



What have the Galapagos Islands taught us about life on earth?

(Main Discipline Focus: Place)

Learning Objective	Disciplinary Knowledge (Geographical skills)	Substantive Knowledge (Geographical thinking)	Suggested Geographical Vocabulary	Suggested Geographical Aspirations	Focus
Where are the Galapagos Islands and how do I get there?	Location	Topography	Galapago (tortoise) Archipelago Equator Longitude Latitude	Cartographer	Maps, globes and arial images of the Galapagos islands. Students should be able to articulate where it is and why its place on the equator is vital to the abundance of wildlife.
Why did Charles Darwin visit these miraculous islands?	Place	Ecology	Evolution Species Inheritance Adaptation Natural Selection	Naturalist	Please treat this like a geographic lesson with a focus on the science of evolution. Year 6 may want to combine this with a science lesson. Please historicise Darwin's visit to the Galapagos islands within work in history on the evolution of transport.
How has rewilding supported the conservation of this finite eco-system?	Place	Ecology Sustainability	Rewilding Extinct Endangered Conservation	Environmentalist	Rewilding is the process of letting nature take care of itself. In the Galapagos Islands, people are leaving settlements to allow the natural landscape to flourish. Students should engage in the concept of rewilding and the results so far. Galapagos Conservation Trust
How are tourists impacting the Galapagos islands finite eco-system?	Eco-Awareness	Tourism Economy	Anthropogenic Pollution	Conservationist	Impact of anthropogenic pollution (human pollution) on the natural environment. Consider the carbon footprint of a tourist whilst they are there. Lots of information online.
How might global warming affect the Galapagos Islands' dream-like environment?	Eco-Awareness	Climate Sustainability	Population Density El Nino	Conservationist	There is lots of information on this through the Galapagos Conservation Trust. Students to create poster/leaflet/presentation to promote sustainability.



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Assessment

You have been approached by a zoologist as they would like to tour the Galapagos islands as part of their research into wildlife conservation. What information could you give them?

You may wish to talk about...

- The geographical location of the Galapagos Islands.
- The history of the islands and the work carried out by Charles Darwin.
- The evolution of its current inhabitants.
- The impact of tourism.
- The impact of its growing population.

Useful Vocabulary

Archipelago Evolution Species Adaptation Natural Selection Rewilding Anthropogenic Pollution