

# The Australian Parrot



# The Curious Case of the Growing Beak:



The Australian parrot species saw their beak size increase by **4% to 10%** since 1871. Larger beaks help birds get rid of excess body heat, as global temperatures rise. Blood flow can be sent to the bill (beak) when the bird is hot. Scientific evidence shows that birds with smaller beaks are less likely to survive hotter summers. Some birds may have to maintain a particular diet, which means they cannot change their beak shape.