

The Science behind the ST. AUGUSTINE **Alligator Farm**® ZOOLOGICAL • PARK

Endoscopy of crocodilians



By using an endoscope (a small camera that can be inserted into the body cavity), Dr. Maud Lafortune of the University of Florida's Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital, was able to evaluate the respiratory tract of alligators. The camera was slowly inserted down the trachea of the alligator and into the lungs. There is a tiny light on the end of the tiny camera and during the procedure everything can be seen on a nearby television monitor.