

# personal english



## Animal #32

### *Fringed-Necked Lizard*

The fringed-necked lizard – the only member of the genus **Chlamydosaurus** – is a species of lizard found mainly in northern **Australia** and southern **New Guinea**. It is named after the large frill around its neck, which usually stays folded against the lizard's body. This ruff of skin, which is supported by long spines of cartilage connected to the jaw bones, serves the purpose of **startling predators** when the lizard feels frightened. Upon feeling attacked, in effect, the fringed lizard spreads out its frill to foster the impression of being larger in size, gapes its mouth, raises its body, and sometimes it also holds its tail above it with a view to looking convincingly threatening. Other than the discouragement of predators, the lizard uses this reaction for **territorial displays** as well as during **courtship** in the mating season. The fringed lizard is largely **arboreal**, and spends the majority of time in the trees; its diet consists chiefly of insects and small vertebrates. It is capable of **bipedal locomotion** and has been described as regularly moving in this manner with a purposeful stride at times by naturalists.



Click on the Pictures for Three **VIDEOS** on This Animal