

Birding Center & Alligator Sanctuary

"ALLIGATORS!!!" My summer vacation was at South Padre Island.

One of the many things my family and I did was go to the Birding, Nature center & Alligator sanctuary. This sanctuary is the home of Big Padre and Lady Laguna. These two alligators are the famous tourist attraction down at South Padre Island. At this sanctuary, we got to see Big Padre, Birds and interrogating wildlife.

When we arrived, we got to see Big padre fed chicken. An astonishing fact is that he weighs 700 pounds, his height is 12 ft 6 inches. Big Padre is 50 years old! While we were there, we learned a little about Big Padre's story. He used to live in Port Author but, was moved to this sanctuary eventually.

Afterward, we were whisked away to see adorable baby alligators. There are around 50 juvenile gators who live in the adolescent pond. As part of the tour, you can wade with baby alligators. (Their mouths are wrapped while wading.) Another fun activity is, there is a long boardwalk to sightsee exotic birds.

There is a large quantity or variety of different species of birds.

From an alluring variety of Herons to classic Pigeons. We noticed a lot of them blended in with the bay with matte colors. One of the loveliest things were the tortoises. We purchased some lettuce and the tortoises chomped it down. One of the funniest things was the turtles chomped it down fast as slow as they are!

Watching alligators or slow turtles I truly enjoyed this exploration. I also learned that Mother Natures' creations are valuable. "Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's need, but not every man's greed" - *Mahatma Gandhi*