

Bearded Dragons!!!!

1. Introduction...
 - A. Story about my first Bearded Dragon Luna.
 - B. Today I'm going to tell you about my favorite animal, the majestic Bearded Dragon. Then we will look at Facts about Bearded Dragons, bearded dragon care, and why I think that bearded dragons are awesome.
2. Body...
 - A. Facts about Bearded Dragons
 - Bearded Dragons are native to Australia
 - Their scientific name is Pogona, which is a genus of eight lizard species, commonly known as Bearded Dragons.
 - The average lifespan of the bearded dragons is around 9 to 10 years.
 - The average size is around 20 - 24 inches.
 - B. Bearded Dragon Care...
 - **Lighting:** Bearded Dragons are **COLD BLOODED** creatures which means that they require a Heat bulb. You must also have a UVB bulb (Artificial Sun), to allow the to get nutrients the would normally get from the sun. At night, if your home reaches a temperature below 60*F, you will need to have a black light or a ceramic heat emitter.
 - **Food:** Bearded Dragons Eat many different types of greens such as Collard or Turnip Greens. They also require a live food source such as Superworms or Crickets. I feed my

two bearded dragons a mixture of turnip greens, collard greens, and mustard greens, with the occasional grape. For live food, I feed them superworms and crickets.

- **Habitat:** Bearded Dragons are usually housed alone, because of the amount of size each lizard requires. A few essential things that you must have for your Beardie home are..... 1. A place for them to hide.
2. A basking spot.
3. A feeding dish.

The most important thing to remember when setting up a Beardie home is this: **NO LOOSE SUBSTRATE!!!!!!!**

This is a huge mistake that many people make, they assume that since they are desert dwellers, they live on sand. Loose substrates actually cause major impactions and many deaths! I would recommend Paper towels or tile, these cannot be very easily inhaled into your dragon unlike sand or nut shells.

- **Hazards and Illnesses:** Bearded dragons are for the most part very hardy creatures, but not indestructible. Always have your eye on them so they don't get into trouble. Just like humans, bearded dragons can get illnesses too, the most common illness is called **Metabolic Bone Disease** or **MBD** for short. This disease is truly horrifying to Bearded dragon owners, it comes from the lack of **UVB** exposure. Their bones will start to deform and they become very fragile, Eventually, if the disease is not properly cared for, the dragon will die.

C. Why Bearded Dragons are the most Awesome Creatures in the Universe!!!!

- Okay, you can't deny that Bearded Dragons are the cutest most adorable little dinosaurs in the world.....
- They are always there to binge watch How to Train your Dragon with you.....
- They never complain (Cause they can't Lol).....
- They love to sit on your shoulder...
- And in your hair...
- And finally, they are great listeners (Yes they do have ears).

3. Conclusion...

- A. Today we looked at Facts about Bearded Dragons, Bearded Dragon Care, and Why they are Awesome.
- B. Caring for a Bearded Dragon is hard work, but it is SO worth it to me.