

Daily Routine For Budgerigars & Grass Parrots

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EXERCISE

Before releasing your bird for flight in the home open the cage and ask him to step up onto your finger or hand. Then allow supervised free flight whilst mixing supplements into the seed mix and drinking water. Free flight involves time out of the cage where your bird flies but returns to your shoulder or onto the top of the cage to play.

BREAKFAST

The seed mix is best provided in a dish on the floor of the cage as wild budgerigars are ground feeders. For extra foraging stimulation camouflage the seed under fresh eucalypt or acacia leaves.

BATHING

In warm weather a shallow bathing dish can be provided to stimulate bath activity, which is a highly energetic process. Clean feathers maintain lustre and are easy to groom.

RETURN TO CAGE FOR FORAGING/REST

When you are not at home your budgerigar must be inside the cage. Fresh branches are provided for chewing activities and camouflaged treats encourage foraging activity and entertainment.

In the wild, this is a time when budgerigars rest quietly in trees talking to each other. If at home, this is an ideal time to talk to your bird and teach it new words.

EXERCISE & TRAINING

Between mid and late afternoon release your bird from its cage and allow supervised free flight. This is a time when wild budgerigars fly in search of food. It is a time when your bird will enjoy flying and playing games.

DINNER

Remove any remaining seed treats and millet sprays and place the morning's seed dish on the cage floor. Situate the cage alongside the family dinner table.

EVENING SOCIALISING

Your bird may like to sit on your shoulder to socialise following the evening meal. Evening socialising involves talking and interacting with your bird and "winding down" for the day. This is a bonding time that strengthens your bird's sense of trust.

ROOSTING/ BEDTIME

Remove all foodstuff from the cage and implement nightly bedtime routine.

What to Provide

Supervised flight

Seed mix remains in the cage during the day

Set up foraging treats (millet sprays & seed treats)

Toys for each day

Fresh branches

Bathing bowl if appropriate

Supervised flight

Singing/dancing
Exercise

Shared meal with humans

Social interaction

Remove all food from cage overnight

Weekly Routine for Budgerigars & Grass Parrots

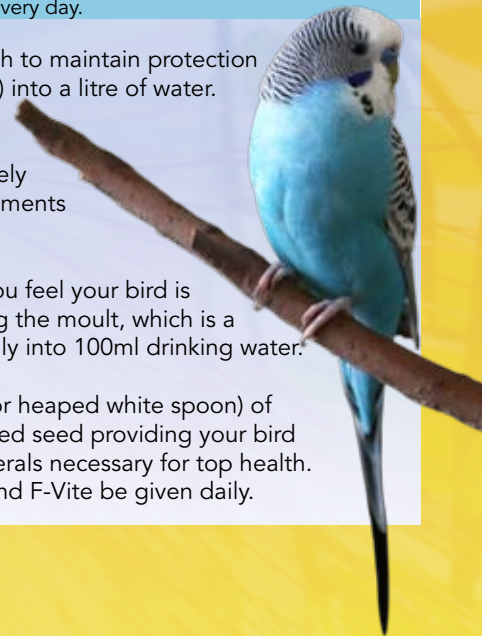
	Add to Drinking Water	Mix into Sterile Food	Ongoing Health Care
Day 1	KD Powder ¹	Turbobooster, E-Powder & F-Vite ⁴	Lice & Mite Protection: S76 should be administered in the drinking water every month during summer and each three months during the cooler seasons. Add 0.5ml of S76 into 100ml drinking water and leave for two days. A lice and mite spray (AIL) should be applied on the same days
Day 2	Dufoplus & Ioford ²	Turbobooster, E-Powder & F-Vite ⁴	
Day 3	Dufoplus & Ioford ²	Turbobooster, E-Powder & F-Vite ⁴	
Day 4	Fresh water	Fresh seed ⁵	Worm Protection: Gentle Wormer should be administered in the drinking water each three months. Add 3ml of Gentle Wormer into 100ml drinking water and leave for two days. ^{3 & 5} Moult Support: Between December and March Quik Gel is added to drinking water for 2 days a week and Turbobooster, E-Powder & F-Vite mixed into the seed every day.
Day 5	Quik Gel ³	Fresh seed ⁵	
Day 6	Quik Gel ³	Fresh seed ⁵	
Day 7	Fresh water	Fresh seed ⁵	

¹ KD Powder is given in the drinking water for one day a week acting as a mouth and crop wash to maintain protection from environmental germs. It is made up by adding 1/4 teaspoon (1gm or a level white spoon) into a litre of water. The drinking vessel is filled from this litre and the remainder is used to clean out the cage.

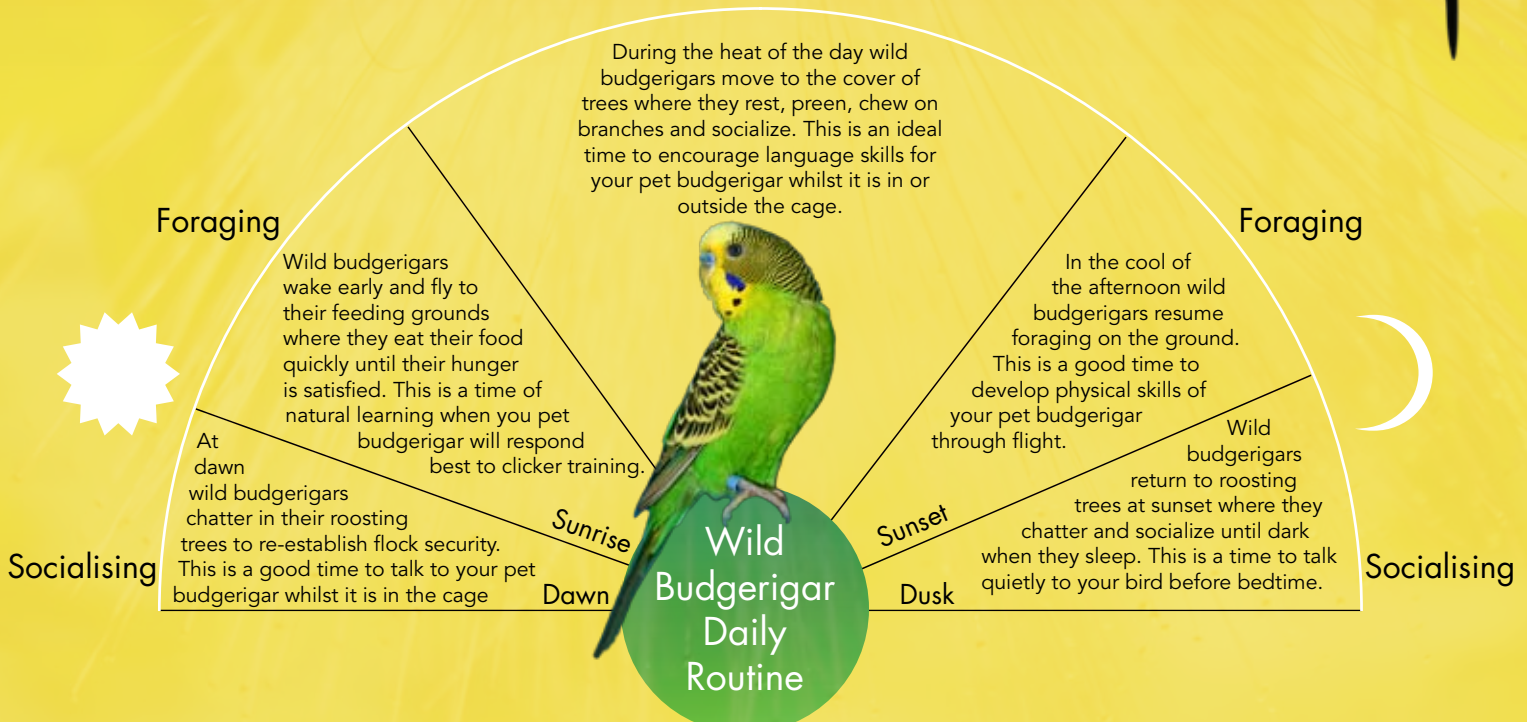
² Dufoplus (5 drops) & Ioford (10 drops) are mixed together in 100ml of drinking water and safely left for two days as they are sugar free. Dufoplus and Ioford provide the vitamins and trace elements necessary for good health but which are missing from a seed diet.

³ Quik Gel provides an immediate energy boost to your bird and should be given whenever you feel your bird is tired or unwell. Quik Gel is also given for two consecutive days a week to protect health during the moult, which is a period when many budgerigars fall ill. Quik Gel is prepared by mixing 1 drop (0.1ml) thoroughly into 100ml drinking water.

⁴ 6 drops of Turbobooster is mixed thoroughly into 100gm of seed, then 1/4 teaspoon (1 gm or heaped white spoon) of E-Powder and F-Vite are mixed into it. These powders stick to the Turbobooster oil impregnated seed providing your bird with additional energy and together provide the required balance of protein, vitamin and minerals necessary for top health. For some birds, and during the moult Dr Marshall may recommend Turbobooster, E-Powder and F-Vite be given daily.



Rest & Leisure



An understanding of the budgerigar's behaviour in the wild helps us to gain a better understanding of the needs and true potential of the pet budgerigar.