



# Sulfur Crested Cockatoo

*Cacatua galerita*

**Description:** This medium sized bird is white in color and has a brilliant yellow crest on top of its head. This plume is usually slicked back but will puff up when trying to communicate or express emotions. Their wings also have yellow underneath.

**Habitat:** They are found in forests and tropical climates.

**Range:** Cockatoos are found in the western part of Australia and New Zealand.

**Life Span:** Their average life span is 80 years

**Natural Diet:** In the wild, they are seed and nut eaters, also eating various fruits and vegetables.

**Zoo Diet:** At the zoo they are given a diet of commercial parrot food. Then they have a supplement of fresh produce, nuts and seeds.



**Behavior:** They are social flock birds and use very loud calls to communicate, along with their plume. Using their crest, they will bob their head and "dance" to express different emotions and behaviors. They love to play and have a gentle temperament. Cockatoos have the ability to mimic sounds and are very popular in the pet trade.

**Reproduction:** A typical nest has about 3 eggs a year. They will commonly nest in eucalypts trees. Both male and female will care for the hatchlings until they are able to fly and feed alone.



**Conservation Status:** Least Concern

**Z**Amarillo  
**ZOO**