4-12-13

Darwin observed similarities between living and fossil organisms and the diversity of life on the Galapagos Islands

Darwind Reads 2 books on his voyage Lyell’s Principles of Geology

Darwin realizes that still-operating natural forces gradually change earth, and gift of time!

Mathus’s Essay on Human Populations”

Gives Darwin excess population and competition

After his return, Darwin began to document his observations and his new theory of evolution

* Alfred Wallace conceived a theory almost identical to Darwin’s; both works were presented to the scientific community
* Darwin’s On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection was published in 1859

FROM THOSE OBSERVATIONS A BRILLIANT INFERENCE

DIFFERENTIAL REPRODUCTIVE SUCCESS

Those Individuals with traits best suited to the local environment generally leave a larger share of surviving offspring.

Why do Scientists so Strongly Believe in Evolution?

At least 5 Different lines of evidence, each independently supports evolution!

1. Fossil Record

2. Biogeography

3. Comparative Anatomy

4. Comparative embryology

5. Molecular Biology