



University
of Glasgow



**PARROT
KINDERGARTEN**
STOP GUESSING, START TALKING!



Massachusetts
Institute of
Technology

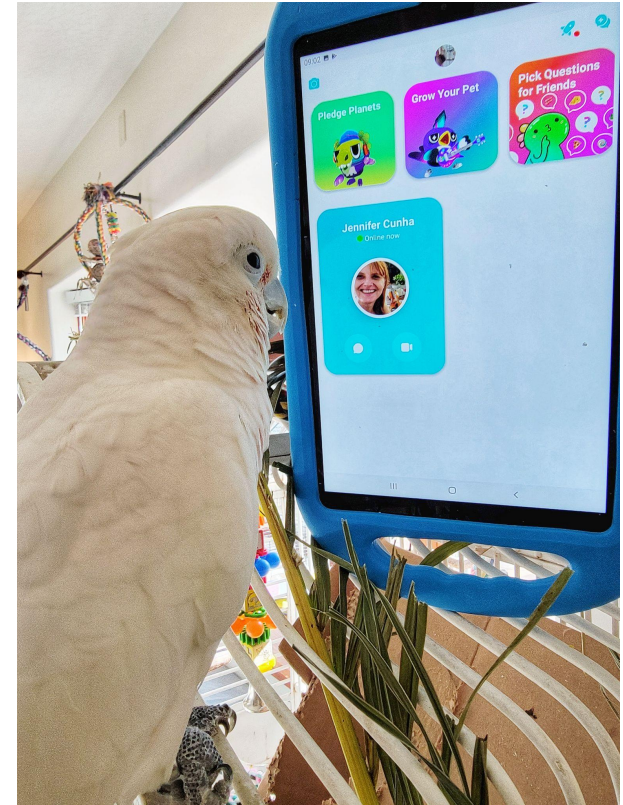
Parrot Interaction Study



Contact us anytime at parrotstudy@media.mit.edu

Agenda

- 1) Study Overview
 - a) Meet Your Research Team
 - b) Our Goal
 - c) Big Picture
 - d) Materials
- 2) How the Study Works
 - a) Getting Started
 - b) Meeting New Friends
 - c) Open Calling
- 3) What's Next?
 - a) Consent Form
 - b) Doodle Schedule
 - c) Practice Video...



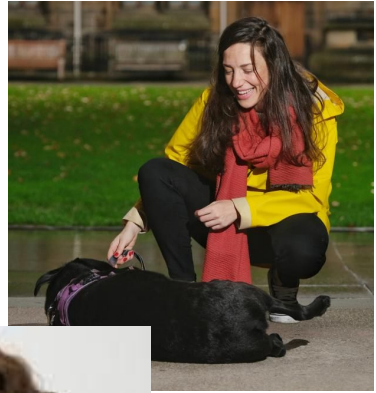
Your Research Team

Meet The Team!

Ilyena Hirskyj-Douglas, Ph.D.

Rébecca Kleinberger, Ph.D.

Jennifer Cunha, J.D.



Study Overview

GOAL

The goal of this project is to observe birds' responses to technology that allows them to interact with other birds.

For instance, what does their behavior look like? Do they like using the technology? Do they ask to “call” one another? How often? And what does that look like?

BIG PICTURE

- Next week, participants will register and get all set up.
 - You'll send in an example video so we can make sure you're all good to go!
- During July 4-14, each bird will meet three other “friends” through two playdate sessions per bird. The birds will learn to ring a bell and to select their friend button, and then you'll facilitate the call.
 - This way they learn that ringing a bell and selecting their friend results in an interaction
- During July 14-July 31, you'll have 3-hour windows, 4 times per week during which you will try to be available for your birds to trigger calls by ringing their bell.

GROUP COMPOSITION

- We have pre-selected several groups. Some are mixed-species, and some are same-species. Each group will be composed of four “friends”.
- Based on your schedule, we will do our best to match you with others who have the same availabilities.
 - After this meeting you will fill up a doodle with your time availability
 - We will try our best to match you according to species and available time
 - However, if we cannot find others, you may either be placed in a “mix-species” group or you may not have a placement.

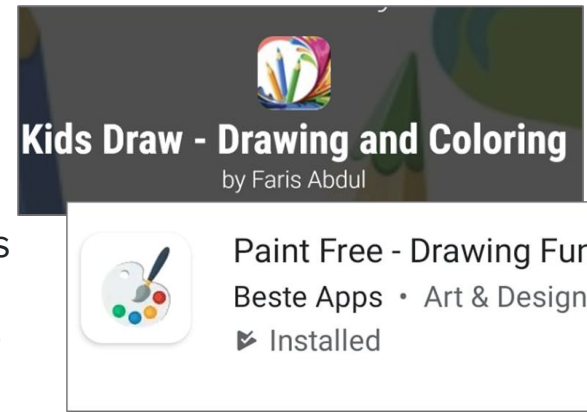
Getting Started

GETTING STARTED

- Consent Form - carefully read and sign the form (feel free to contact us with questions)
 - <need link>
- Doodle Scheduler (mornings - afternoons - evenings)
 - <need link>
- Demo Video (to get a sense of your setup, audio, and make sure you are ready!)
 - <need upload link>
- Please turn these in by TUESDAY, June 28 - feel free to contact us with questions

MATERIALS

- **Tablet or cell phone** (that we will call bird device) your bird feels comfortable, looking/pointing at and touching
- **Tripod or case with kick stand** that allows you to set it down so they can approach and retreat
- **Personal Facebook account** - you'll be in a group chat with the other caregivers in your friend group
- **Facebook Messenger** account with Push Notifications turned on
- **Messenger Kids** app installed on the bird device and account created for your bird
- **Paint App ("Paint Free - Drawing Fun" for android, and "Kids Draw" for apple device)**- installed on the bird device to teach your bird to touch the screen
- **Toy bell** your bird feels comfortable touching
- **Second device (phone or camera)** to record the interactions
- **Tripod** or support to record the sessions with a method to upload file to <link>

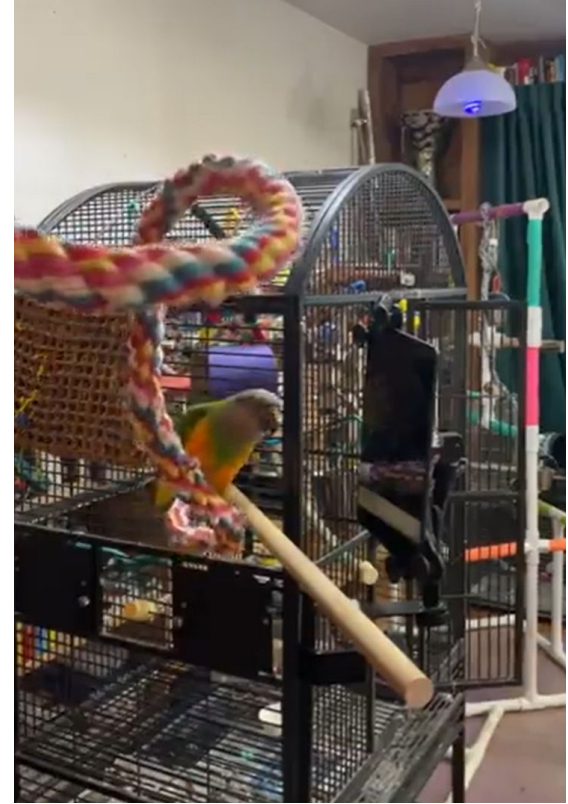


LOCATION SETUP

The “calls” should be done at a location where your bird can come toward/move away from the screen as they feel comfortable, with at least three feet of space for movement. For example:

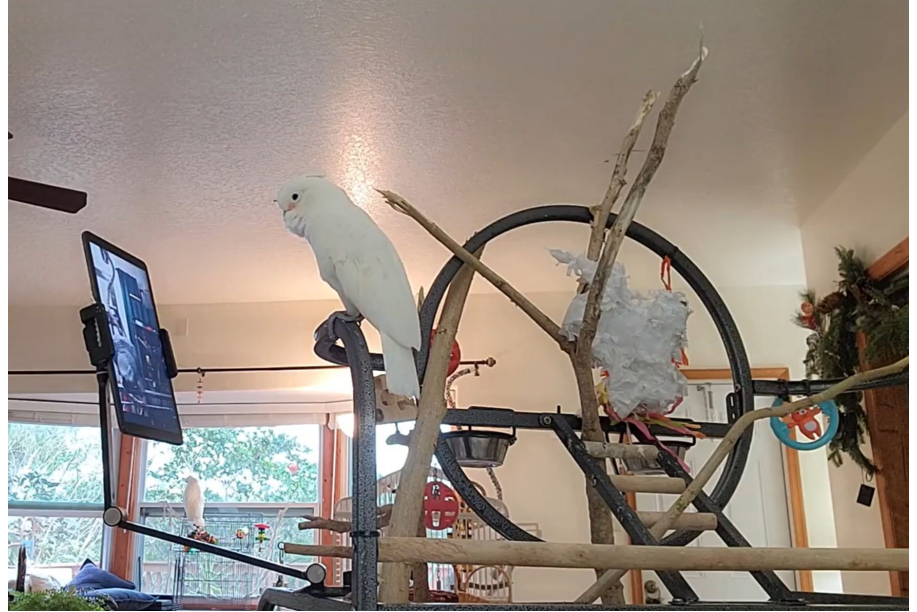
- Their cage area
- A play stand

The selected area should have space to retreat and approach



RECORDING SETUP

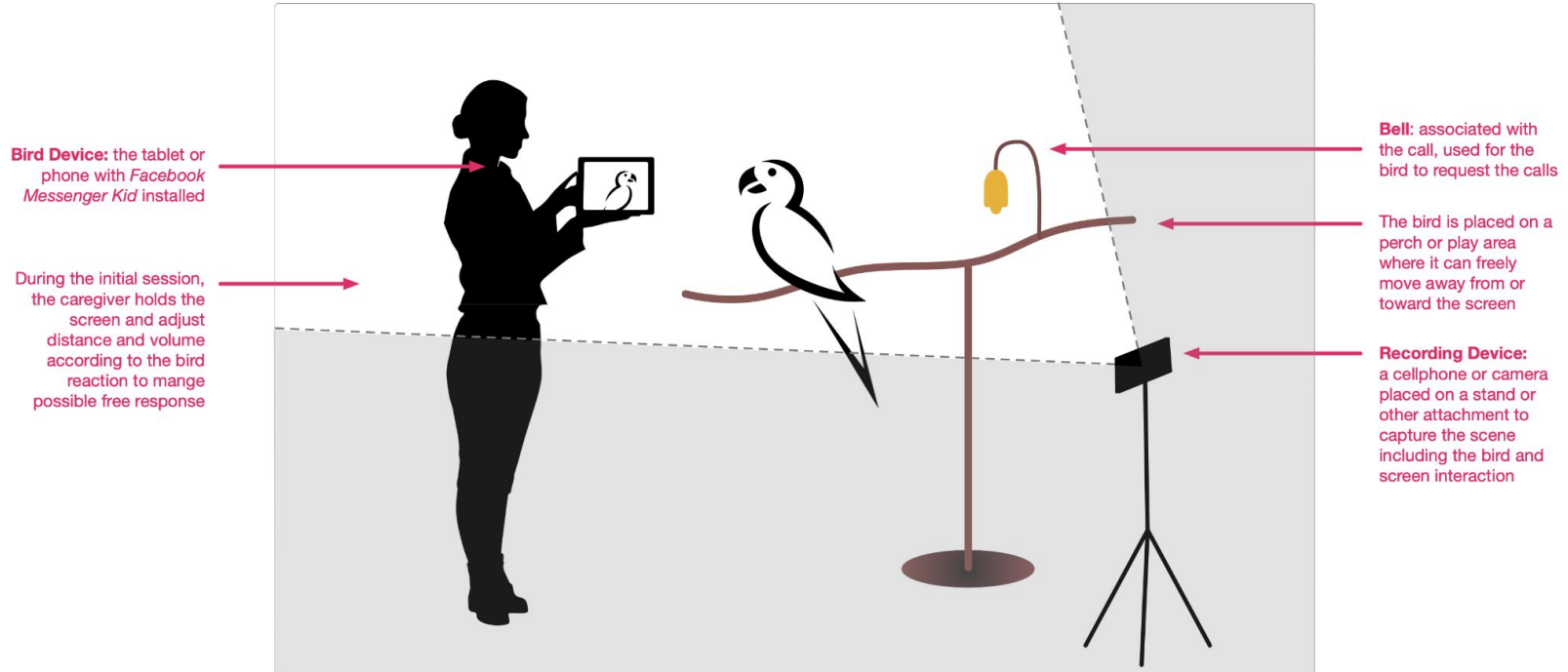
With a second tablet, cell phone, or mp4 recording device, set the device up to record the entire area, preferably such that it records both your parrot as well as the screen.



Illustrations of possible setups

Phase 1 Setup

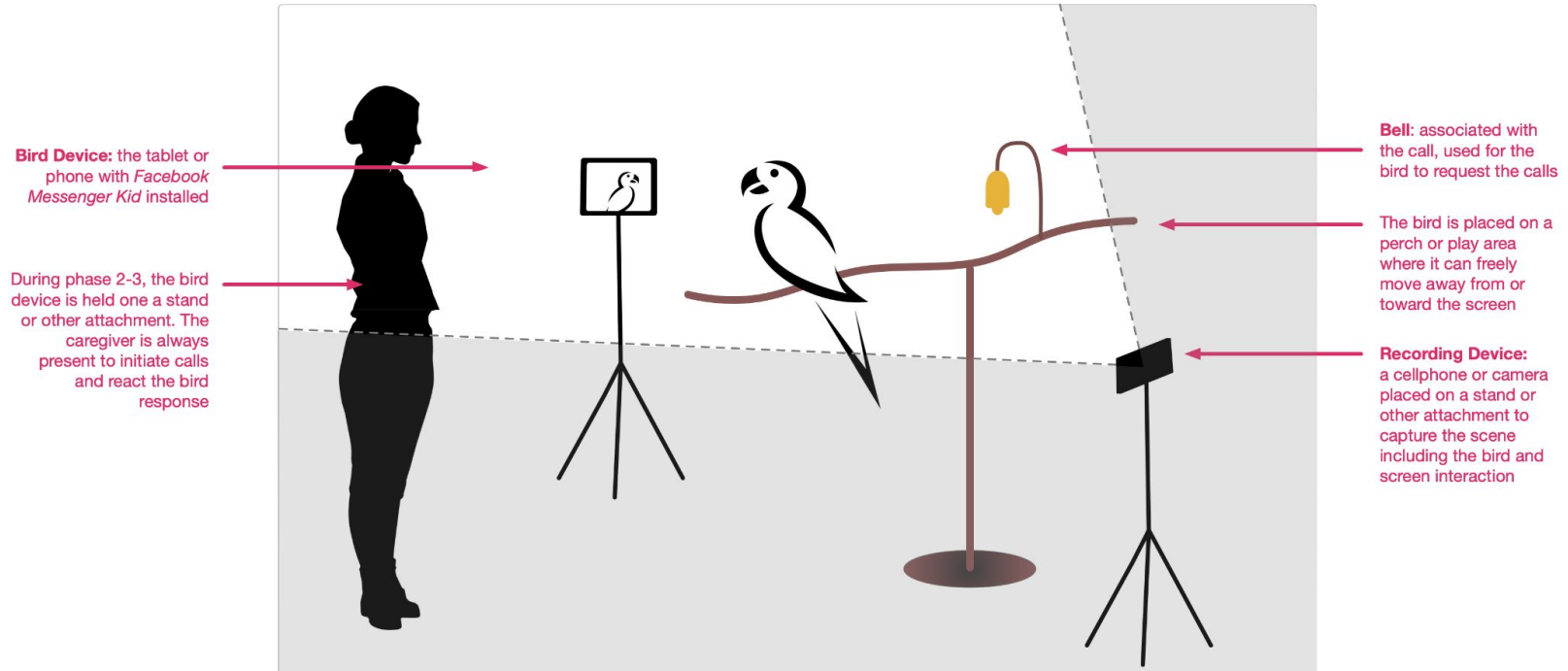
the caregiver holds the *bird device*



Illustrations of possible setups

Phase 2-3 Setup

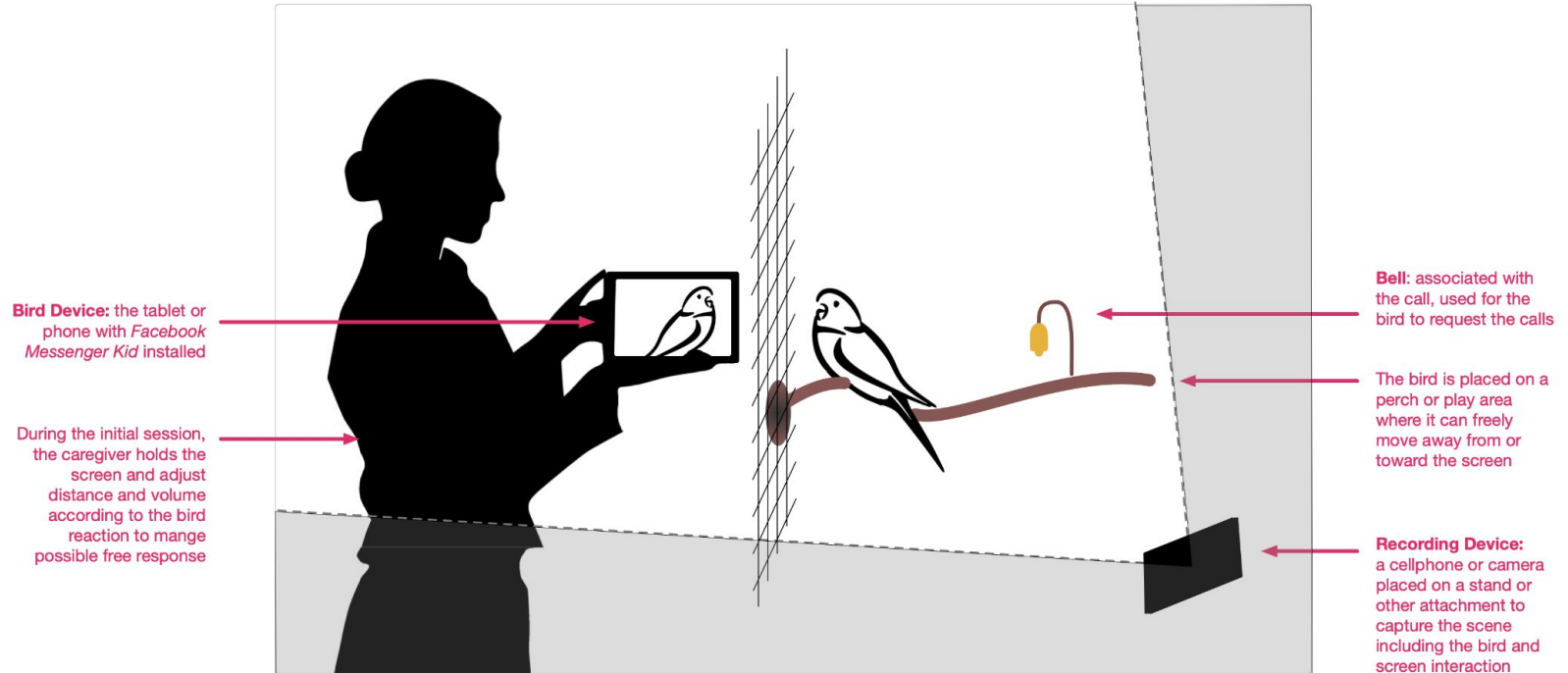
the *bird device* is help on a stand or other attachment



Illustrations of possible setups

Phase 1 Setup

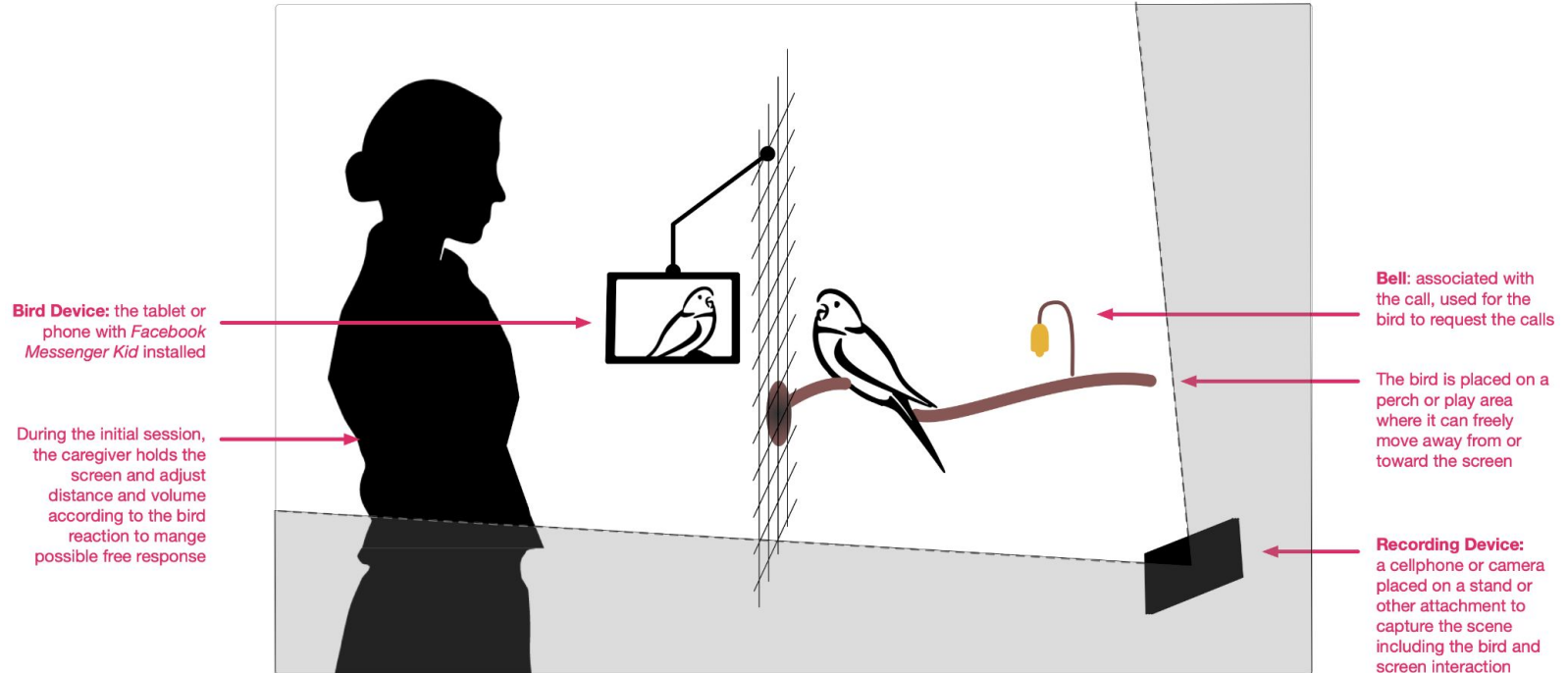
the caregiver holds the *bird device*



Illustrations of possible setups

Phase 2-3 Setup

the *bird device* is help on a stand or other attachment



DEMO VIDEO

Once you have selected your location, get everything set up and make a demo video. This way we can make sure you're ready to meet your First Friend!

- Step 1: Install Messenger Kids on the bird device
 - Create an account for your bird, add their photo and name
- Step 2: Decide on location for your “friend call” setup area
- Step 3: Setup your camera on a stand for recording
 - Make sure it has battery (or is plugged) and has enough memory space for a 15min video
- Step 4: Record a 1-3min demo session of your bird in the setup
 - You will be holding the bird device with the screen on, stand about 3ft from the bird (it doesn't matter what is on the screen)

Parrot Behaviors

Parrot Body Language

- For the study, we don't want to force the bird to do anything!
- Make sure to always be aware of your bird body language to be able to slow down, or stop the interaction any time your bird becomes uncomfortable.
 - To give you a sense, we have run a pilot with 5 birds,
 - Two of the birds reacted really well and still call each others months after the study,
 - One bird didn't show any interest and after trying for four sessions we stopped
 - One bird seemed scared of the screen, we tried gently to get him used to the bird interaction, took things very slow and in the end he showed some interest and benefits and participated in some interactions
 - One bird was frightened and after several opportunities to interact, we stopped
- The birds should always have the freedom to move away and 'opt-out' of the interaction
- You know your bird the best: Your safety and your bird's wellbeing is essential, please use caution and ensure safety interacting with the screen and with bird aggression behavior.

Parrot Body Language

- **Comfort:** The bird displays “soft feathers” (i.e., not sleeked or erect) and is either stationary or moving/leaning toward the screen
- **Aggressive:** The bird’s feathers are erect and the bird is moving toward the screen and exhibiting sharp lunging movements with an open beak
- **Fear:** The bird fans its tail, feathers are sleek and flattened, or the bird leans backward, moves backward, or flies away

Examples: Comfort



Example: Comfort



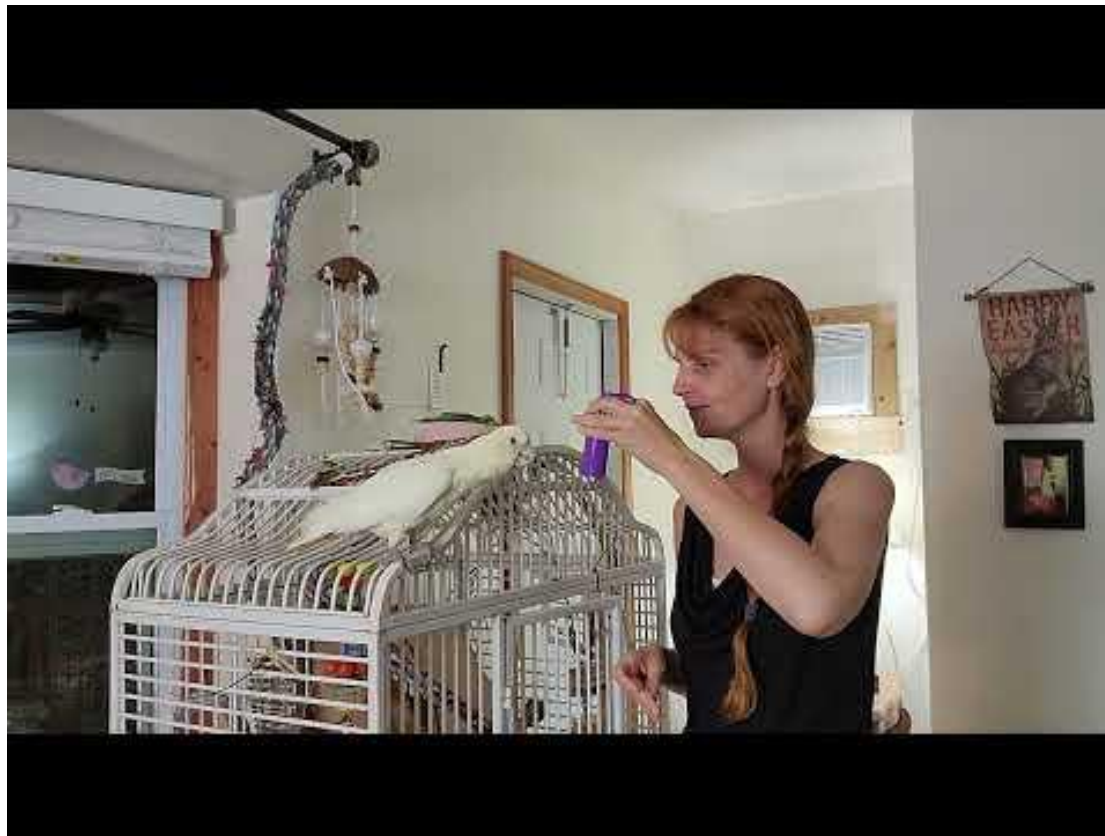
Examples: Comfort



Examples: Discomfort



Examples: Getting Comfy with New Objects



Parrot Body Language

Responses to Parrot Body Language during Friend Meetings:

- **Comfort:** The parrot has the opportunity to move toward the screen OR the screen presentation is brought slowly closer to the bird – as long as the comfort behavior maintains. Present the screen 6” from small-medium parrots and 12” from large-extra large parrots.
- **Aggressive:** As long as caregivers are safe and the screen is protected, allow visibility at a distance for up to 3 minutes and observe whether behavior settles into comfort. If the aggressive behavior continues, send us an email at parrotstudy@media.mit.edu
- **Fear:** Maintain a distance between the screen and the parrot such that the parrot is in “interested/aware” mode, but not exhibiting fear responses (this could be up to 9 feet). The parrot should either return to “Calm” behavior or comfort behavior – leaning toward the screen. When the parrot is calm/demonstrating comfort behavior and leaning toward the screen, continue to bring the tablet closer at a slow pace and only as long as the comfort behavior is evident.

Meeting Friends (July 2-12)

MEETING NEW FRIENDS

Once selected, you will receive:

- An email notifying you of your group
- A Facebook “friend” request from the researchers
- A Facebook group chat introducing you to your bird’s “First Friend” (and subsequent friends)

On or before July 5, in the Facebook Group Chat, schedule a meeting with your bird’s “First Friend” by Tuesday, July 5.

In the group, you’ll each exchange info and set up your First Friend contacts. Your bird will meet each friend two (2) times, and then meet the next friend - a total of three friends.

MEETING NEW FRIENDS



Reminders

BIG PICTURE

- Next week, participants will register and get all set up.
 - You'll send in a video so we can make sure you're all good to go!
- During July 1-12, each bird will meet three other "friends" through 2 playdate sessions per bird. The birds will learn to ring a bell and to touch their friend button, and then you'll facilitate the call.
 - This way they learn that ringing a bell and selecting their friend results in an interaction
- During July 12-July 31, you'll have 3-hour windows during which time the birds can ring a bell and ask to call each other.

GETTING STARTED

- Online Consent Forms
 - <need link>
- Doodle Scheduler
 - <need link>
- Demo Video
 - <need upload link>
- Please turn these in by TUESDAY, June 28



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