



### ALLIGATOR

Alligators were hunted so much in the past that they almost disappeared, but now they are protected so they are coming back in large numbers. The mother lays from 30 to 60 eggs in a large nest and covers them with a pile of shredded vegetation which creates heat as it rots. She keeps the nest wet until they hatch. You can hear them begin to bark before they come out of the egg. They have an "egg tooth" just like a baby chicken to break out of the shell.