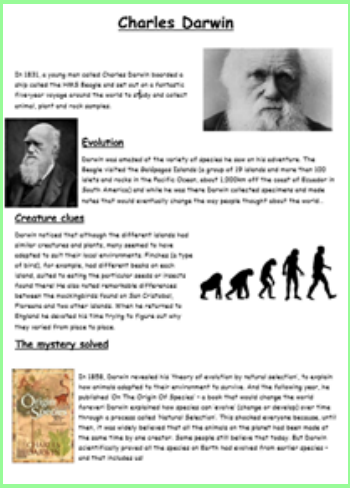
Reading!

LO: To retrieve key information from the text to answer questions.



Charles Darwin

In 1831, a young man called Charles Darwin boarded a ship called the HMS Beagle and set out on a fantastic five-year voyage around the world to study and collect animal, plant and rock samples.

Evolution

Darwin was amazed at the variety of species he saw on his adventure. The Beagle visited the Galápagos Islands (a group of 19 islands and more than 100 islets and rocks in the Pacific Ocean, about 1,000km off the coast of Ecuador in South America) and while he was there Darwin collected specimens and made notes that would eventually change the way people thought about the world.

Creature clues

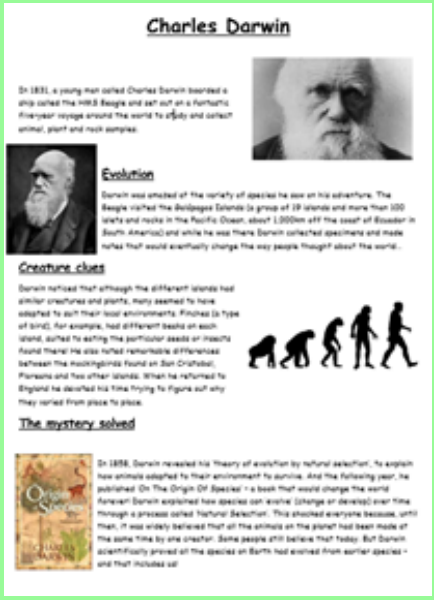
Darwin noticed that although the different islands had similar creatures and plants, many seemed to have adapted to suit their local environments. Finches (a type of bird), for example, had different beaks on each island, suited to eating the particular seeds or insects found there. He also noted remarkable differences between the mockingbirds found on San Cristobal, Floreana and two other islands. When he returned to England he devoted his time trying to figure out why they varied from place to place.

The mystery solved

In 1858, Darwin revealed his theory of evolution by natural selection, to explain how animals adapted to their environment to survive. And the following year, he published 'On The Origin Of Species' – a book that would change the world forever! Darwin explained how species can evolve (change or develop) over time through a process called Natural Selection. This shocked everyone because, until then, it was widely believed that all the animals on the planet had been made at the same time by one creator. Some people still believe that today. But Darwin scientifically proved all the species on Earth had evolved from earlier species – and that includes us!

Brief outline of the text:

Charles Darwin is a famous scientist who lived a long time ago. He came up with an idea called the theory of evolution. This theory has now been proven through the finding of fossils and it shows us how creatures across the world adapt to different situations. We are going to read a short text about Charles Darwin, taken from National Geographic Kids.



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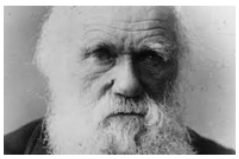
Questions:

1. When did Darwin board the HMS Beagle?
2. What were the groups of islands that The Beagle visited called?
3. What did Darwin notice?
4. What did he devote his time in England to?
5. When did Darwin release his theory?
6. Why did Darwin's theory shock everyone?

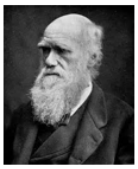
Glossary:

1. boarded - to get onto a mode of transport.
2. voyage – journey
3. samples – small parts of plants or animals, used to find out more information by scientists.
4. variety – lots of different
5. islet – small islands
6. specimens – like samples
7. adapted – changed to survive
8. varied – changed
9. species – type of animal or human

Charles Darwin



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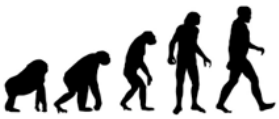


Evolution

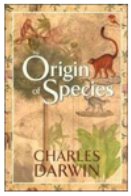
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