

Total English

Advanced

The Galapagos Islands

- 1** Where are the Galapagos Islands? Have you ever been to visit them? Do you know anyone who has?

- 2** Go to www.galapagosislands.com and answer the following questions about these fascinating islands.
 - a) Click on 'Galapagos Information' on the left of the page. How many of the 13 major islands actually have people living on them?
 - b) What is the main reason for nature lovers to visit the islands?
 - c) What was Charles Darwin inspired to do following his visit to the islands?
 - d) How does the weather on the islands change?
 - e) Click on 'located' in the paragraph at the top of the page. Why are the islands considered dynamic?
 - f) How big is the largest island, Isabela, in comparison with Hawaii?
 - g) Click back to 'Galapagos Information' and then click on 'a multitude of animals' in the second paragraph. How do marine iguanas react to a human being near them?
 - h) What does their diet mainly consist of?
 - i) Which two words are used to describe the eyesight of the Galapagos Hawk?
 - j) How does the Frigate Bird live up to its name?
 - k) Which two words are used to describe the Sally Light-foot Crab being quick and light on its feet?
 - l) What does the Swallow-tailed Gull do at night?
 - m) Click back to 'Galapagos Information' and then click on 'Charles Darwin'. What struck Darwin about the creatures on the islands that he visited?
 - n) What did Darwin notice about the same species on different islands in the Galapagos?
 - o) What was the effect of Darwin's Origin of Species when it was published?

- 3** Now you! Work with a partner to explore the website further. Find four more fascinating facts about the Galapagos Islands.



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TEACHER'S NOTES:

Aim: to use the Internet to further explore the theme of nature. This webquest is designed to be used in conjunction with unit 7.

Time: 40 minutes

Materials: copy of the worksheet for each student

- 1 Students discuss the location of the Galapagos Islands and also whether they or anyone they know has been to the Galapagos Islands. Ask for class feedback. Note: The Galapagos Islands are situated off the coast of Ecuador in the Pacific Ocean.
- 2 Check that students find the correct website. Students can do the webquest alone or with a partner. Ask them to work through the questions. Monitor to check that they understand the language sufficiently to answer any questions. Elicit answers from the class.

Answers (correct at time of going to press):

- a) 5 have inhabitants.
- b) To see the variety (multitude) of animals that roam around freely.
- c) He wrote the Theory of Evolution.
- d) It doesn't really; the islands enjoy pleasant weather all year round.
- e) Because they are constantly changing with volcanic eruptions, new lava fields forming and islands erode and expand.
- f) It is less than half the size of Hawaii.
- g) They are indifferent - it doesn't bother them.
- h) Algae on the lava rocks close to the seashore.
- i) 'keen vision'
- j) Because it steals what other birds have caught to eat (their catches).
- k) 'nimble footed'.
- l) Hunts for food in the sea.
- m) They were all unique from creatures found elsewhere.
- n) That they were all adapted to the particular environment of that island.
- o) It controversially altered western thought on the nature of nature.

- 3 Students work in pairs to navigate freely around the website to find out four more fascinating facts about the islands. Ask for class feedback. Students can, if time, note down the other pairs' facts to compile a big fact file on the Galapagos Islands.



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