

# Blue



Favorite song: Froggie Went A'Courtin'

Favorite game: Leap frog

## Blue's Interests

Fairy princesses

Catching ants and other insects; lush, tropical forests

Saving the environment, fighting global warming, biodiversity

Making poison darts (LOL)

Traveling around and teaching people about the amphibian crisis. See, there's this fungus, called Chytrid (pronounced kit-rid) that's going around and it's killing us. This Chytrid epidemic—not to mention water pollution and disappearing habitats—has wiped out so many amphibians, from so many places, that we're in a world-wide amphibian crisis. But my friends and I are trying to let people know how they can help us. If you're interested, stop by the Forest Aviary and find out more.



## "New in Town—Handsome Prince"

Status: Single

Here for: Networking, Friends

Hometown: Mountains of Central America

Body type: I'm a really tiny guy, around 1.5 inches tall

Current address: R.J. Reynolds Forest Aviary

North Carolina Zoo, Asheboro

## Blue's Blurbs

### About me:

New here in Asheboro, want to meet lots of people and share my story. My friends call me Blue—it's short for Blue Poison Dart Frog, or *Dendrobates azureus* if you want the Latin. I can do lots of cool things, like breathe through my skin. When I was a tadpole, I had a tail, but that was before I went through metamorphosis and grew four legs.

Everybody always jokes about me being BLUE. As it happens, I really like being blue, it's the most popular color. Top that off with being charming and good-looking, and no wonder all the girls want to kiss me!

### Who I'd like to meet:

YOU! (Come by my space in the Forest Aviary to meet me and my friends); Prince (of course!); Kermit the Frog

### Music:

Hip Hop; Rhythm and Blues

## Blue's Friends



Panama Golden Frog

*Atelopus zeteki*



Dyeing Poison Dart Frog

*Dendrobates tinctorius*



Bumble Bee Poison Dart Frog

*Dendrobates leucemelas*

# Goldie “Southern Belle—Panama’s Golden Girl”

Status: Single (but looking)

Here for: Representing my friends back in Panama; being an Aviary star

Homeplace: Panama, in Central America

Body type: Petite, slender and shiny as gold

Current address: Box 2; The R.J. Reynolds Aviary at the N.C. Zoo



Favorite song: the soft “tep-tep-tepping” from a handsome male

Favorite book: “Wind in the Willows”

## Goldie’s Interests

Sunshine, warm days, lush tropical forests, adoring admirers

Eating insects—They are so good for my skin: they help make it wonderfully venomous!

Living green and clean; cool waterfalls and warm climates

I happen to be an environmental indicator, a responsibility that I take very seriously. It can, after all, be a matter of life or death. Here at the Zoo, I hope to teach visitors about the dangers of pollution, habitat loss and global warming, and help inspire them—and you!—to help find ways to save my wild friends and relatives. I also intend to stay clear of the Chytrid fungus.

## Goldie’s Nuggets

### It’s all about me:

Let’s face it—I am a diva: *the* Panama Golden Frog (*Atelopus zeteki*). People love me back in Panama! I’m a national symbol, just like the Bald Eagle here. People give pictures of me to everyone, because I’m supposed to bring good luck.

I love it when they wave—male Golden Frogs, that is. They don’t just croak to catch my attention, they wave! And that’s a good thing. Golden Toad guys like to hang out near waterfalls, where the noise can drown out their calls. By the way, I’m a toad as well as a frog—and proud of it.

In the wild, I can pack enough poison (*zeteki-toxin*) to kill 1,000 or so little mice. The toxin keeps their nerves from working; they can’t bite if they can’t breathe! I am so toxic that I can flaunt my bright colors and enjoy the sunshine—or warm rainfall—right out in the open.

### Creatures I’d like to meet:

Jeremiah—a good online friend of mine. But Bullfrogs can carry Chytrid fungus, so we have to keep our friendship virtual. Otherwise, it could end my career as a worldwide representative.

Hellbender—an amphibian that knows how to look tough and still stay out of sight. I hear they sometimes visit the Zoo.

### Music:

¡Salsa! I like the Golden Oldies, too, especially “Panama” and “Jump!”