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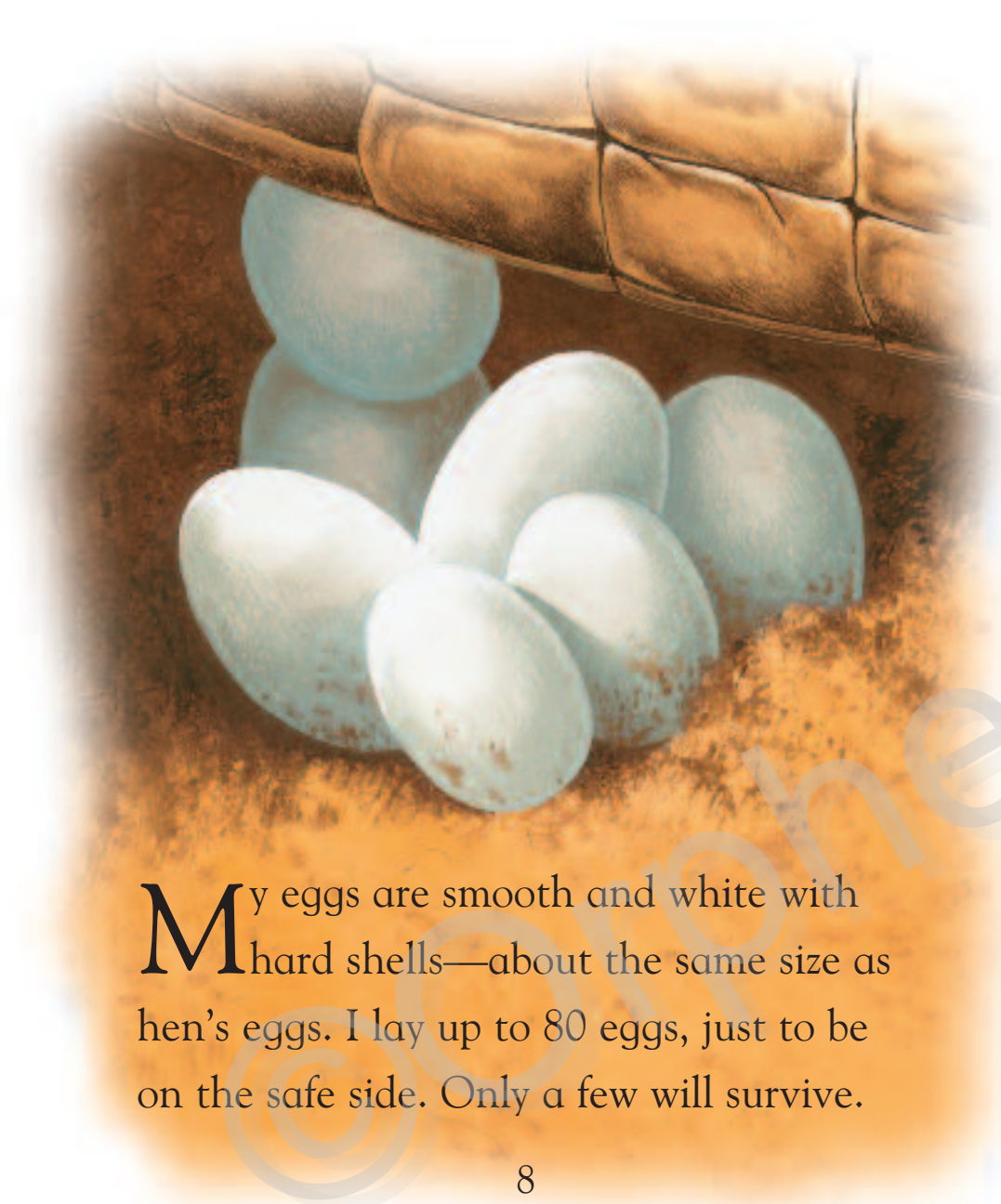
## Reptiles

**C**rocodiles, lizards, snakes, turtles and tortoises ... we are all reptiles. Our skins are scaly and—unlike you warm-blooded humans—we are cold-blooded. Here you can read about our lives: how we capture our prey, how we look after our young (or don't), and many other strange things about us!

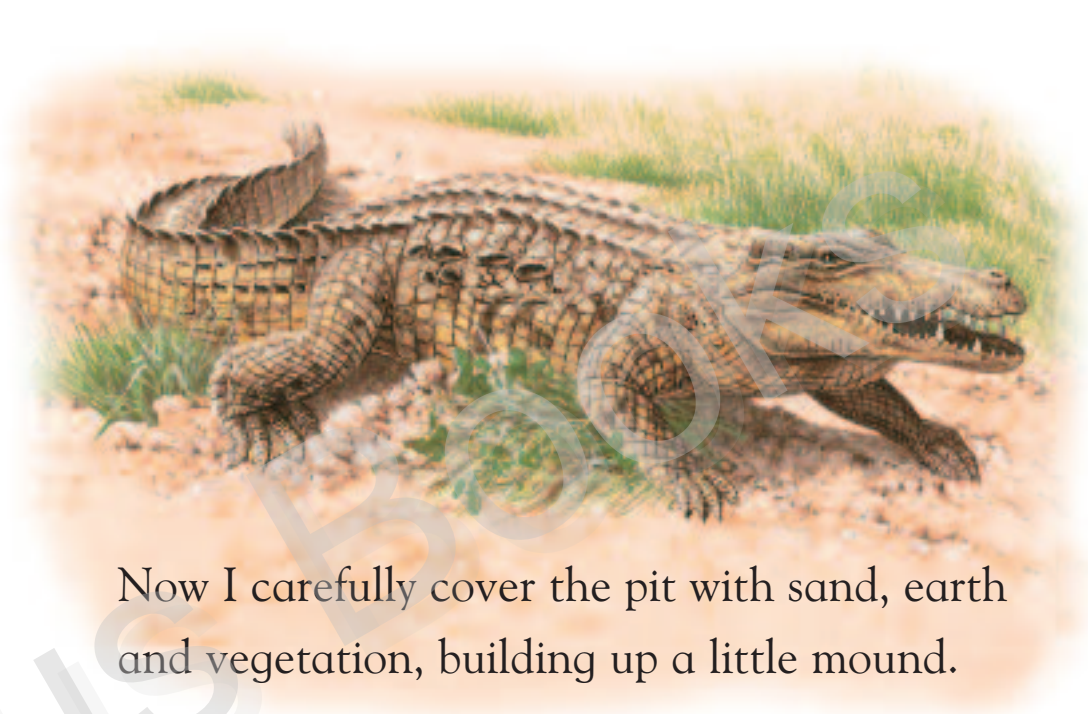
# How does a crocodile raise its young?

I am a very caring mother. I make sure that other animals don't eat my eggs, and I keep my babies close to me for up to two months.

When it's time to lay my eggs, I go looking for a nice, sandy spot near the river. Then I dig out a hole with my strong front legs. This is going to be my nest. When it's finished I'll lay my eggs in it. Here they'll stay warm and dry.



**M**y eggs are smooth and white with hard shells—about the same size as hen's eggs. I lay up to 80 eggs, just to be on the safe side. Only a few will survive.



Now I carefully cover the pit with sand, earth and vegetation, building up a little mound.

I guard the nest for three months.

I don't want my eggs being dug up by lizards, mongooses or other egg thieves.

