Adult American Alligators are apex predators that mainly stay in rivers and lakes. When they are young, alligators must rely on camouflage and hiding to protect themselves from predators. Young alligators are most commonly found on land in near-shore wooded areas.

Describe the coloration adults and young need to camouflage in their habitat.

Adults: Dark green/brown

Young: Dark green with yellow/white stripping and spots

Below, color in the two outlines of an American alligator to show the different coloration and camouflage of young and adult alligators.

Adult American Alligator: body is almost all dark green and brown

Baby American Alligator: Very dark body with light white or yellowish stripes