

# Albert the Angry Alligator

*A Reading A-Z Read-Aloud Book*  
Vowel A • Word Count: 398



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READ-ALoud

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Written by Joe Slade • Illustrated by A. Spencer

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## WORDS USED IN THIS BOOK

### High-frequency words:

the, I, was, for, to, you, said, on, and, his, he, of, that, a, in, she, had, at, out, we, him, is, as, with, be, up, have, some, do, what, get, my, can, so, them, would, could, like, me, when, one, will, were, big, now, very, long, an, into, are, no, came, your, if, want, know, ran, call, by, help, their, two, who, never, before, been, much, always, must, has, find, better, under, say, why, thank

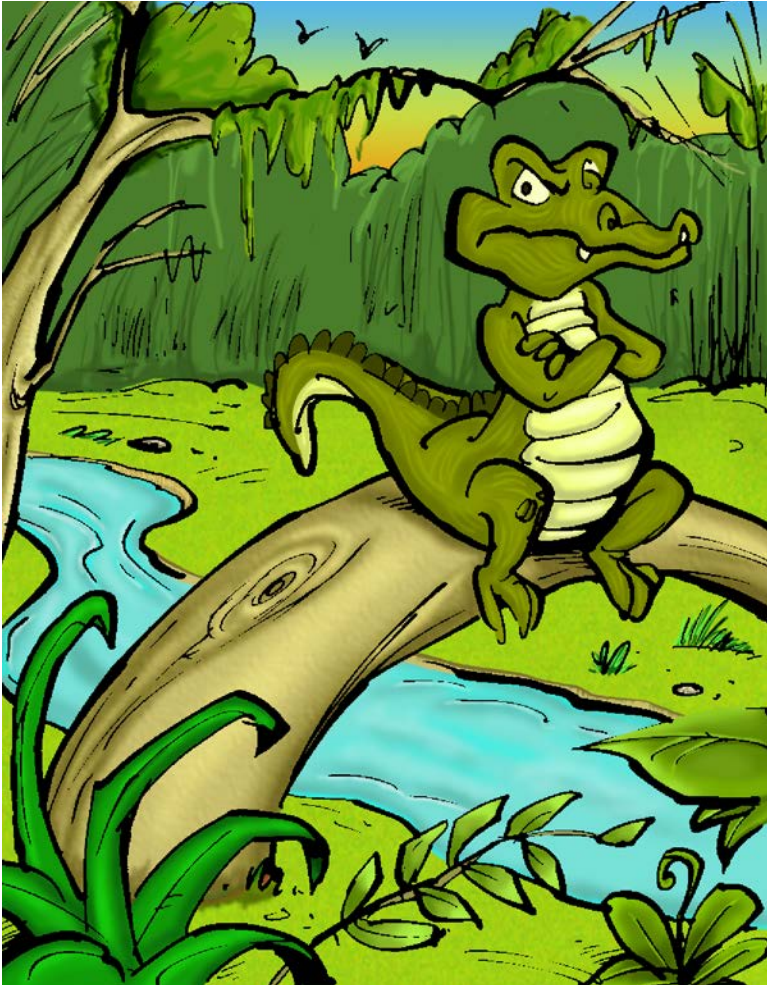
### A words:

Albert, angry, alligator, Africa, animals, afternoon, ago, artist('s), attacked, ankle, amazed, absolutely, astonished, apology, announced, ambulance, afraid, anyone, among, asleep, awoke, aloud, anymore, angrily, asked, already, Anna, antelope, away, arrived, agreed, attention

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Albert the angry alligator lived in Africa. Nobody knew why Albert was always angry. Albert had been angry for as long as the other animals could remember.



One afternoon, some time ago, a man who was an artist visited Albert. The artist wanted to paint Albert's picture.

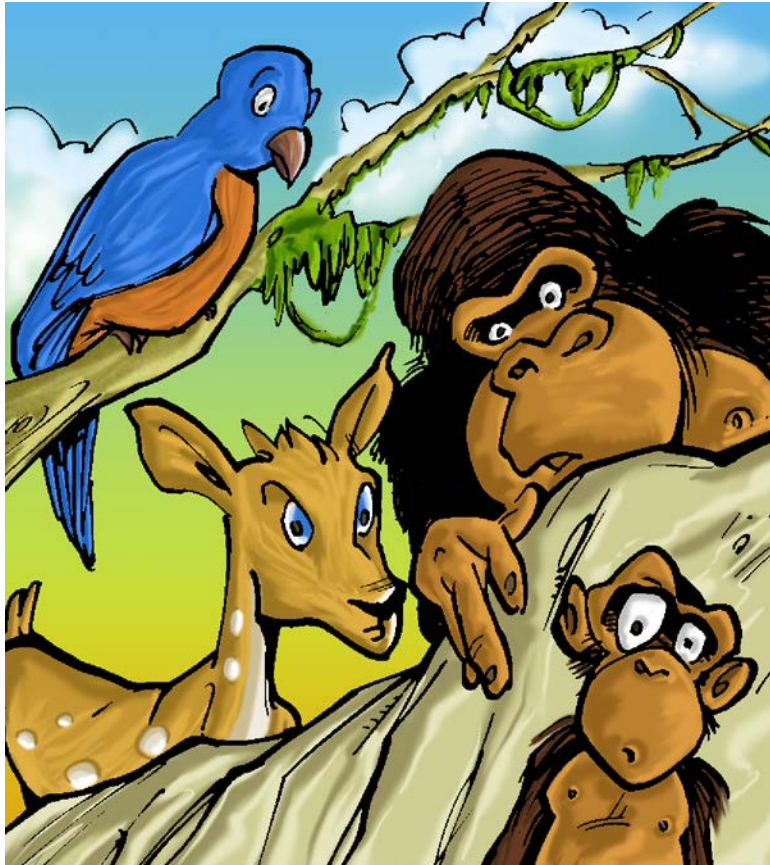


Albert wasn't happy. He attacked the artist. Albert snapped at the man and bit him on the ankle. The artist was amazed. He was absolutely astonished.



The artist had never been bitten on the ankle by an alligator before.

"I demand an apology!" announced the unhappy artist. "I'll have to call an ambulance to get me back to my camp."



The other animals were afraid that Albert would bite anyone who came to visit their part of the jungle.

“We must find out why Albert is so angry,” said Gary the Gorilla.



Gary hid among the reeds near Albert's home. Albert was asleep. When he awoke, Albert groaned and said aloud, “Ohh! My back hurts so much.”



Gary ran back to the other animals.

"I know why Albert is so angry," said Gary. "He has a bad back. If we can help his back get better, he won't be angry anymore. I have a plan."



The next day, the animals gathered at Albert's home.

"What do you want?" Albert angrily asked the animals.

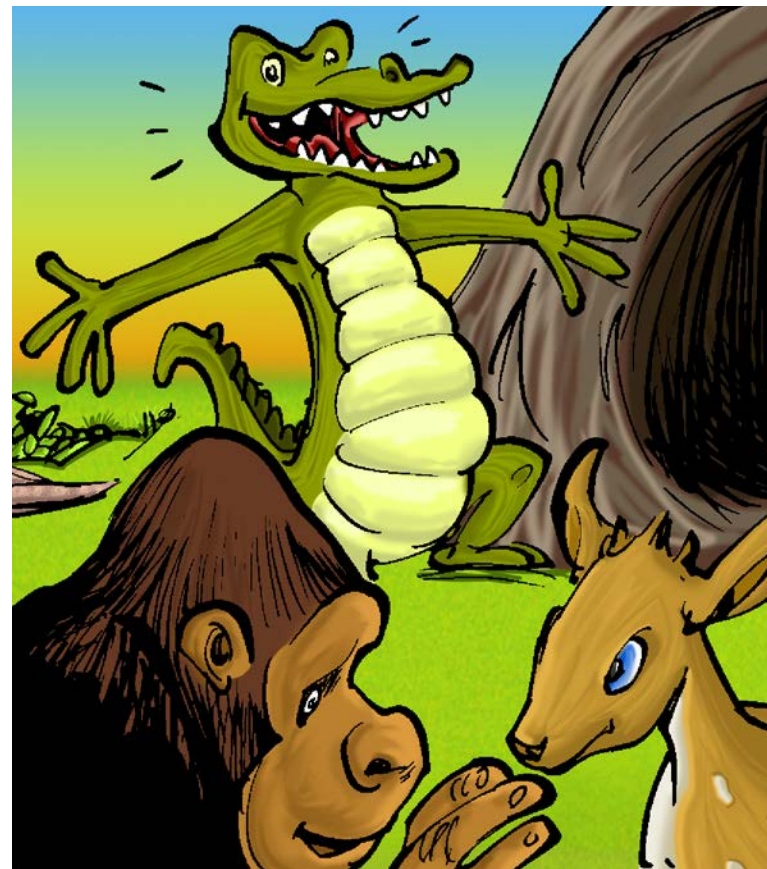
"We can help. Do what I say, and you will no longer have a bad back," said Gary.



Gary climbed up into a tree. The other animals lifted Albert so that Gary could grab his tail. Gary pulled Albert's tail one way, and the animals pulled Albert's head the other way.

Suddenly, Albert's back popped.

"Oh, that's better already," said Albert.



"Thank you! Thank you!" said Albert.

"I no longer have a bad back."

Gary whispered something to Anna the Antelope, and she immediately ran away through the jungle.



Albert was very happy and didn't want the animals to leave. He had spent two hours chatting with them when Anna arrived back with the artist.

"I hear you are no longer angry," said the artist. "Can I paint your picture now?"



Albert agreed that he would like the artist to paint his picture. He was happy to be the center of attention.

The artist's painting of Albert can now be seen in a big art museum in Paris, France. The title under the picture says, "Albert the Happy Alligator."