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Amazing Animals
Fact sheets

# Native Parrots

Around 300 species of the parrot family have been recorded throughout the world, extending from the tropics to the subtropical and colder parts of the Southern Hemisphere. 56 species are found in Australia, and only five of these are found elsewhere in the world. The parrot family includes cockatoos, lorikeets, rosellas, ringnecks and budgerigars.

## Red-collared Lorikeet

A Red-collared Lorikeet measures roughly 29 centimetres in length and weighs
approximately 130 grams, making it the largest of the Lorikeets. Although Red-collared Lorikeets can be easily spotted, they are often confused with their close relative, the Rainbow Lorikeet. The male Red-collared Lorikeet's colour consists of a light to medium blue head which varies in intensity, a dark bluish to black abdomen, a yellow to light green throat, a breast section varying from orange to bright yellow, and a yellow and light green undercarriage. The female's colours match the male's except for a lighter abdomen section.

### Habitat

The Red-collared Lorikeet can be found
between northern and eastern Australia in a region known as The Kimberleys, through the Gulf of Carpentaria in Queensland to an area just north of the Nicholson and Gregory Rivers. The Red-collared Lorikeet can be found living in adjoin plains of Eucalypts and Melaleuca forests.

### Diet

Their diet mainly consists of nectar from blossoms of Eucalyptus trees, various fruits and berries, and seed heads of grass trees. At Australia Zoo, our bird keepers feed our Red-collared Lorikeets Lory nectar, fruit blend parrot pellets and a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables daily. We also provide flowers for enrichment that produce nectar, like bottlebrush, hibiscus and honey suckle.

### Breeding

The breeding season of Red-collared Lorikeets depends on weather conditions and the availability of food, although most breeding takes place between August and December.

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