

## Species Fact Sheet



**REPTILES** <http://www.peoriazoo.org/reptiles.html>

### Green Iguana

*Iguana iguana*

**Peoria Zoo Exhibit** Historic Entry Building

<http://www.peoriazoo.org/exhibits.html>

**Habitat:** Arboreal-lives in trees- and often found near water

**Range:** Native to Northern Mexico, through Central America and the Caribbean Islands down to Brazil  
Has been introduced to the southern United States

**Activity Cycle:** Diurnal– active during the day

**Size:** Length: between 4-6 feet with tails making up half its body length  
Weight: 8-13 pounds

**Social Structure:** Solitary  
Occasionally seen in groups to share basking spots

**Distinguishing Features:** Come in many shades of green, from bright to dull grayish-green.

Long fingers and claws allow them to climb and grasp  
Long tail that can be used for defense  
Skin is water resistant and tough

**Diet:** Primarily herbivores– eating leaves, flowers, fruits, and growing shoots of plants and occasionally insects and eggs

**Life Span:** 12-15 years

### ***Did you know?***

***Male iguanas have a special flap of skin under their chin called a dewlap.***

***It's used to make them appear bigger to intimidate predators and impress females.***