

Children's verse

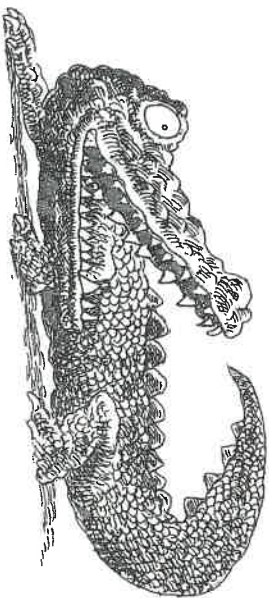
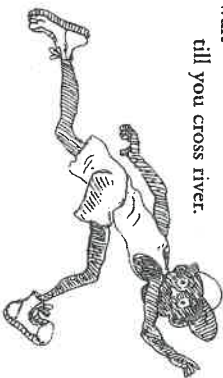
Read the poem below.

JOHN AGARD

Don't Call Alligator Long-Mouth Till

You Cross River

Call alligator long-mouth
 call alligator saw-mouth
 call alligator pushy-mouth
 call alligator scissors-mouth
 call alligator raggedy-mouth
 call alligator bumpy-bum
 call alligator all dem rude word
 but better wait
 till you cross river.



Use the information on page 58 to answer the questions below. As you are reading, try to think about the different question types.

1. What should you wait to do until after you have crossed the river?

2. Who is this poem about and where is it taking place?

3. Why might it be better to cross the river anyway?

4. Explain why you think the boy calls the alligator 'saw-mouth'.

5. Does the boy suggest these words are polite? How do you know?

6. What do you think might happen to the boy before he crosses the river. Why do you think that?

How did you do?

