**Western Collared Lizard**

**Native to:** Most of the Western United States

**Predators:** snakes, birds, other lizards, small mammals

**Prey:** insects primarily but will eat other small animals on occasion

**Facts:**

* They are active during the day time and usually hang out on rocks to sun themselves.
* The males and females differ in the color of their scales. Males are a brighter color which can include pale blues and yellow. Females are duller mostly brown and gray.
* They can grow up to 8 to 10 inches in length with the males typically being longer than the females.
* They have distinct leopard like patterns on the back of their necks and bodies. These are to stand out so they look like large eyes of another bigger predator to other animals.
* They are one of the most colorful lizards fund in the United States.
* They can withstand temperatures in basking spots up to 110 degrees F during the middle of the day in the desert.

**Defense Mechanisms:**

* They bite
* Spots on their Back

**Reproduction:**

* Females can lay 6 to 10 eggs under the sand or in a burrow so they are out of the heat of the desert to not dry out.

**Lifespan:**  3 to 8 years in the wild 8-12 years in captivity

**Handling Tips:**

The Collared Lizard can be aggressive in its cage and territory. Make sure you are quick to grab and restrain her. Also when you have her out keep light pressure on her so she does not run away.