

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Word Count: 129

## Backyard Crocodile Relatives

Reed had just learned that crocodiles were relatives of dinosaurs. He told his dad about it as Dad served pancakes.

“That’s great,” said Dad. He grinned. “Later, let’s look for more crocodile relatives in our backyard!”

Reed glanced outside. Two blackbirds pecked at grain in the bird feeder.

Reed felt uneasy. “What crocodile relatives would be in our backyard?” he asked. He began to fear what his dad would say. What was Dad talking about?

A dove landed on the bird feeder.

“There’s another one,” said Dad. “I’ve now seen three crocodile relatives today.” Dad smiled at his son’s blank look. “The closest living relatives of crocodiles and alligators are birds!” he explained.

“I didn’t know that,” said Reed. He felt relief. “I’m glad they eat grain, not people!”

