

Darwin's Voyage

◆ Understanding Main Ideas

Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Who was Charles Darwin, and what did he do on the *Beagle's* voyage?
2. What is evolution?
3. Explain how the shape of a finch's beak is an example of an adaptation.
4. When members of a species compete, what do they compete for?
5. What happens when species overproduce offspring?
6. Suppose a variation makes an individual member of a species better adapted to its environment, how might that variation affect the individual's reproduction?
7. How does the environment "select" organisms?
8. How do helpful variations accumulate in a species over time?
9. Why can only traits controlled by genes be acted upon by natural selection?
10. How can isolation of a group result in a new species?

◆ Building Vocabulary

Fill in the blank to complete each statement.

11. A(n) _____ is a group of similar organisms that can mate with each other and produce fertile offspring.
12. A(n) _____ is a trait that helps an organism survive and reproduce.
13. A scientific _____ is a well-tested concept that explains a wide range of observations.
14. The process by which individuals that are better adapted to their environment are more likely to survive and reproduce is called _____.
15. That some newly hatched turtles can swim faster than others of the same species is evidence of _____ within the species.