**Bearded Dragon**

**Native to:** Australia (woodlands, scrublands, deserts, savannahs)

**Predators:**  Snakes, lizards, birds of prey

**Prey:** vegetation, insects, small mammals, fruits, berries, leaves

**Facts:**

* Bottom of their throats (beard) turns black when they are stressed or see a rival
* Show a hand waving gesture to display submission, and head bobbing to show dominance
* Males grow up to 2 feet long, females only slightly smaller
* When the climate is too hot they can burrow under the sand, but they usually are found basking on branches, and rocks
* It is illegal to export bearded dragons from Australia and has been since the 1960s because they are considered endangered in their native habitat.

**Defense Mechanisms:**

* Warning by hissing, puffing up, and turning their beards black
* Camouflage

**Reproduction:**

* Females will wave to demonstrate a readiness to mate, and male will bob his head in their mating ritual
* Lay clutches of 11-30 eggs
* Gender is usually determined by chromosomes, but if the eggs fall below a certain temperature the eggs can be changed from male to female

**Lifespan:** Live 8-12 years in captivity

**Handling Tips:**

Lola is a 4 year old female. She is very docile and her weight should be supported. Be sure to keep her very warm in transportation.