

Collared Lizard

Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff

Crotaphytus

Quick Stats: Collared Lizard

Family: Iguanidae

Origin: Central USA through Central America

Size: 6 - 12 inches as adults

Diet: Crickets, mealworms, grubs, waxworms, and earthworms

Water: Provide in a shallow bowl containing small stones

Terrarium: A 20 gallon aquarium with plenty of hiding places

Substrate: Gravel and rocks

Decoration: Rocks and caves; provide sufficient number of hiding areas

Lighting: Full spectrum fluorescent with UVB; incandescent bulb for heating

Temperatures: A gradient of 70-85°F by night; a gradient of 75-90°F by day, with a basking area

Compatibility: Can be paired, with ample space

Sexing: Males are bigger and more colorful, usually with a brightly colored throat

Cautions: Collared lizards can inflict serious wounds to an inexperienced handler

The color of Collared Lizards can vary from tan and brown to brilliant greens and blues. They need a large habitat with a substrate of gravel and rocks, and many hiding places. Their average life span is 5 - 8 years.

They eat mainly insects, crickets, mealworms, grubs, waxworms, and earthworms. Larger lizards may eat pinkie or small adult mice. They will also eat certain fruits and vegetables; feed those higher in calcium, such as mustard greens, collard greens, papaya and mango. To provide water, use shallow bowl with pebbles in it. This will prevent live foods from drowning in the bowl and the lizards can access the water easily.