

Station I: England

Here we are going to look at some animals that Darwin typically saw around his home in England.

Look at the sheet labeled "DOGS."

1) A species is a group of organisms that can breed to produce babies. Two elephants can reproduce and have elephant offspring, but an elephant and a chicken cannot reproduce and have a baby "chickephant." Are all of these dogs the same species?

2) List three differences between the dogs:

1.

2.

3.

3) I have a male and female of each of these dogs. I want to have a dog that is very small and black and has long hair. Which two dogs should I breed?

4) Why do the dogs look so different from one another?

5) Look at the sheet labeled "PIGEONS." Do you think that these pigeons are all the same species? Why or why not?

Station III: Galapagos Islands

1) When Darwin reached the Galapagos Islands, he saw many of the finches that are shown in the picture. He noticed that they had different-shaped beaks. Why do the different finches have different beak shapes?

2) According to the diagram, what does the Warbler finch eat?

3) These three finches eat seeds. Draw a line between each finch and the seed that it likes to eat.



Sunflower Seeds



Sesame Seeds



Hickory Nuts



4) All three of the birds from the previous question live on one island. The island becomes warmer and the hickory trees (that produce hickory nuts) produce fewer nuts. Sunflowers like the heat and more sunflowers grow and produce seeds. What will happen to the population sizes of the birds on the island?

Bird A's population will increase / decrease / stay the same (circle one).

Bird B's population will increase / decrease / stay the same (circle one).

Bird C's population will increase / decrease / stay the same (circle one).

Station IV: Australia

Look at the paper with the skulls on it.

These are two skulls photographed from different angles. All those labeled "1" are from one animal, and those labeled "2" are from another animal.

1) List three ways that skull #1 is similar to skull #2.

1.

2.

3.

2) Look at the picture labeled "A." Count the number of teeth on each jaw.

The jaw of skull #1 has _____ teeth.

The jaw of skull #2 has _____ teeth.

3) List two more differences between the two animals' skulls.

1.

2.

4) What do you think these animals eat?

5) Do you think these two animals are closely related to one another?

6) Skull #1 is from a marsupial wolf and skull #2 is from a gray wolf. Why do you think the skulls look so similar even though the animals are not closely related to each other?