

Birds USA: Is My Bird Normal?

Find out what our behavior expert has to say

By Sally Blanchard

SMALL BIRDS

New budgie won't say a peep.

Q: I brought home my new budgie, BoBo, yesterday and, while he chirped and squeaked all the way home, he has been mute ever since. Is this normal? I am worried that I have done something or am doing something wrong. He does not appear to be afraid of me and steps up onto my finger readily.

A: Give him some time. It often takes a few days or more for a parrot family bird to be comfortable in a new situation. Vocalization is something that will come as he becomes more familiar with his surroundings. The best way to teach him to talk is to talk to him a lot and label the things that have to do with him.

****For the full article, pick up the 2008 issue of Birds USA or click here to buy the issue.****