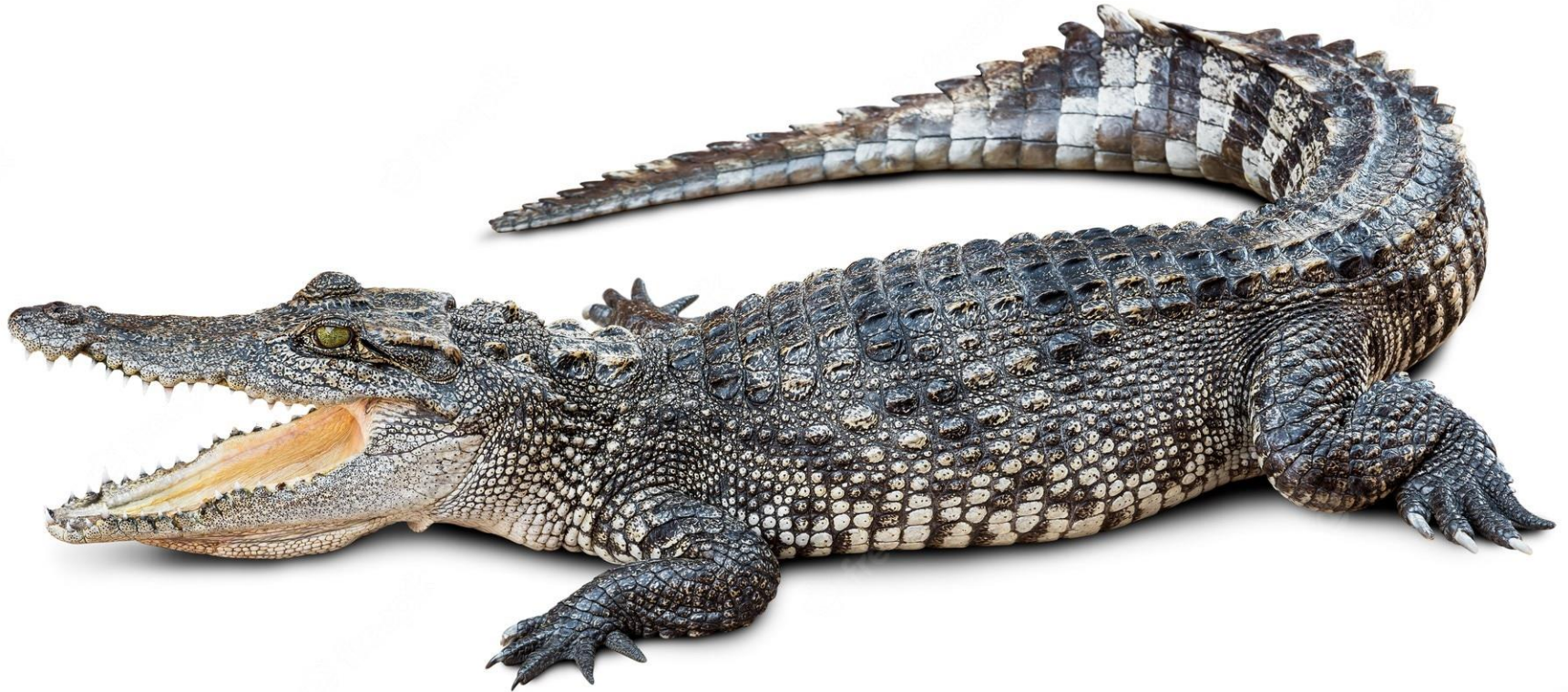


# Characteristics of Reptiles



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1. Predominantly terrestrial, creeping or burrowing, mostly carnivorous, air-breathing, cold-blooded, oviparous and tetrapodal vertebrates.
2. Body bilaterally symmetrical and divisible into 4 regions—head, neck, trunk and tail.
3. Limbs 2 pairs, pentadactyle. Digits provided with horny claws. However, limbs absent in a few lizards and all snakes.
4. Exoskeleton of horny epidermal scales, shields, plates and scutes.
5. Skin dry, cornified and devoid of glands.

5. Mouth terminal. jaws bear simple conical teeth. In turtles teeth replaced by horny beaks.
6. Alimentary canal terminates into a cloacal aperture.
7. Endoskeleton bony. Skull with one occipital condyle (monocondylar).
8. A characteristic T-shaped interclavicle present.
9. Heart usually 3-chambered, 4-chambered in crocodiles. Red blood corpuscles oval and nucleated. Cold-blooded.
10. Respiration by lungs throughout life.

11. Kidneys metanephric. Excretion uricotelic.
12. Brain with better development of cerebrum than in Amphibia. Cranial nerves 12 pairs.
13. Lateral line system absent. Jacobson's organs present in the roof of mouth,
14. Sexes separate.
15. Fertilization internal. Mostly oviparous. No metamorphosis. Young resemble adults. Parental care usually absent.

# Thank you!

