**Indian Ringneck Bluffing**

Some ringnecks go through a stage called bluffing. This simply means the parrot starts to get a bit aggressive after weaning. Usually this behavior happens suddenly and can last a few weeks or months. During this time, the owner should handle the bird with confidence and completely ignore any aggressive behavior. The ringneck owner should not place the bird on their shoulders during this time as facial bites will occur. It is important to note that the degree of bluffing depends on the birds and it is nothing but a phase. As quickly as this aggressive behavior appears, it will quickly dissipate.

The owner should not tell the bird to stop biting, yell at it or giving it eye contact. It is best to simply ignore the behavior. Should the bird go beyond the bluff and bite stage, the owner should simply move their hand back and continue working with the bird while ignoring bad behavior.

Yelling, shaking, or spraying the bird with water is not a good remedy as this only develops a mean and frightened bird. Indian Ringnecks do not understand this type of punishment. Resorting to those cruel tactics will only result in the bird becoming fearful of all humans and this could lead to excessive biting.

It important to note this bluffing stage is a trait that helps young Indian Ringnecks compete for food once they are independent juveniles. Most adult ringnecks will avoid any confrontation with a bluffing juvenile that appear hyper-aggressive and mean.