

# “Manni” the Green Iguana

## General Green Iguana Information

### **Scientific Name**

*Iguana iguana*

### **Size/Weight**

Can reach 7 feet. Weight: Up to 20 lbs.

### **Life Span**

20+ years.

### **Range**

Green iguanas range from southern Mexico to central Brazil, Paraguay, Bolivia, and the Caribbean.

### **Diet**

Leaves, flowers, fruit, and upwards of 100 species of plants.

### **Breeding**

Female iguanas can lay clutches of 20-70 eggs once per year. Once laid, the eggs are given no parental protection and must survive 10-15 weeks before hatching.

### **Population Status**

Even with the pet trade and being consumed for food, the wild iguana population is classified as stable.

### **Survival Tools**

Iguanas possess some amazing survival tools. Their whip-like tail can deliver a powerful blow to ward off predators but can also break off to allow for an escape. Under ideal conditions they re-grow the tail is possible. The large flap of skin under their chin, called a dewlap, is used to help make iguanas appear larger to frighten off predators, as well as for mating. They also have a third eye, located on the top of their head. This eye can't see images but is sensitive to changes in light and can detect predators lurking above.

### **About Manni**

Manni is a recent arrival to the Greenburgh Nature Center. He was donated when his original owners couldn't properly care for an iguana his size. At 9 years of age, Manni is 5 feet long and weighs about 4 pounds. Iguanas are arboreal, meaning they spend most of their lives in trees, so Manni is usually found perched on the tree branches in his enclosure. He gets fed a salad composed of greens, fruits, and vegetables once a day. His salads typically look so appetizing, it's not uncommon for our visitors to comment on how they wouldn't mind a salad just like his. Though Manni is new to the GNC, he has quickly become one of our most popular animals due to his large size and prehistoric appearance.



Greenburgh Nature Center, 99 Dromore Road, Scarsdale, NY 10583

[www.greenburghnaturecenter.org](http://www.greenburghnaturecenter.org)