

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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# “THE BEAKS OF FINCHES” LAB



## INTRODUCTION

Environmental conditions act as selecting agents because they select organisms with the most beneficial traits to become the parents of the next generation. Within a species, individuals with variations that make them better adapted to their environment will survive and reproduce in greater numbers than those without such adaptations. Observations have shown that the offspring of better-adapted individuals inherit many of their parents' favorable variations.

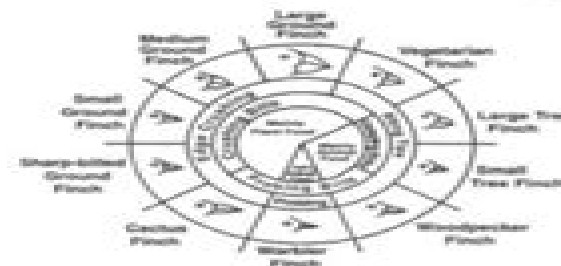
Finches are small birds found in many locations throughout the world. Charles Darwin used the numerous finch species found on the Galapagos Islands as evidence of natural selection. The great variety of beak adaptations present on the Galapagos is thought to be due to the isolation of bird populations on the islands with different kinds and amounts of food. Seed-eating finches exhibit a great number of differences in beak shapes and sizes. During ongoing competition for resources, some finches are successful and become more numerous, while less successful finches decrease in number.

In this laboratory activity, you will work with different tools that will serve to model finch “beaks”. The seeds provided represent finch food on a particular island. You will compete with other “finch” species to see which “beak” is best adapted for obtaining a specific food.

## HYPOTHESIS:

1. Examine the different tools (“beaks”) and seeds provided. Predict which “beak” will be the *most* successful at picking up small seeds. Give the reasons for your choice.

2. Predict which “beak” will be the *least* successful at picking up small seeds. Give the reasons for your choice.



— from *Galapagos: A Natural History Guide*

Figure 1. Variations in Beaks of Galapagos Islands Finches

## ROUND ONE: *No Competition, Original Island*

- When given the “Round One” signal, one member of your team should use the “beak” to pick up small seeds one at a time from the large dish and place them in the small dish. Repeat this for a total of four trials, two trials for each partner. A timekeeper will tell you when to start and stop each trial. Record your results in the “Round One: Feeding with No Competition” data table.

Round One: Feeding with No Competition

		Seeds Collected
Partner #1	Trial #1	
	Trial #2	
Partner #2	Trial #3	
	Trial #4	
Average		

# Laboratory Activity 3 The Beaks Of Finches Answer Key

**L Reisser**



### **Laboratory Activity 3 The Beaks Of Finches Answer Key:**

## Unveiling the Power of Verbal Artistry: An Emotional Sojourn through **Laboratory Activity 3 The Beaks Of Finches Answer Key**

In some sort of inundated with screens and the cacophony of instant connection, the profound power and emotional resonance of verbal beauty usually disappear in to obscurity, eclipsed by the regular assault of noise and distractions. However, located within the musical pages of **Laboratory Activity 3 The Beaks Of Finches Answer Key**, a fascinating function of literary brilliance that pulses with fresh emotions, lies an remarkable trip waiting to be embarked upon. Written by a virtuoso wordsmith, this interesting opus books visitors on a mental odyssey, lightly exposing the latent potential and profound influence stuck within the complicated web of language. Within the heart-wrenching expanse of this evocative evaluation, we shall embark upon an introspective exploration of the book is key subjects, dissect their charming publishing model, and immerse ourselves in the indelible impression it leaves upon the depths of readers souls.

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