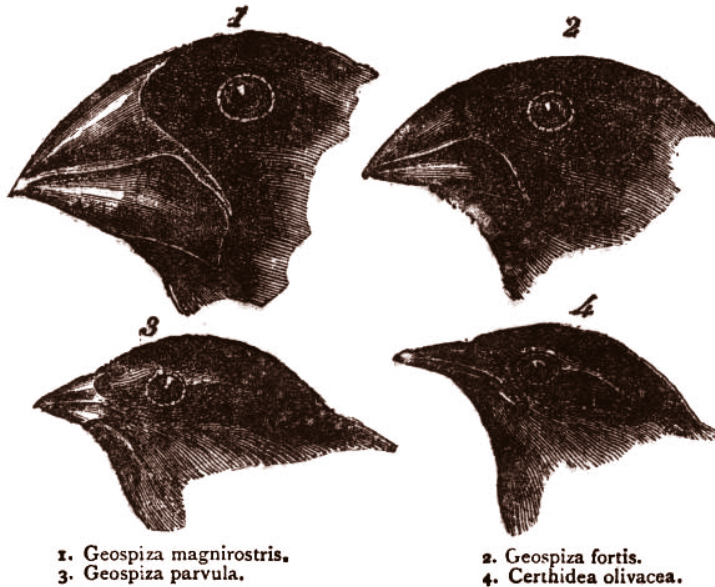




Evolution

An Education Program at Melbourne Museum



*The HMS Beagle's naturalist, Charles Darwin, collected and documented many specimens of finch and other plants and animals on the long journey charting the South American coastline and visiting Australia, Tahiti and the Galapagos Islands, that provided him with the evidence that eventually led to the publication of his theory of evolution, titled 'The Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection'.
Artist: John Gould / Source: Museum Victoria*

Acknowledgments

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Student Guide

Evolution Student Guide: Darwin to DNA

⇨ **PDF (328kb)**

Teacher Notes

The **Evolution Program** at Melbourne Museum has been developed for secondary students studying Years 9 and 10 Science and VCE Biology. Students also have time to investigate other exhibits in the Science and Life and Forest Galleries, relevant to the theme of Evolution.

Students participating in the **Evolution Program** investigate exhibits exploring the mechanisms and evidence for evolution and changes in different species over geological time. They investigate the theories of Charles Darwin and Alfred Wallace, the importance of genetic variation, the principles of natural selection and how genetic mutations contribute to the evolution of species. Evolutionary milestones are examined as evidence for the evolution of life, from the first single-celled organism through to the extinction of Australia's megafauna and the evolution of modern *Homo sapiens*.

Education Materials

Exhibition notes and *Student Guides* to support the **Evolution Program** are available on the website <http://museumvictoria.com.au/education>

Exhibition Notes are a selection of writings based on the *Darwin to DNA* exhibition. The *Student Guide* is designed to focus students on specific exhibits and information related to the theme of evolution.

How to use the *Student Guide*

Teachers may select a combination of sheets that best reflect the curriculum focus. Students should work in small groups to complete some or all of the components of the *Student Guide*. Groups may have responsibility for completing different parts. Then back at school, groups can share the data they collected.

Alternatively, students may design their own evolution research questions to investigate while visiting the museum.

The information collected on the student guides or the evolution research questions can be used as reference material for follow-up classroom activities or provide students with a useful record of information for further research of the subject back at school.

Please photocopy the Exhibition Floor Plan and appropriate parts of the *Student Guide* for students to use during their visit.

Exhibition Floor Plan

Darwin to DNA

1. Evolution: Changes over time
2. Gould
3. Evolution in Action
4. Examining DNA
5. Hominid Evolution

