



Bearded Dragons

Your guide to the sweetest little dragons.



Bearded Dragons

Bearded Dragons aren't dragons. They don't breathe fire. They can't fly. In fact, they are the sweetest. They may get big, and look scary. Don't be fooled. This is just their defense mechanism for predators. They puff up to scare the predators, and turn their beard black to scare animals away. They make themselves look spiky, and make it look like their spikes will hurt a predator. They really won't, but predators don't know that. Bearded dragons are very unique, and you are going to find out why these "dragon like" creatures are one of the most popular pet reptiles.



Food

Bearded dragons do not only eat bugs, but they need to eat their greens, too. For non greens they eat Dubia Roaches, crickets, pinky mice, King Worms and more. For veggies they eat sweet potato, pepper, and for leafy greens they eat kale and parsley. They also eat fruit. Greens, veggies,, and fruit make up 20% or 25% of their diet. You need to add calcium and Vitamin D to their diet, and calcium powder sprinkled on.



Habitat

Bearded dragons live in woodlands, coastal dunes, heathland, tropical savannas and deserts. They're often seen basking on tree stumps, fence posts, branches or boulders. Bearded dragons can sometimes be found in Australia.



Characteristics

Bearded dragons have a "beard", and that's what they are known for. It turns black when they feel threatened, sick, and can be a sign of dominance, and so can head bobbing. They have spikes to make them look scary to predators, and will puff up and make themselves look big. They have big tongues, and are sometimes a tan color, and they can also be different colors.



Beardies as pets

A single adult beardedie needs a 55-75 gallon tank. They like to perch off the ground, so give them something to sit on. They also bask, so a flat rock is a good idea. On the cool side, the temp in the tank should be 80-85, and on the warm side it should be 95-105. At night the temp can fall to about 65-75 degrees fahrenheit. Heat can be provided via an incandescent light, ceramic heater, or a mercury vapor bulb in a dome reflector hood. You might need to experiment with wattage and distance from the tank to provide appropriate temperatures. They need UV lights, and beardies should be able to get 12 inches close to the lamp from above them. Humidity should be around 35%-45%. I think for juveniles you should maybe use reptile carpet, as sand is bad and causes health problems. The only really good sand for adults is washed play sand, or maybe reptile sand.

Thank you!

Thank you so much for reading this! I hope you enjoy taking care of a beardie, learning about them, and reading this fact slide!

Thanks!

-Stella

