



## KEY VOCABULARY

**Variation:** A slightly different version of something.

**Adaptation:** the process of change by which an organism or species becomes better suited to an environment.

**Evolution:** the process by which different kinds of living organism are believed to have developed from earlier forms during the history of the earth.

**Characteristic:** A feature or quality that belongs to a person/ thing.

**Inheritance:** To receive from a person's genes a characteristic.

**Fossilisation:** The process of a fossil being formed.

**Decompose:** To decay and break down.

**Ancestor:** A person/ancestor from whom one is descended from

**Natural Selection:** A natural process where organisms best adapted to their environment survive and reproduce

## You might like to...

- Create fossils at home: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/makes/presenters-making-a-fossil>
- Find out about the West Runton finds at Cromer Museum or online.
- Discover more about geologists, archaeologists and anthropologists.

## KEY FACTS

### Evolution and Inheritance

Plants and animals have characteristics that make them suited (adapted) to their environment.

If the environment changes rapidly some variations of a species may not adapt and will die.

Offspring have features that they inherit from their parents - due to sexual reproduction they are not identical.

Animals and plants with variations that are best suited survive, reproduce and pass their characteristics to their young.

Over a long period these characteristics may result in a new species being created.

Charles Darwin expressed his theory of evolution by natural selection.

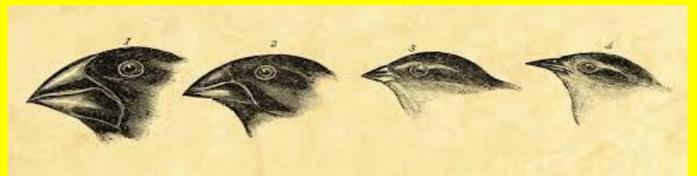
On his voyage on the HMS Beagle, he noted different finches had different shaped beaks, which were a result of variation, resulting in different types of finch.

Fossils provide evidence for the theory of evolution.

## Charles Darwin's voyage on HMS Beagle.



### His observations of finches.



## Further Reading

One Smart Fish by Chris Wormell

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/teacher-category/evolution/>

## QUESTIONS TO DEEPEN YOUR LEARNING

Character	Critical Thinking	Creativity	Communication	Citizenship	Collaboration
Which parts of this do I need to try harder to understand?	Why do I need to know about this?	What am I curious about?	How could I present what I understand?	How could this information help people?	What can I learn from others about this?