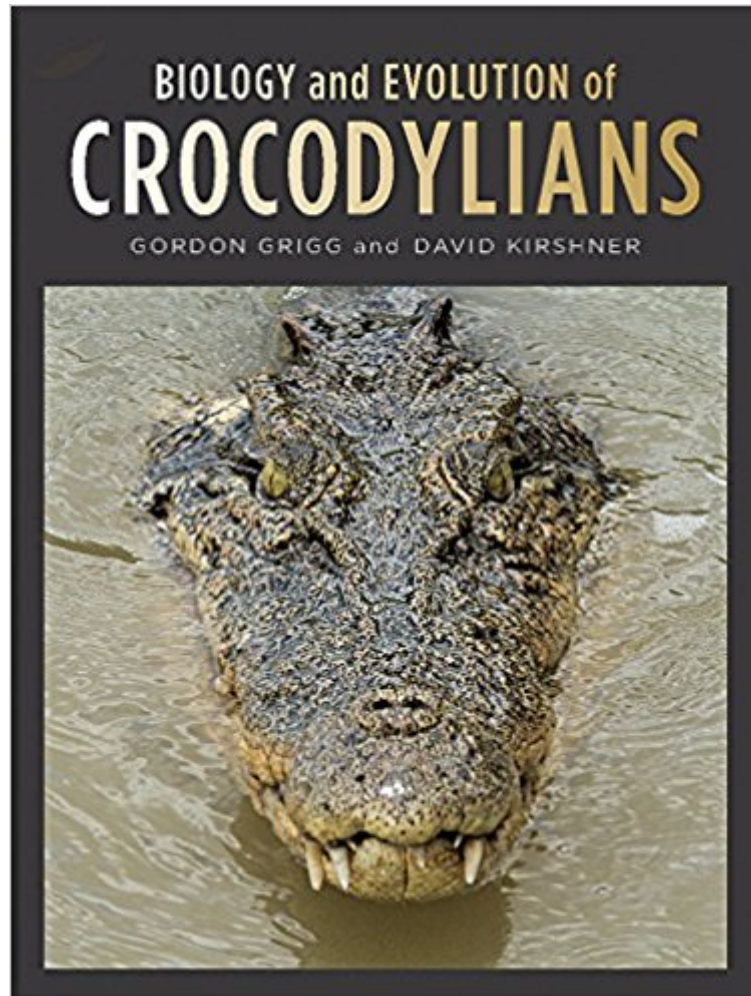




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Biology And Evolution Of Crocodylians



Synopsis

Crocodiles, alligators, caimans, and gharials—the Crocodylia, known collectively as crocodylians (or crocodilians)—are the world's largest living reptiles. The largest of them, probably the estuarine or saltwater crocodile, *Crocodylus porosus*, can grow to almost twenty feet and weigh more than two thousand pounds. Crocodylians are creatures of great contrast. They can remain patiently still for ages, yet can also move like lightning to snap up a meal. They are formidably strong, active predators, with jaws that can tear apart large prey items, yet a mother or a father can gently assist hatchlings out of the eggs, and carry them to the water between their teeth. Because large crocodylians can (and do) eat people, they invite fear and loathing, but they also inspire curiosity and admiration. *Biology and Evolution of Crocodylians* is a comprehensive review of current knowledge about the world's largest and most famous living reptiles. Gordon Grigg's authoritative and accessible text and David Kirshner's stunning artwork and color photographs combine expertly in this contemporary celebration of crocodiles, alligators, caimans, and gharials. This book showcases the skills and capabilities that allow crocodylians to live how and where they do. It covers the biology and ecology of the extant species, conservation issues, crocodilian-human interaction, and the evolutionary history of the group. Richly illustrated with more than five hundred color photographs and black-and-white illustrations, this book will be a benchmark reference work for crocodylian biologists, herpetologists, and vertebrate biologists for years to come.

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Customer Reviews

The author, Gordon Grigg, and illustrator, David Kirshner, have written a wonderful, beautifully illustrated, all-inclusive treatise on the Crocodylia that has already become (and will remain for the foreseeable future) the most important compilation of information and references yet attempted. It will be invaluable to both current researchers and future generations of crocodylian biologists. . . . [D]espite working in the area of crocodylian evolutionary biology for over 35 years, I learned more about these animals than I ever imagined by reading this volume. . . . Overall, this is a most remarkable publication, one that surely will stand the test of time and be remembered as one of the most important contributions ever in the history of crocodylian research." -- Llewellyn D. Densmore, *The Quarterly Review of Biology* (June 2016) "Biology and Evolution of Crocodylians is an expensive book, but it is one that will serve any paleontologist seeking a detailed review of all aspects of modern crocodylian biology. The photographs and illustrations also make it a very attractive book for any natural history enthusiast." -- Adam Pritchard, *Palaeontologica Electronica* (August 2016)

Gordon Grigg is Emeritus Professor of Biological Sciences at the University of Queensland. David Kirshner has illustrated several books on wildlife. Rick Shine, AM FAA, is a Laureate Fellow of the Australian Research Council and Professor of Biological Sciences at the University of Sydney. In 2015, he was named President-Elect of the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles.

Superlatives are inadequate to describe this superb book. Grigg reviews all aspects of crocodilian biology, and has done research on many. His single-authored text provides continuity and cohesion. He moves easily from the conversational to the technical. The photographs are impressive and informative. The book is on a par with Welles' summary of the amphibian, and is a must for any zoologist.

Instant classic! what a treasure trove of information - I've been waiting for this book for twenty years, thank you so much! - I only wish there had been a chapter devoted to habitat selection

Perhaps the most comprehensive work ever written on crocodilians!

Great book! It's full of detailed drawings and rich photos. I learned many new things. Highly recommend!

Hands down the best book on crocodilians. A must have for biologists, zoologists, veterinarians, and anyone who works with crocodilians.

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