Alligator Attack!

One sunny day in the calm Everglades, Loic and Theo who are teenagers decided to have a canoe race. Loic is a tall, thin boy who likes geology. Theo is a tall, strong boy who likes reading.

Ranger Jake was looking out of the window at the mangroves, thinking it would be a quiet day. Suddenly Loic and Theo rushed in and said “we’re going on a slow canoe ride down the river!” Ranger Jake said “ok but don’t go down Blackwater creek, the left fork.”

Loic and Theo got into their canoes and quietly paddled off round the bend in the river. Loic softly said “ready, steady, go.” The water became wavy because they paddled off quickly.

After 10 minutes Theo was in front and couldn’t see his good friend. He arrived at the fork and went left because he forgot Ranger Jake’s warning. Later Loic arrived at the fork and went right because he had listened to Ranger Jake.

Loic paddled too fast and went into the bank. His canoe got stuck in sticky, slimy mud. He couldn’t move but on the bank he spotted a small sleeping crocodile. Loic thought “oh no I’m in trouble.”

Meanwhile Theo was also having trouble. A vicious alligator was slapping at his canoe. He was very scared. Both Theo and Loic called Ranger Jake for help. Ranger Jake had to make a decision to decide who to save first. He chose to save Theo because he was in more danger of being eaten. Ranger Jake knew alligators eat big animals and crocodiles eat small animals, rarely humans.

Ranger Jake jumped on his fast airboat and set off. Jake found the fork and asked Theo which way he went. A small voice replied “left down Blackwater creek.” Jake turned left and found Theo about to be eaten by the hungry alligator. He shouted “Jump on” and they zoomed off to find Loic. When they found Loic, they told him to jump on and they headed back to the hut.

After awhile Loic and Theo said “we’re really sorry, we put you in danger . We should have told you the truth.” Theo added “I should have listened to what you told us.” Ranger Jake sent them home after explaining the facts about the animals in the Everglades.