

# Why Crocodiles Lie with Their Mouths Open

## The Science Behind the Experiment – A Guide for Adults

Crocodiles live in a very hot places, but they do not have sweat glands. When humans get hot, they sweat. The evaporation of water from our skin cools us down. Crocodiles have a different way of cooling down. They cool down by opening their mouths. This increases the surface area on which evaporation can take place, and heat can be lost.

A decorative border surrounds the central text box, featuring several cartoon crocodiles in various poses, some with their mouths open, against a light blue background.

## Science Experiment

### Why Crocodiles Lie with Their Mouths Open

Can you make sure one crocodile's mouth is open and the other is closed?

Check with an adult that the water isn't too hot to touch!

Can you put your finger in each bowl of hot water?

Test again in 10 minutes.

Which crocodile is cooling down most quickly?