



The Extraordinary Story of Evolution



1. How did Charles Darwin travel around the world?

- He flew with Qantas.
- He rode his bicycle.
- He sailed on a ship named the HMS Beagle.

2. What sort of life forms would you find if you travelled back three billion years in a time machine. *Hint: you'd need a microscope to see them.*

Draw what they might look like.

3. What did Charles Darwin notice about the finches on the Galápagos Islands?

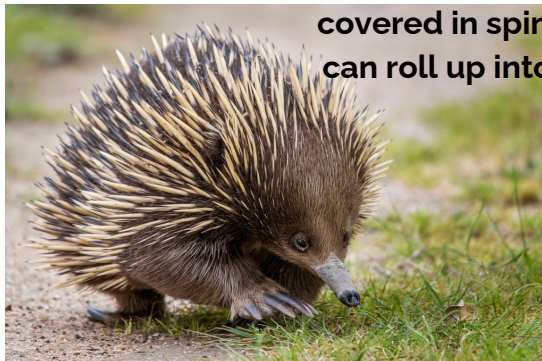
- Their beaks were different shapes.
- They were brightly coloured
- They ate different types of seeds.

Hint: There's more than one correct answer.



4. Look at the pictures of the echidna and of the cactus below. Find out where echidnas and cacti live. Talk with a friend about how their physical traits (the features of their bodies) might have helped them survive and thrive.

5 large claws on front feet

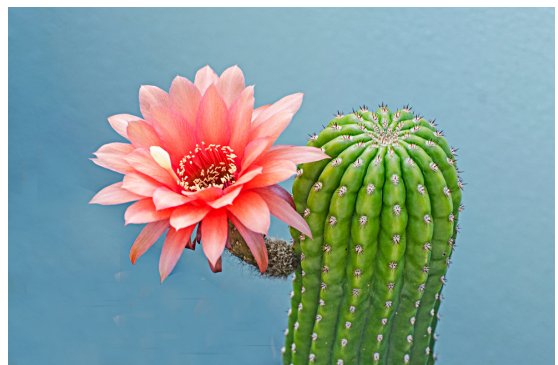


covered in spines and can roll up into a ball

back feet point backwards

stiff snout with it's mouth at the end

bright flowers



no large leaves

able to store lots of water

sharp spines

5. Take a look at the pictures of different kinds of fossils. What do you think they are fossils of?



6. If a fossilised fish was found in the middle of a desert, what might that tell us about what that desert landscape looked like millions of years ago?

In the 1800s, the peppered moth, a light coloured moth with speckled wings, was common in England and hung out on light coloured trees and rocks that camouflaged them from the birds that wanted to eat them.

Then, in 1945, one black peppered moth was caught.

At this time factories were opening up in England, blowing dark smoke clouds into the air and covering trees and rocks with black soot.

By 1950 there were almost no light coloured peppered moths, most were black.

7. Talk with a friend and discuss why the darker coloured peppered moths were more likely to survive later on.



Before 1945



After 1945