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 This story is from *The Selfish Crocodile* by Faustin Charles.

# The Selfish Crocodile



Deep in the forest, in the river, lived a large crocodile.

He was a very selfish crocodile. He didn't want any other animals and fish to drink or bathe in the river. He thought it was HIS river.

Every day, he shouted to the animals of the forest, "Stay away from my river! It's MY river! If you come in my river, I'll eat you all!"

So there were no fish, no tadpoles, no frogs, no crabs, no crayfish in the river. All were afraid of the selfish crocodile.

The forest animals kept away from the river as well. Whenever they were thirsty, they went for miles to drink in other rivers and streams.

1 Where did the crocodile live?

\_\_\_\_\_

AF2  
1 mark

2 Why didn't the crocodile want the other animals and fish to drink or bathe in the river?

\_\_\_\_\_

AF2  
1 mark

3 Why did the forest animals go for miles to find water to drink? Tick **one**.

They didn't like the forest. ☐

They had enough water already. ☐

They were afraid of the crocodile. ☐

They wanted to see other rivers. ☐

AF3  
1 mark

/ 3  
Total for this page

Every day the crocodile lay on his great big back in the sun, picking his big, sharp teeth with a stick.

But early one morning, the forest was awakened by a loud groaning sound. Something was in terrible pain.

Everyone thought that it was an animal caught by the crocodile.

But as the sun came out brightly, they saw that it was the crocodile who was in pain. He was lying on his big back, holding his swollen jaw, and he was crying real tears.

The animals drew closer – but not too close.  
Some of the animals felt sorry for the crocodile.



4

Why did the crocodile have a stick?

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AF2

1 mark

5

Why was the crocodile crying?

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AF2

1 mark

6

Why didn't the animals want to get *too close*?

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AF3

1 mark

/ 3

Total for this page

Suddenly a little mouse appeared, sniffing the air.  
He ran along the crocodile's tail, then on to his tummy.

The other animals stared.

"Look at that mouse!" chattered a monkey.

"He's either very brave or mad!"

"He's going to be eaten for sure!" said an iguana.

The mouse crept along the crocodile's big neck,  
and into his open mouth.

There was a hush in the forest.



7

Which parts of the crocodile did the mouse run along?  
Tick **two**.

tail ☐

jaw ☐

back ☐

teeth ☐

tummy ☐

☐ AF2  
1 mark

8

Why do you think the other animals stared at the mouse?

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ AF3  
1 mark

9

**Find and write one word** which shows that the  
animals were quiet.

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ AF2  
1 mark

☐ / 3  
Total for this page

**These questions are about the whole story.**

- 10** Think about the story and look at the end again.  
What do you think will happen next?

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AF3  
2 marks

- 11** Which of these words from the story tell you about the size of the crocodile? Tick **two**.

selfish ☐ large ☐ groaning ☐  
great big ☐ picking ☐

AF5  
2 marks

- 12** The monkey says that the mouse is *very brave or mad*.  
Do you think the mouse was brave or mad? Tick **one**.

brave ☐ mad ☐

Explain why, using the story to help you.

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AF3  
1 mark

- 13** Draw lines to match the animal with what they did in the story.

**Animal**

monkey

mouse

crocodile

**What they did**

crept

shouted

chattered

AF2  
1 mark

/ 15  
Total for this test