





Scarlet Macaw

Fact File

- This parrot lives in the wild in Central and South America. It likes to live in undisturbed rainforests, where it nests in holes in trees.
- Its beak is shaped for eating seeds, fruits, nuts and berries. It also eats flowers and nectar, as well as unripe fruit and nuts.
- Its numbers are decreasing as its rainforest home is being lost. Wild macaws were also captured as pets, but this is now illegal.

Talk about...

PARROTS

What features do parrots have?

Parrots are a group of birds that come from warm, tropical places. They all have claws, strong curved beaks and an upright body.

What features do birds have in common?

Birds are warm-blooded (they can control their body temperature). They have feathers, two wings and two legs, and they lay eggs. Most birds fly, but some are flightless, such as the penguin.

Can parrots really talk?

Parrots don't talk but copy the noises they hear around them.

This card links to Lesson Plan 1 on your USB stick.

DO IT!

- Set up a bird-feeding station in your school grounds, perhaps with a webcam. What kinds of birds visit? Notice how they feed and the shapes of their beaks.
- Make a rainforest treetop scene, e.g. use strips of tissue paper to make foliage, cut out parrot shapes from red card and add strips of brightly coloured paper as feathers.
- Make a big world map and indicate where the tropics are. Look on the internet for pictures of parrots, print them and stick them on the map to show where they live.

Look
out for this
animal in the
**Monkey & Bird
Garden** at
**Chessington
Zoo**