



## Video transcript

### Blue tongue lizard health

How would you pick up on the health of an animal? Over time when you actually own the animal. It's just using it and picking it up every day you would understand how healthy it is or if there's something wrong with it. It's a bit like ourselves if you hear a sniffle or see a discharge then obviously your animal's not healthy. Talking about them sloughing as well. If the environment or the condition you have set up isn't appropriate he may not be able to slough properly. You'll start seeing evidence of this around his toes. He may not be able to shed that layer of skin off his toes and then what it can do is act like an elastic band and start constricting the blood flow in his toes and eventually his toes will drop off. So, you need to make sure that he is sloughing or shedding his skin correctly. If he's not you need to at your set up and just ensure that everything is okay especially if it's an outdoor exhibit. You want to make sure that you're providing them with enough heat. The easiest way to know if your Blue Tongue has mites or ticks is they are quite visible. Ticks often sit in or around the ears or even around the eyes or the mouth, they're the easiest places for them to attach. And they do get quite large if they've been sucking the blood so you'll see them quite readily. If you do get ticks they can be removed the same as a human. If you're a little unsure and not happy with removing ticks they can be taken to the vet and a vet's quite able to remove ticks. Mites are the same, you should be able to see them, they're quite small, they're probably more like a flea-like. But if you're picking up your animal every day you should be able to see mites. The other thing to do is to check things like their faeces. So, if you have a healthy lizard the faeces should look quite healthy, so just well-formed usually in a brown colour and shouldn't have any mites or anything moving around in the faeces. Again, if you have any concerns a quick trip to a local vet. A lot of vets know how to care for Blue Tongue Lizards, they do come into their vet clinics quite often.