Charles Darwin and the theory of Natural Selection
1. Charles Darwin was born in 1809 into a wealthy family in Shropshire, England. Name two topics he studied in school.
2. What was the name of the ship he sailed on for 5 years?
3. What was the name of the group of islands where Darwin did his most famous research on animals and their characteristics?
4. What were two of the animals he studied?
5. Before the idea of natural selection, what did scientists, including Darwin believe about changes in animals?
6. Generally, how long does it take for tiny changes to result in new traits?
7. What was the title of the book where Darwin published his theory of natural selection?
8. Is a scientific theory basically a guess?
Working with Darwin’s Finches

Use this link to work at matching the finch beak to the food type

http://www.classzone.com/books/ml_science_share/vis_sim/lotm05_pg7_finch/lotm05_pg7_finch.html

Darwin’s finches, of the Galapagos Islands, have beaks adapted for eating specific kinds of food. While the birds actually eat many types of food, their beaks have adapted to a preferred or more plentiful food source found on one or more of the islands. Predict a match between a finch’s beak and its preferred food and record it in the table below. Next use the computer simulation to check your predictions. Just click and drag the picture in the computer simulation to the food type. Write the number of the finch’s beak in the correct food source block below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prediction</th>
<th>Harder and softer seeds</th>
<th>Softer seeds</th>
<th>Seeds in fruits/flowers</th>
<th>Buds/leaves</th>
<th>Insects in wood</th>
<th>Insects in dead wood and crevices</th>
<th>Insects on surfaces</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Actual</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All illustrations: Martin B. Withers/FLPA - images of nature
Charles Darwin

- Developed the theory of natural selection
- Studied mocking birds, finches, and tortoises
- Noticed variations of traits in many animals
- Wrote *On The Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection*

Symbol/Sentence: Who is Charles Darwin?
Darwin’s Work on the HMS Beagle

• Small Video clip gives a deeper understanding into Darwin and the impact of his work.

http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/evolution/library/11/2/quicktime/e_s_2_56.html
Double Bubble to compare and contrast

- Mendel
- Darwin
- Father of their field
- plants
- ?