

Natural Selection



Life is so diverse! But how? Let's travel to the Galapagos to find out!

We have all become different from each other through **EVOLUTION**, which is a change in traits over time. One way this change can happen is by **NATURAL SELECTION** in 4 steps.^{1,3}



1 Different Traits



Like humans, we are each special and different from each other!²

2 Different Reproduction



3 Heredity

My traits come from a combination of Mom and Dad's traits!

It's a SLOW process

Then, the traits that help make you better at having more babies are all over the place!



My beak is great for eating seeds!⁴

My beak is perfect for eating insects!

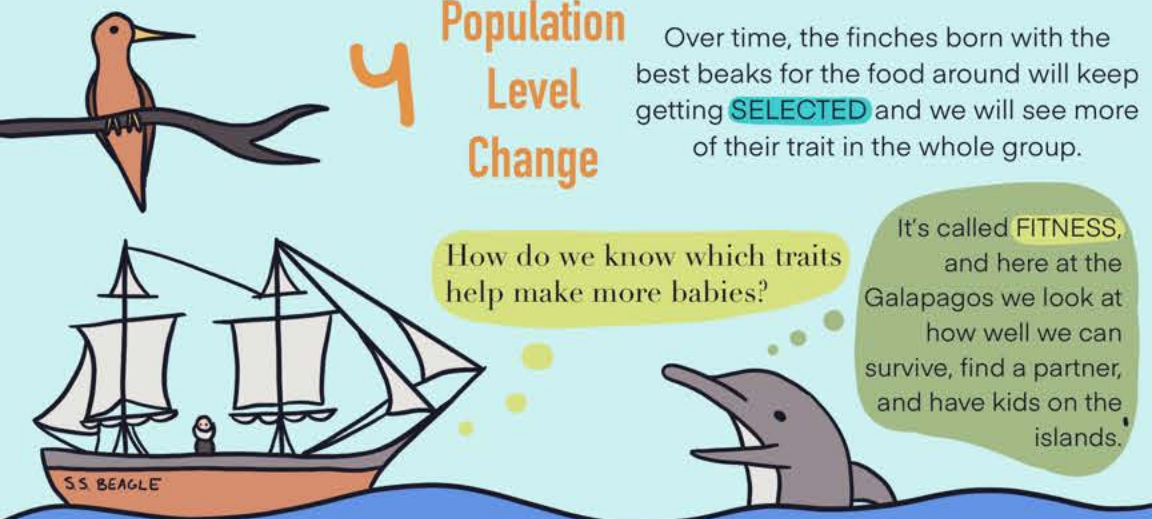
My beak is not good for either, so I will be hungry and have fewer babies

4 Population Level Change

Over time, the finches born with the best beaks for the food around will keep getting **SELECTED** and we will see more of their trait in the whole group.

How do we know which traits help make more babies?

It's called **FITNESS**, and here at the Galapagos we look at how well we can survive, find a partner, and have kids on the islands!



Sources:

1. evolution.berkeley.edu
2. livescience.com
3. nature.com
4. mun.ca