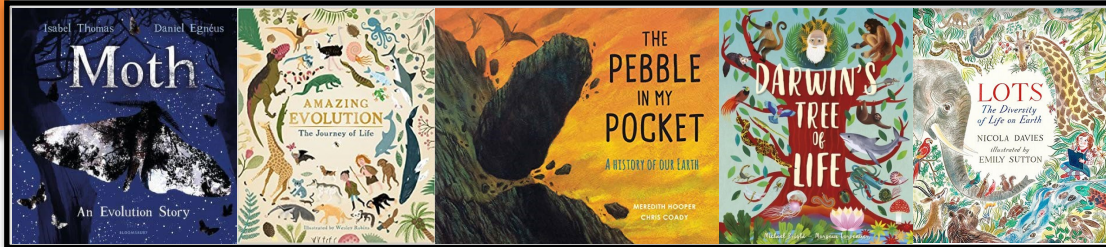


Darwin's delights — Year 6 — Summer 1

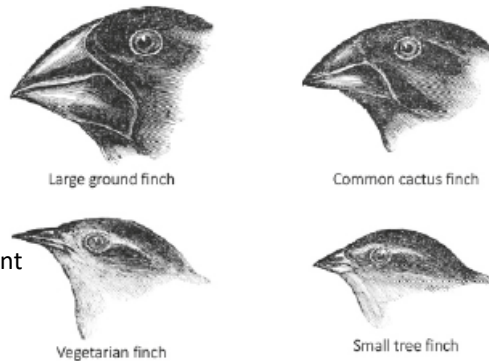
Interesting Books



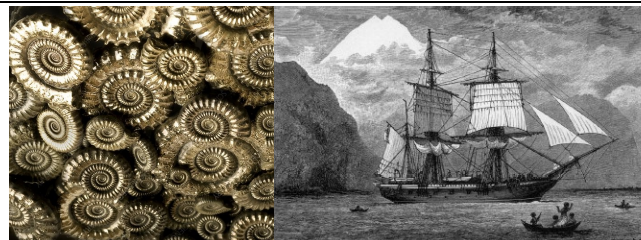
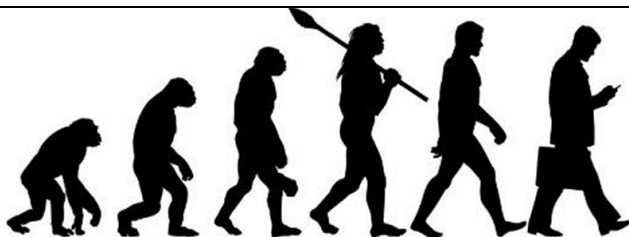
The Route of the HSM Beagle and The Galapagos Islands



On 27th December 1831, HMS Beagle set sail from Plymouth Harbor Captained by Robert FitzRoy. It travelled across the Atlantic Ocean to South America stopping in many places, most famously the Galapagos Islands. The volcanic islands lie 1000km off the west coast of Ecuador. There are 13 main islands with several smaller islands and rocks.



The route taken by HMS Beagle between 1831 and 1836.
Darwin noticed that many species of animals, including land and marine iguanas, the blue-footed booby and the flightless cormorant, were only found on these islands. Darwin also notices several different species of finch that all lived on the Galapagos islands. Each had developed a different type of beak that best suited their diet.

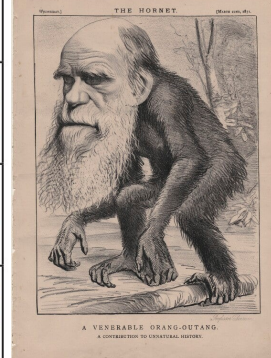
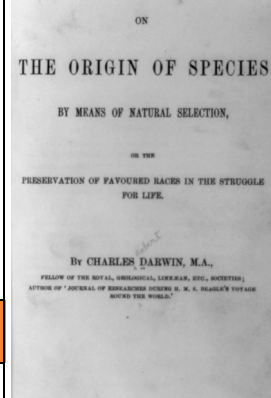
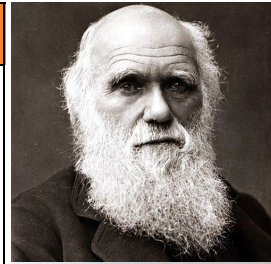


Subject Specific Vocabulary

fossil	Fossils are the preserved remains of ancient animals and plants. They let scientists know how plants and animals used to look millions of years ago and are used to prove that living things have evolved over time.
extinct	An animal or plant species that has died out and is no longer present in the world population such as dinosaurs.
evolution	Evolution is the theory that all the kinds of living things that exist today developed from earlier types through adaptation over time.
adaptation	Adaptation is the process by which animals, plants and other living things have changed so that they better suit their habitat .
adaptive traits	Characteristics that are influenced by the environment the living things live in. There adaptations can develop as a result of many things such as food availability and climate.
natural selection	The process where organisms that are most suited to their environment are more likely to reproduce and in doing so pass on these adaptations to the next generation.
habitat	Refers to a specific area or place in which particular animals and plants can live. A good habitat should provide shelter, water, enough space and plenty of food.
environment	An environment contains many habitats and included areas where there are both living and non-living things. Examples of environment are polar regions, deserts, rainforests, oceans, rivers and grasslands.









Charles Darwin

Charles Darwin (1809-1882) was an English naturalist who is most famous for his theory of **evolution** (ideas about how living things have evolved over time). In 1831, after struggling as a medical student, he left England to go on a 5 year voyage with Captain Robert Fitzroy onboard HMS Beagle. In 1835, at the age of 26, he visited the Galapagos Islands for 5 weeks, after exploring the coasts of South America. During his visit, he noticed that living things on each island were similar, but that they had **adapted** to their **environments**. This led him to wonder how these creatures **evolved**. Darwin took specimens and made copious notes about his adventure, particularly on the HMS Beagle Galapagos Islands, and he used these to develop his theory of **evolution**. His first book On The Origin Of The Species, published in 1859, was controversial and many religious people were shocked that he was suggesting animals and humans shared a common ancestry.



Natural selection

After studying the animals from the Galapagos islands, Darwin came up with the idea that animals **evolve** due to having the characteristics that make them best suited to their environment. He call this 'the survival of the fittest' or 'natural selection'. His idea was that in any **environment**, living things from the same species show natural difference in their characteristics. Darwin suggested that the living things that we best suited to their **environment** were most likely to survive and pass on their characteristics to their offspring. Over a longer period of time, these characteristics can be seen in every animal.

Living Things		Habitat		Adaptive Traits
polar bear		arctic		Its white fur enables it to camouflage in the snow.
camel		desert		It has wide feet to make it easier to walk in the sand.
cactus		desert		It stores water in its stem.
toucan		rainforest		Its narrow tongue allows it to eat small fruit and insects.

English

Key texts:

- What Mr Darwin Saw
- Darwin's Dragons

Writing genres:

- Diary entries
- Biographies

SPaG:

Phrases and clauses, tenses, word classification revision



Maths

Decimals

Place value
Rounding
Four operations with decimals

Position and direction

Translations
Reflections

Statistics

Line graphs
Bar charts
Pie charts

Art

Identify characteristics of different genres of art

Dragon eye artwork

French

Revision of French verbs and questions.

Describing holidays in French

PSHE

Relationships—Understand the importance of looking after mental health, belong to groups and appropriate online relationships

RE

Comparative study: How did it all begin?

Christianity: How can churches help us to understand the Christian belief?

PE

Tennis—coordination and agility

Computing

Understand and using spreadsheets to organise data and create a budget

Music

Classroom arrangement of programme music – *contemporary music*.