

Brainpop: Natural Selection

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

Question: How does natural selection work?

1. There are close to 10 million different **SPECIES** of life on Earth today.
2. Natural Selection is an **EXPLANATION** for where all of this life came from and what happened to all of the species that are no longer here.



3. A scientist named Charles Darwin went on a historic **EXPEDITION** around the world.



4. While he was in the Galapagos Islands, he noticed each of the islands had its own **UNIQUE** species of finch. They were all very similar to one another, but their beaks were radically **DIFFERENT** sizes and shapes.



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5. On islands with cactus fruits, the finches longer beaks helped them pick out the seeds. On islands with lots of insects, the finches had thin, sharp beaks.



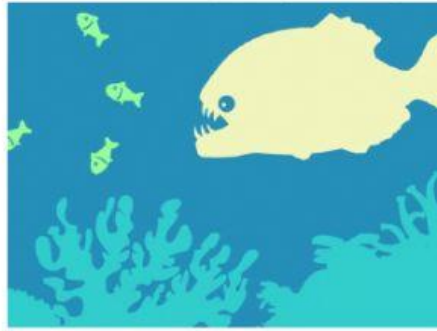
6. Darwin **PROPOSED** that in nature, certain variations would help organisms **SURVIVE**.
7. Living things are in _____ competition for resources. In any environment, there may be a shortage of _____, or _____, or even _____. Plus, you may get eaten. Those are all environmental pressures.
8. Variation + Pressure = _____



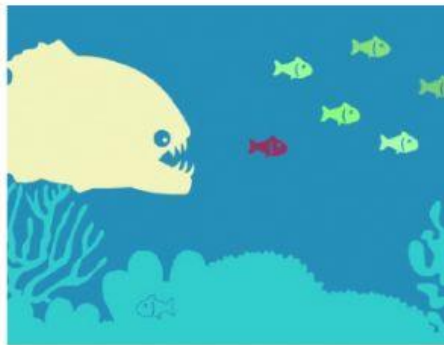
9. Imagine a coral reef with some little green _____ living near it. There's a _____ fish that lives there too, and he likes to eat the _____ fish.

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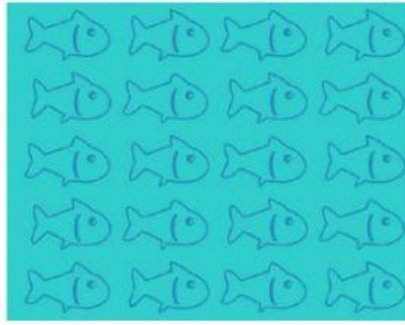
A fish, the same _____ as the reef is harder to spot. So, it's less likely to get eaten. It has a better chance of living long enough to _____.



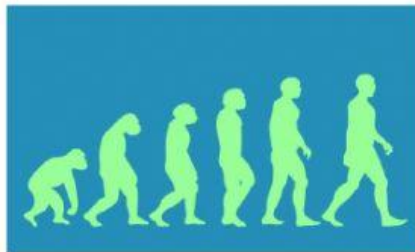
Over time, the _____ population may be the same color as the reef. This is called Natural Selection.

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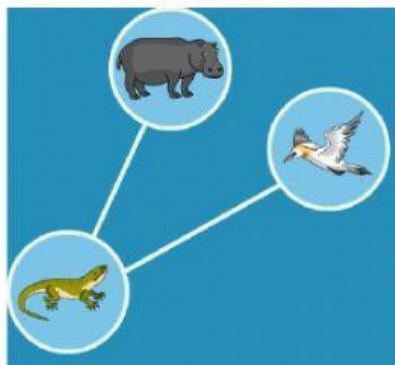
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Natural selection is the driving _____ behind Darwin's theory of evolution.
That's the idea that organisms _____ or evolve over time.



Pick any two species, and go back far enough in time, they'll have a
_____ ancestor, just like Darwin's finches.



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