



EK BOOKS

TEACHER NOTES & RESOURCES

Title: Charles Darwin

Subtitle: Scientists Who Changed the World

Author: Anita Croy

Publisher: EK Books

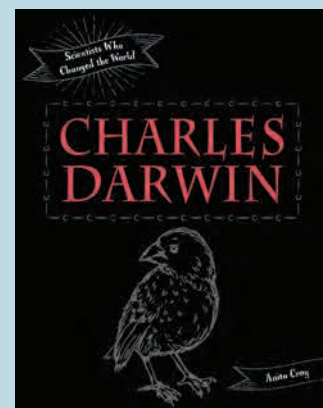
Price: ANZ \$24.99

ISBN: 9781925820706

Publication date: May 2020

Audience age: 8 - 13+ years

Key Curriculum Areas: Science, Social Science, English Literacy, The Arts, Writing



SYNOPSIS:

A guide to the life of well-known scientist Charles Darwin. This book looks at his biography, his background in science and religion, the key facts about HMS Beagle, the key ideas for forming a theory, key facts on the origin of species, and Darwin's legacy that changed the world.

KEY POINTS:

- Charles Darwin revolutionised society's views of the natural world and our place in it. Learn how and why with this captivating guide to his life.
- Will engage any young reader with an interest in how species came to be as diverse and fascinating as they are today.
- An excellent way to introduce children to non-fiction, and to teach them about society in the past, present and future.
- Part of a wonderful series that looks at some of the world's greatest scientists and teaches young people about science and society.
- Beautifully designed, with creative layouts and colourful pictures to captivate the young or older reader.

SELLING POINTS:

Despite his great influence and advancement of the field of evolution, Darwin's theories were extremely controversial. Find out why his discoveries went against the teachings of the Church, and how he became one of the most hated men in Britain. Learn about his research and its impact on society, in a format designed to appeal to young readers. With colourful illustrations, varied page layouts and quirky design, this book will captivate and enthrall any child with an interest in the natural world, and our place in it.



TEACHER ACTIVITIES/NOTES:

This book may be used in whole class, small group or independent learning activities in schools.

Please note, the following suggestions and activities are suited to a variety of year levels spanning from to Year 5 primary aged children up to Year 7 (13+). Where possible, Australian Curriculum goal codes have been included which address learning outcomes and apply directly to the targeted audience intended for this book.

Knowledge and Literal Understanding

Before Reading (Interpreting, analysing, evaluating)

-Brainstorm as a class or in groups (only use prior knowledge, don't research):

- Who is Charles Darwin?
- When and where was he born?
- What is he well known for?
- List any other information students know about him

Inferential and Critical Thinking

After Reading (Responding to text)

Ask the students:

- What are the students' impressions of Charles Darwin's life?
- Did anything surprise or shock them?
- What would life be like if Darwin had never researched and written *The Origin of Species*?
- If you met Darwin, what questions would you ask him?

CROSS-CURRICULAR DISCUSSION AND IDEAS

ENGLISH LITERACY SKILLS

Vocabulary

Expressing and developing ideas

Understand the use of vocabulary to express greater precision of meaning, and know that words can have different meanings in different contexts

Look at the glossary.

- List the words and definitions of the words that you have learnt for the first time today. Include a small image or code to help you remember what the words mean.
- Choose 5-10 words and use a thesaurus or a thesaurus online to write 5 synonyms for each word.

Literature

Literature and context

Identify aspects of literary texts that convey details or information about particular social, cultural and historical contexts.

- Using the content in the book create a timeline of Darwin's life, including his voyage on the HMS Beagle and his key works.
- On page 51 you will see the geographical features and institutions named after Darwin. Choose 5 or more locations and research to find out who advocated for this name and why these locations included the name Darwin.

Examining literature

Recognise that ideas in literary texts can be conveyed from different viewpoints, which can lead to different kinds of interpretations and responses.

- Darwin was labelled, 'The most dangerous man in England'. Was this justified in your opinion? Explain why you agree or disagree.
- Read about the famous debate in 1860 that took place between Darwin and Bishop Samuel Wilberforce. Write about this debate using dialogue or list the opinions that each side expressed.

SCIENCE

Science Understanding

Biological Sciences

Living things have structural features and adaptations that help them to survive in their environment.

Watch 'Darwin's Theories' <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=urSNtaQKOak> (3.39 minutes) and use the content from the book to complete the following:

- Explain what Natural Selection is (you can use text, images, a slideshow or animation)
- Explain what evolution is (you can use text, images, a slideshow or animation)

Science as a Human Endeavour

Nature and development of science

Science involves testing predictions by gathering data and using evidence to develop explanations of events and phenomena. It reflects historical and cultural contributions.

- Activity: Ask the students to write a profile / fact file about Charles Darwin, or a diary entry from his visit to the Galapagos Islands. Provide pupils with images of animals and ask them to identify and label their adaptations (i.e. polar bear: large feet, fur that looks white, etc.). They could then discuss how they think these adaptations have come to be.
- Explain the significance of the book *The Origin of Species* (you can use text, images, a slideshow or animation)



TEACHER NOTES: Charles Darwin

Scientific knowledge has changed our understanding of the world and is refined as new evidence becomes available.

- Activity: Ask the students to imagine they are Charles Darwin making notes on his discoveries in South America, and write a diary entry of what he may have seen or studied. They could include illustrations of different species.

Science Inquiry Skills

Evaluating

Use scientific knowledge and findings from investigations to evaluate claims based on evidence.

- What scientific findings did Darwin discover in his research?
- What were the key pieces of evidence that Darwin used to prove that his theory of evolution was correct?

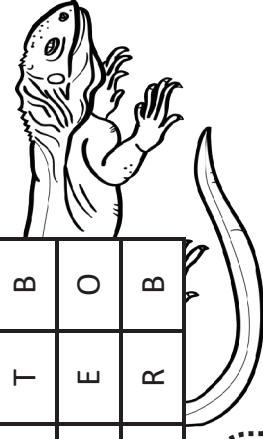
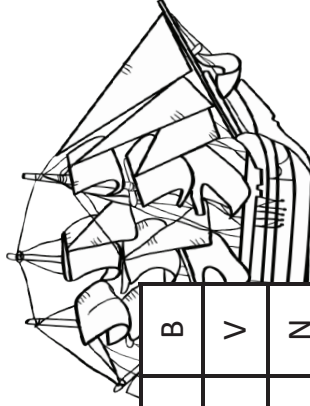
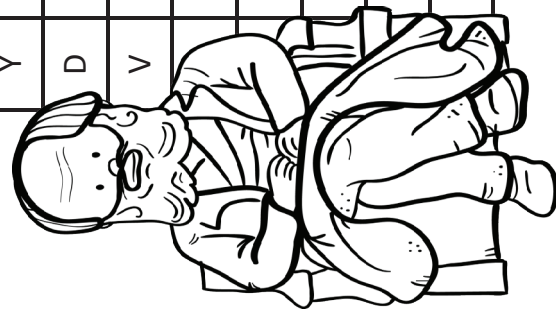
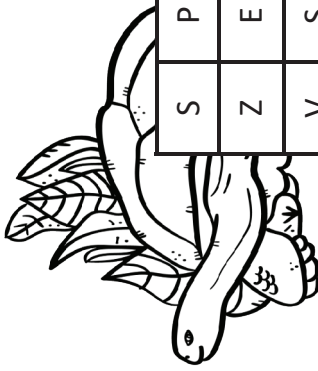
MORE ACTIVITIES BELOW...

Darwin Word Search

Find words going forwards, backwards, vertically and diagonally.

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DARWIN NATURAL TORTOISE CHARLES
 GALAPAGOS SELECTION FINCHES EMMA
 BEAGLE IGUANA SPECIES

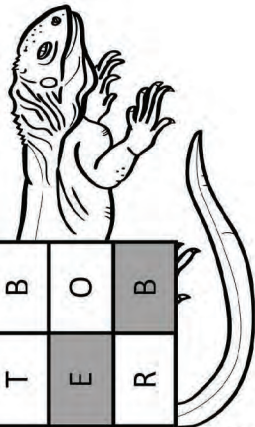
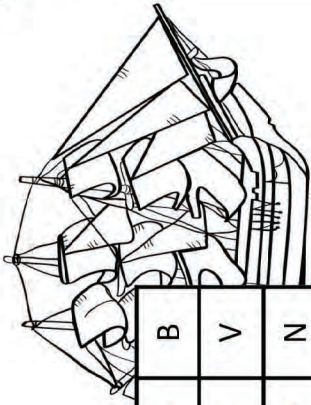
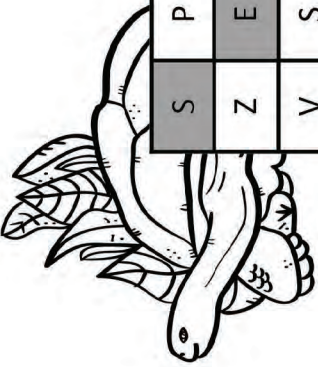


Darwin Word Search

Find words going forwards, backwards, vertically and diagonally.

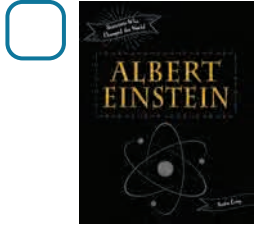
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DARWIN NATURAL TORTOISE CHARLES
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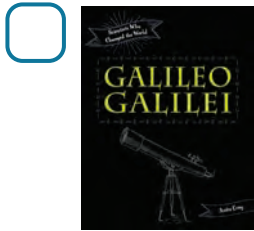


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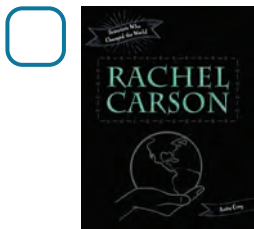
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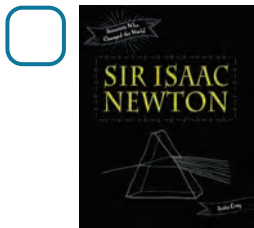
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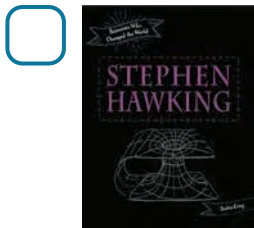
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