



ZAC NEWTON INVESTIGATES

Beasts and Bugs

Zac and friends learn about animals through visits with Aristotle, Carolus Linnaeus, Charles Elton, Charles Darwin, and Georges Cuvier

What did you learn?

QUESTIONS

1. The Cambrian Period occurred around how many years ago?
 - a. 540 million years
 - b. 1 million years
 - c. 50 years
 - d. 700 million years
2. Which scientist tells the kids about his research in the Galápagos Islands?
 - a. Aristotle
 - b. Charles Darwin
 - c. Charles Elton
 - d. Albert Einstein
3. What can cause a species to die out?
 - a. Changes to their environment
 - b. Threats from diseases
 - c. Predators
 - d. All the above
4. What was the mystery beast in the back yard?
 - a. A chimpanzee
 - b. A lion
 - c. A tiger
 - d. A flamingo
5. What kind of clues left by animals did the kids find at the forest preserve?
6. Can you describe why different finches of the Galápagos Islands developed different beaks?

TRUE OR FALSE?

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| _____ 1. Evolution is how living things change over many generations. | _____ 4. Most scientists believe that dinosaurs were wiped out by a giant asteroid strike or volcanic eruptions. |
| _____ 2. Cambrianites are the remains of living things preserved in rock. | _____ 5. Georges Cuvier was a pioneer of podiatry. |
| _____ 3. Carolus Linnaeus divided the animal kingdom into 12 groups. | _____ 6. DNA is the material in a living cell that carries the genes. |

ANSWERS

- 1. a. 540 million.** According to page 21, we know that Zac brings kids to “a time called the Cambrian Period, around 540 million years ago.” So, the correct answer is A.
- 2. b. Charles Darwin.** According to pages 60 and 61, Charles Darwin tells the kids that, “I spent some time on the Galápagos, a faraway group of islands in the Pacific Ocean.” So, the correct answer is B.
- 3. d. All of the above.** According to page 73, we know that, “... species die out all the time. They can be endangered by changes to their environment or threats from diseases or predators.” So, the correct answer is D.
- 4. a. A chimpanzee.** According to page 86, we know that Ning, Lucía, and Marcus yelled, “A chimpanzee!” So, the correct answer is A.
- 5.** According to page 14, we know that, “They found goose footprints at the muddy edge of a pond and half-nibbled nutshells left by squirrels. There were slime trails made by slugs and even a pile of bird feathers ... ”
- 6.** According to page 61, we know that, “Depending on which island they lived, they might eat seeds, insects, grubs, leaves, cactuses, or buds and fruit. There are different kinds of food on each island, you see. And in each case, the finches’ beaks were adapted to eat that particular food.”

TRUE OR FALSE? ANSWERS

- 1. True.** According to page 21, we know that, “Evolution is how living things change over many generations.” So, the correct answer is True.
- 2. False.** According to page 23, we know that, “Fossils are the remains of living things preserved in rock.” So, the correct answer is False.
- 3. False.** According to page 34, we know that Carolus Linnaeus “divide[d] the animal kingdom into six groups called classes: birds, fish, mammals, insects, worms, and amphibians.” So, the correct answer is False.
- 4. True.** According to page 67, we know that, “Most scientists believe [dinosaurs] were wiped out by a giant asteroid strike or volcanic eruptions.” So, the correct answer is True.
- 5. False.** According to page 68, we know that George Cuvier “was a pioneer of paleontology—the study of fossils.” So, the correct answer is False.
- 6. True.** According to page 79, we know that, “DNA is the material in a living cell that carries the genes.” So, the correct answer is True.