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## The Laughing Bird

“Did you know that we are also called Laughing birds?” said the Kookaburra to the little sparrow. “No, really? You’re joking!” said the sparrow surprised. “I’m serious”, the Kookaburra replied. He then continued, “Random fact 1: We can sound exactly like people laughing. Random fact 2: People laugh when we laugh and that’s a bit crazy but funny too. Random fact 3: We especially are very fond of people who are happy, like Penelope. She is cheerful and laughs a lot, and she always tells very interesting facts about all kind of birds.” “Oh yes”, said the sparrow, “Jolanda and Penelope are good friends on Instagram. Jolanda loves her drawings and the interesting information she always writes. I saw you on Instagram, Kookaburra. You always like visiting Penelope”. “And you, little sparrow, you come all the way from Holland. Do they laugh a lot there?” asked the Kookaburra. The sparrow thought of Jolanda, who was cheerful and laughed every day. She would be so pleased to have this Laughing bird in her yard. What a great place to be visiting, together with the Kookaburra in warm and sunny Australia! Nothing more was needed, to have such a happy and cheerful day!!



## The Silk Feather

*“Dear Peacock”, said the little sparrow, “I saw you on Instagram, made by Pepe on a beautiful silk painting. Pepe makes the most beautiful shiny colorful artwork with wire. Jolanda and Pepe are friends on Instagram and Jolanda loves the silk paintings that Pepe makes! Dear Peacock you are so beautiful! You are almost a painting yourself! I wish I was as colorful as you!” “Oh dear sparrow”, said the peacock, “please look at your own feathers, they are so beautiful as well and so warm in color. And your white cheeks are so nice to see and funny too”. The sparrow became very happy with these kind words! The Peacock continued to say, “and as a sign of friendship I give you one of my colored feathers”. The little sparrow was happy with this beautiful gift, a silk feather as a reminder of this fine visit with the silk peacock in Japan.*



