

DARWIN & NATURAL SELECTION

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Name: _____

Charles Darwin was a naturalist, which is a term used to describe someone who is fascinated by and interested in studying nature. Perhaps you are a naturalist too! How would you ever notice the different kinds of bugs in your backyard or paid attention to the qualities of grass in different fields? If so, you'd find a friend in Darwin.

Darwin was only 22 years old when he was born of imaginations as they traveled around Britain naval vessel called the HMS Beagle primarily invited to keep the captain company during the long voyage to distant lands, rocks, plants, and animals.

On board, Darwin experienced terrible seasickness, but he recorded everything he saw and back to experts. Their journey lasted nearly to some conclusions that led to his legacy of all time.

Darwin's Observations

Throughout his journey, Darwin made some developing his famous theory. He called it "the Theory of Evolution."

Darwin's most famous observations...are the West coast of South America called the Galapagos islands from the coast of Ecuador, or anywhere else in the world.



Darwin's Conclusions

Darwin noted that characteristics on each island were suited for the food available on the island. Species survive in a particular environment.

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Beaks. Bird who drank nectar had thin, long beaks.

Based on these observations, Darwin developed his ideas about a mechanism by which evolution could occur: **natural selection**. Natural selection is the process by which individuals who are best suited to their environment survive, reproduce, and pass on their traits to the next generation. Through this process, the best traits spread and become more common in a population, while less useful traits are eventually eliminated.

Darwin's Prior Knowledge

In order to develop his ideas about evolution, Darwin had already known:

1. **Hereditary Traits**



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The Importance of Diversity

In order for natural selection to happen, it's important that a population has a lot of

GUIDED PRACTICE

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Develop a definition for each of the following words.

Word	Definition
Evolution	
Natural Selection	
Adaptation	
Variety	
Overproduction	
Competition	
Reproductive Isolation	
Genetic Diversity	
Mutation	

1. Darwin's theory is sometimes called doesn't necessarily only mean "best" what do you think "fittest" means here?

2. Darwin did not call his theory "evolutionary modification." Why do you think he call

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3. Some adaptations are helpful in one environment, but would be harmful in other environments. Complete this table below with 5 more examples.

Adaptation	Helpful Environment	Harmful Environment
Thick Fur	Cold, arctic environments	Hot environments

4. Explain why sexual reproduction allows a

5. Explain why a characteristic which helps an organism become more common in the population is called

2. Mutations
Species who reproduce asexually produce clones for offspring. Offspring will likely have all the same traits as their parents, except in the case of mutations. Mutations are random genetic errors which can produce new traits in even asexually reproducing populations.

Conclusion

Before his visit to the Galapagos, Darwin would have taken it for granted that the different kinds of finches he saw on his journey were each created specifically by God. Using the clues he found on his travels and his prior knowledge, Darwin



Following this same logic, Darwin suggested that all species must share common ancestor. The more similar two species are, the more recent their ancestor is likely to be. But even quite dissimilar species came from the same ancestor who lived millions of years ago.



Despite his convictions about his work, Darwin did not share his controversial ideas with the public until he was 73. Another naturalist, Alfred Wallace, approached Darwin about his work. Wallace had come to the same conclusions about evolution and natural selection in a recent trip to the Pacific Islands. Together Wallace and Darwin both published books describing their findings, paving the way for modern genetics and biology.

Source: Lee 2008

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In each of the following scenarios, identify the parts of Darwin's theory.
1. A hawk eats a mouse. The mouse is a species of mouse. As winter approaches, the hawk eats the mouse five times this season. The hawk's predators are birds who hunt for the mouse when the mouse is out of the nest and left alone for food. From then, the parents focus their efforts only on the larger chick.

Which trait do you think will be selected against?

Which trait is favorable? Why?

What are the variations in this population?

How does this species overproduce?

How will this species change over time?

2. Only 1 out of 1000 sea turtles survives to adulthood. From the moment they hatch, sea turtles must strive for survival. They race across the beach and battle the waves, competing for their birth. Throughout this time, predators are stalking them for an easy meal. Some sea turtles are faster than others.

Which sea turtle do you think will be selected against?

Which trait is favorable? Why?

What are the variations in this population?

How does this species overproduce?

How will this species change over time?

3. Storks are a species of bird that only has the time and energy to provide for one chick. Storks lay two eggs. After the eggs hatch, the birds feed both chicks for a week. After a week's time, the parents focus their efforts only on the larger chick.

Which chick do you think will be selected against?

Which trait is favorable? Why?

What are the variations in this population?

How does this species overproduce?

How will this species change over time?

LANEY
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Lesson 13 Natural Selection Answer Key

Christian Drosten



Lesson 13 Natural Selection Answer Key:

The book delves into Lesson 13 Natural Selection Answer Key. Lesson 13 Natural Selection Answer Key is a vital topic that needs to be grasped by everyone, from students and scholars to the general public. This book will furnish comprehensive and in-depth insights into Lesson 13 Natural Selection Answer Key, encompassing both the fundamentals and more intricate discussions.

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