

CROC ACADEMY WITH COOWONGA

Coowonga is a saltwater crocodile — one of the world's oldest, largest and most fascinating predators. Here's what makes him extraordinary.

THE STATS

SPECIES: Saltwater Crocodile (*Crocodylus porosus*)

HABITAT: Northern Australia, Southeast Asia

SIZE: Up to 6 metres long

WEIGHT: Up to 1,000 kg

LIFESPAN: Up to 70 years

SUPERPOWER: One of the most powerful bites on Earth

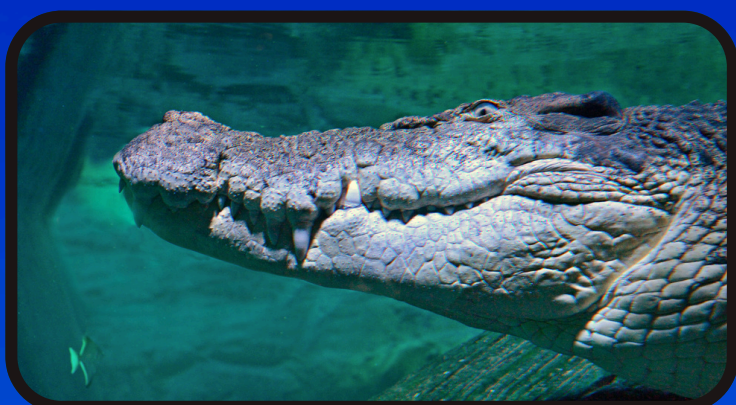


I STARTED REALLY SMALL

Baby saltwater crocs hatch at just 28–30cm — small enough to fit in your hand. Adults can grow to over 6 metres long.

MY TEMPERATURE DECIDED MY GENDER

Whether I hatched as a boy or a girl depended entirely on how warm my egg was in the nest.



I SWALLOWED STONES ON PURPOSE

Crocodiles swallow rocks called gastroliths. They help with digestion and may even help us stay balanced underwater.

MY EYES SEE THE WORLD DIFFERENTLY

My eyes sit on the sides of my head — giving me a wide view of everything around me, above and below the waterline.



MY FAMILY IS ANCIENT

Crocodiles have been on Earth for over 200 million years. We survived whatever finished off the dinosaurs. Not bad.



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