MEET THEM AT PLUMPTON PARK ZOO

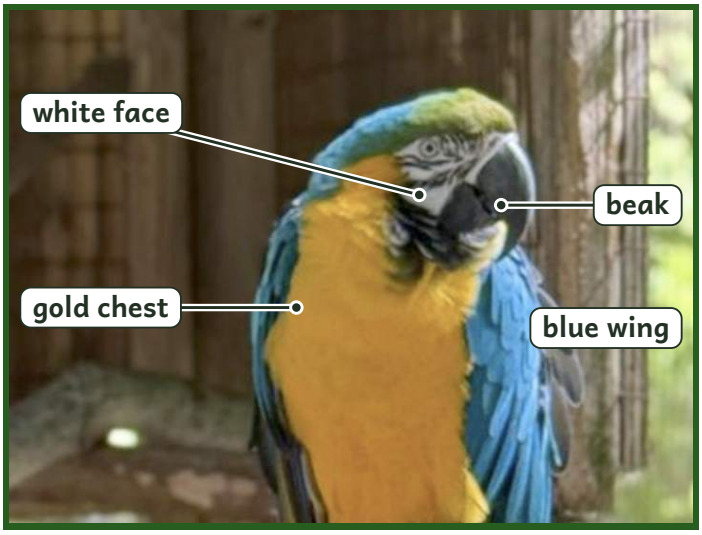
BLUE-AND-GOLD MACAW

Ara ararauna

GRADES K–2

Teacher & Student Fact Sheet · © 2026 Plumpton Park Zoological Gardens Inc.
Teachers may copy and share this sheet freely as long as they credit Plumpton Park Zoo.

Teachers: read this page aloud, one part at a time (about 5 minutes). Children follow along and say the bold words.



A macaw at our zoo.

Its body

A macaw is a bright bird.
It has blue wings.
Its chest is golden yellow.
Its strong beak cracks nuts.

Its home (habitat)

It lives in South America.
It lives in forests.
Danny and Maggie live at our zoo.



■ Lives in parts of this area ★ Plumpton Park Zoo, Rising Sun, MD

Its food

It eats fruit and nuts.
It eats seeds too.

Its babies (life cycle)

A baby macaw is a **chick**.
It hatches from an egg.
The nest is a hole in a tree.
Both parents raise the young.

Fun facts

Each macaw's face lines are different.
Its face can turn pink!
It has 2 toes in front and 2 in back.

Words to know

chick: a baby bird
beak: a bird's hard mouth
hatch: to come out of an egg

Talk about it

1. How does a macaw use its beak?
2. Who cares for the chicks?
3. What makes each macaw's face special?

Learn more: plumptonparkzoo.org/birds/blue-and-gold-macaw/ · **Sources:** World Parrot Trust; Animal Diversity Web; IUCN Red List.
Supports Maryland and Delaware (NGSS) and Pennsylvania (STEELS) standards: K-LS1-1 (3.1.K.A) · 1-LS1-2 (3.1.1.B)
Plumpton Park Zoo · 1416 Telegraph Rd, Rising Sun, MD 21911 · (410) 658-6850 · plumptonparkzoo.org · a 501(c)(3) nonprofit zoo · Photo: Plumpton Park Zoo

BLUE-AND-GOLD MACAW

Before and after your visit

GRADES K–2

Page 2 of the blue-and-gold macaw fact sheet for grades K–2 · **© 2026 Plumpton Park Zoological Gardens Inc.**
Teachers may copy and share this sheet freely as long as they credit Plumpton Park Zoo.

Name _____ **Date** _____

Before you visit · 5 minutes

What do you think? Circle **YES** or **NO**.

1. A macaw has blue feathers. **YES** **NO**
2. A macaw lives on the ice. **YES** **NO**
3. Both parents raise the chicks. **YES** **NO**
4. All macaw faces look the same. **YES** **NO**

At the zoo · with a partner

Check each one you see.

- ☐ blue wings
- ☐ gold chest
- ☐ white face
- ☐ beak
- ☐ green head
- ☐ toes

What is it doing? Circle one.

eating climbing flying

After your visit · 10 minutes

Draw a macaw. Color its wings, chest and head.

Draw here

A macaw has a _____

I learned that _____

ADJUST IT Kindergarten: read everything aloud; children talk and draw, and an adult writes their words. **Grade 2:** children read page 1 on their own. **Grades 3–5:** use the regular blue-and-gold macaw sheet on Teacher Resources. **Second source:** read about this animal in your class database or a library book too, then ask what both said and what was new. **No zoo trip?** Check off what you can find in the photo on page 1. **Answers:** 1 yes, 2 no, 3 yes, 4 no.

Learn more: plumptonparkzoo.org/birds/blue-and-gold-macaw/ · Page 1 of this sheet has the words and picture this page refers to.
Science, grades K–1: Maryland and Delaware (NGSS): K-LS1-1 · 1-LS1-2 · Pennsylvania (STEELS): 3.1.K.A · 3.1.1.B
Reading and writing, grade 1: Maryland and Delaware: RI.1.1 · RI.1.7 · RI.1.9 · W.1.8 · Pennsylvania: CC.1.2.1.B · CC.1.2.1.G · CC.1.2.1.I · CC.1.4.1.W
Plumpton Park Zoo · 1416 Telegraph Rd, Rising Sun, MD 21911 · (410) 658-6850 · plumptonparkzoo.org · a 501(c)(3) nonprofit zoo