



**Cornerstones**

## **Charles Darwin**

### [Darwin online](#)

A comprehensive reference point for teachers, including a biography, publications and manuscripts.

### [Charles Darwin - Natural History Museum](#)

Background information for teachers on the work of Darwin.

### [Charles Darwin - BBC History](#)

A useful summary of the life and work of Darwin.

### [Charles Darwin & Evolution - University of Cambridge](#)

Another useful and accessible resource, written by students.

### [Down House, English Heritage - Youtube](#)

A seven-minute video clip behind the scenes at Down House with Chris Packham, which includes interesting facts about Darwin.

### [Home of Charles Darwin \(Down House\) - English Heritage](#)

Visitor information about the museum and special events taking place in Darwin's former home in Kent.

## **Darwin's Journals**

### [Darwin Online](#)

Transcripts of Darwin's journal entries on board HMS Beagle and his observations in the Galápagos Islands (except the missing Galápagos field book).

### [Audio book of Darwins Beagle Diary - Darwin Online](#)

Recordings of five episodes, with a duration of around 60 minutes in total.

### [Darwin's Beagle field notebooks - Darwin Online](#)

Here you will find a series of small notebooks that belonged to Charles Darwin.

## **The Galápagos Islands**

### [Galapagos with David Attenborough - Youtube](#)

David Attenborough's dramatic two-minute introduction to the Galápagos Islands.

### [Darwin - Galapagos Consequence](#)

Background information for teachers.

### [Galapagos Research - Charles Darwin Foundation](#)

Teacher information on the foundation's three main projects: invasive species, sustainability and conservation management.

### **Web link disclaimer**

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## **Fossils**

[What's a fossil? - Dinosaur Days - Youtube](#)

A useful three-minute clip on how fossils are formed.

[Mary Anning - BBC Primary History](#)

A number of interesting webpages for children, including a 12-minute video clip of Mary's life story.

## **Darwin's Investigations**

[Darwin's Bees - Darwin inspired learning](#)

A teachers guide to potential lesson plans about Darwin's bees with links to other useful resources.

[Doing Darwin's experiments - Darwin Project](#)

Discover how seeds were crushed and soaked in simulated gastric juices of a bird to mimic the effect of digestion on seeds eaten by birds. Scroll down to Experiment 2.b) Digesting seeds.

Investigate whether seeds from owl pellets will grow. Scroll down to Experiment 2.c) Owl Pellet Dissection.

[Darwin on worms - University of Cambridge](#)

A brief account of what happened when worms were exposed to music and sounds.

[The Great Plant Hunt](#)

An interactive website developed by the Wellcome Trust in conjunction with Kew Gardens, featuring lots of information and short videos about scientific investigations, based on the work of Darwin.

## **Evolution**

[Human Evolution](#)

Detailed, background information for teachers.

## **Extinction**

[Mass extinctions - Natural History Museum](#)

Background information for teachers.

[Conservation - Wildscreen Arkive](#)

Bristol-based charity tracking endangered species: click on Species/Conservation Status.

[Wildlife - World Wildlife Fund](#)

Includes a list of 18 endangered species.

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[Bringing them back to life - National Geographic](#)

More in-depth report on recent experiments with previously extinct species.

## **Inheritance and evolution (artificial selection, genetic cloning and genetic modification)**

[Genetic modification - BBC GCSE Bitesize](#)

Background information for teachers, which can be adapted to suit the needs of children in Year 6.

[Who am I? Science Museum](#)

A useful webpage, probably more suitable for teachers, all about humans, genes and genetic engineering.

[Genetically-modified food breakthrough - The Guardian](#)

An interesting article about the development of golden rice.

[What is cloning? - Genetic Science Learning Center](#)

Detailed information for teachers about how cloning is done.

[Cloning - National Human Genome Research Institute](#)

Background information for teachers, which could be adapted to suit the needs of children in Year 6. Features 15 frequently-asked questions and answers.

[You and your genes - BBC GCSE Bitesize](#)

Background information for teachers, which could be adapted to suit the needs of children in Year 6.

[Selective breeding and genetic modification](#)

Background information for teachers, which could be adapted to suit the needs of children in Year 6.

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