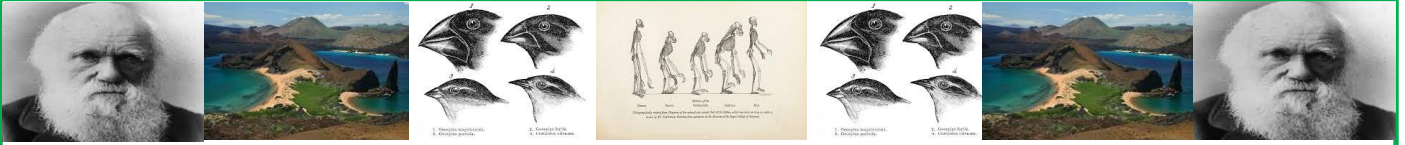


Creative Home Learning Ideas

Darwin's Delights



To start us off this year, we are going to explore the work and theories of Charles Darwin. The topic will cover the Year 6 science curriculum objectives on 'evolution and inheritance', as well as touching upon some of the objectives on 'living things' and developing the children's ability to work scientifically. The topic also has significant historical, geographical and artistic learning opportunities as well as linking nicely with our first class story of the year – Darwin's Dragons by Lindsay Galvin. We look forward to sharing our learning with you at our end of topic showcase event.

Below are some ideas for home learning based around our new topic. Please read the ideas with your child and let them choose which activities they would like to complete at home with you or on their own over the coming weeks. We would like **all** the children to complete one or more of the activities – please help them to think about how to present their work, ideally for display in school (rather than in the home learning book). The work should be handed in on, or in the weeks before, **Monday 16th October**.

Writing Tasks

- Imagine you are the young scientist, Charles Darwin, out on his scientific expedition on HMS Beagle. Write an extract from his journal that describes part of the journey. It could be the start of the voyage, arriving at one of the islands, or discovering different animal species.
- Create factfiles about other famous scientists who had an interest in evolution and inheritance, such as Alfred Wallace or Mary Anning.
- Make a fact file about different fossil types. Include pictures or detailed sketches.
- Be like Darwin and investigate the wildlife in a local habitat! Take notes about what you find and use them to report your findings. Can you make it look like one of Darwin's notebooks?
- What can you discover about Lonesome George, who was the last giant Pinta Island tortoise? Write a fictional biography of his life!

Research Tasks

- Research conservation charities such as the World Wildlife Fund, to learn about current endangered species. Make a poster that explains and advertises a conservation charity.
- Research HMS Beagle and make a fact-filled poster to display the information you find about the ship.

Artistic Tasks

- Look at photos of the different archipelago islands that Charles Darwin visited. Design and draw your own archipelago island.
- Investigate which physical and personality characteristics you have inherited or acquired from your family. Can you present your family tree in a new way to show what makes you the way you are today?

These activities are intended to be fun and to provide inspiration to build on learning from school. Other ideas are welcome too! Please just send a message to any of the Year 6 team if you have any queries.