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Amazing Animals
Fact sheets

Exotic Parrots

Parrots are characterized by their curved beak shape and for having four toes on each foot - two facing the front and two facing the back. This gives them the dexterity that they are well known for and often utilize their feet to hold food items. Parrots are found world wide, although most are distributed throughout the warmer parts of the world, including India, South-east Asia and West Africa.
The majority of the species live in Australasia, South America and Central America. Parrots are also emotionally and intellectually advanced and most species are said to have the intelligence of at least a two year old child. For this reason they are typically not good pets and require specific care and constant stimuli to ensure they remain healthy in mind and body.

Green-winged Macaw

Green-winged Macaws grow to lengths of up to 90 cm long and have a wingspan of up to 1.2 metres. They have a large curved beak that is used for cracking nuts and act as an aid in climbing. Macaws also have the "zygodactyl" foot configuration with two middle toes facing forward and the two outside toes facing backward. This aids in holding food and in climbing. This species of Macaw is a deep shade of red, with dark green on the wings. Their face is also lined with deep red coloured feathers. Flight feathers are blue and tail feathers are blue with a red tip and are shorter than other macaws in the same genus.

Habitat

Macaws can be found in forests, swamplands, open savannahs, palm groves, along riverbanks in much of South America, ranging from Panama to Paraguay and east to the Guianas and Trinidad, and south to Argentina.

Diet

The Green-winged Macaws diet consists of seeds, fruits, nuts and limited vegetable matter. They have regular roost sites for the evenings and in the early mornings they will fly to their feeding grounds.

Breeding

Macaws create nests in holes near the tops of trees. Usually two eggs are laid by the female with an incubation period of 24 to 26 days. The young are fledged in 13 weeks and reach adulthood in six months.

Australia Zoo Green-winged Macaw profiles

Peppe

Peppe is one of our beautiful Green Wing Macaws. He is the star of the free flight bird part of our Wildlife Warriors show, held daily in our Crocoseum, and has wowed crowds with his beauty for many years. And when you see him flying, you'll see that he has the time of his life! He loves to soar at high altitudes and makes sure everyone gets a good look at his magnificent colours as he flies past. It's hard not to fall in love our Macaws; these magnificent jewels of the rainforest. Macaws are having a hard time out in the wild due to habitat loss and destruction and two beautiful species of Macaw are already extinct.

Endangered Species!

Very low numbers are left in the wild. Exotic Parrots are at risk of extinction within the next ten years.
The Green-winged Macaw is not currently classified as endangered. However, they have disappeared from part of their former range in Panama.

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