



WEIRD 'N' WONDERFUL

Pets and reptiles

Introduction Guide To The Care Of

Australian Water Dragons

Scientific Name: Physignatus lesueurii

Life Span: over 20 years with correct care

Appearance: Males reach a total length of 2 ½ to 3 feet, and females reach 2 to 2 ½ feet in total length. Males get a crest in the neck region and they get a red color on their belly and upper forearms, They have larger heads than females and the black/white design on the male's head is very strongly expressed Males have white lips and a deep black band behind their eyes, Females have smaller heads, dull white lips, a gray/black band behind the eyes and white to pinkish bellies

Temperament and Handling: The Australian Water Dragon is an impressive lizard. It is rare that Australian Water Dragons will bite more often they will run if they feel threatened. It is important to handle your Australian Water Dragon with caution and patience until he is used to you. Australian Water dragons tend to be a little more skittish than other lizards. With the right treatment and care, you will have an impressive-looking pet that makes a great pet.

Housing: Adult Australian water dragons will need an enclosure at least 2ft deep x 4ft wide x 4ft tall as a min for 1-2 adults, but any more than that it is recommended 4ft deep x 4 foot wide x 6ft high, with cypress mulch, sand/ soil or orchard bark for bedding. A variety of branches and places to climb and explore are essential and it is important to vary and change the dragons environment to encourage stimulation and exercise through exploration. A water bowl/pool is a must as Australian water dragon requires unlimited access to water.

Heating and Lighting: Temperatures should be kept at 84°- 88° F with a basking temperature of 90° to 95° F. Australian Water dragons require UVA and UVB lighting. You need to keep your Australian water dragon under a UVB lamp to provide ultraviolet radiation to the reptile. Please read and follow the instructions that accompany the lamp. It is always important to place the lamp at the correct distance as listed on the lamp's instructions.

Humidity and Hydration: Its perfectly fine for humidity to range from 40-70%. Certainly Australian Water dragons do not need the continuous high humidity required by green water dragons. Its a very good idea to ensure that young water dragons have a cool damp hide in the vivarium.



WEIRD 'N' WONDERFUL

Pets and reptiles

Feeding: Baby dragons can be fed daily on crickets, hopper locusts, mealworms and small cockroaches. I find larger dragons especially love Morio worms, Blaptica dubia roaches, well grown hopper locusts, and adult crickets. At around one year old they may start to consume some leafy greens such as dandelion, rocket, and clover leaves. This is good for them. But they will only eat vegetation, if they are fed insects less frequently. By around a year old insects need only be fed to the dragons around three times a week. It's very important to ensure any insects used are first fed for 24 hours on a variety of green leafy matter, other vegetables or fruits. Live food should be dusted with calcium dust daily and nutrobal weekly.

Please note that this is only an introductory guide based on our opinions and experience, we advise you to continually research and learn as much as possible from as many sources as you can, every animal is different and new care and information is always being developed and found 😊