother will come and dig the nest up. Then the mother will carry the baby crocodiles to the water where she will protect them until they are old enough to leave her protection.

6. Conclusion

The crocodile is a unique creature with some very special features. Some of these features cannot be found in many or any other species in the animal kingdom.

The saltwater Crocodiles ability to survive in both salt and fresh water is a good example of unique skill.

It is also uncommon in the animal kingdom for a carnivore with attack instincts to control itself and store food for later.

The Saltwater crocodile has a unique strength, with a bite force that can't be matched by any other animal.

Though the Saltwater Crocodile is the largest reptile and regarded as a fierce predator, they are not what some people think.

For many people it is a favorite animal within the kingdom of creatures.



Fig. Mother Saltwater Crocodile carrying young