



-- Charles Darwin Game --

A Simulation

Name:

Date:

Period:

Evolution is hard to see happening in a human lifetime, because of this we need to run a simulation to understand better how the process of natural selection works. Go to the Charles Darwin Game website at <http://science.discovery.com/games-and-interactive/charles-darwin-game.htm> to learn about natural selection and play "Who Wants to Live a Million Years?"

Part 1: Click "Learn About Natural Selection"

Fill in the missing words and answer each question.

1. Part 1: Individuals within a species frequently exhibit _____ in color, size, strength, and other traits.

2. Part 2
 - a. Many _____ are passed from parents to their _____.

 - b. What happened when you clicked to breed the two birds?

3. Part 3
 - a. Which traits survived the competition?

 - b. What is "survival of the fittest"?

 - c. If an organism is born with traits that help it _____ or attract _____, it will likely reproduce more _____. Eventually, _____ traits can spread throughout a _____.

Play the Survival Game!

1. Describe the traits of the animal with which you have chosen to start your population. You should use the "Hints" section of the website to help you describe your animal's traits.

Trait	Animal 1	Animal 2	Animal 3
Head color			
Neck length			
Fur or skin type			
Body color			
Leg length			
Pattern			
Body type			

2. Environmental Challenge 1:
 - a. Write Down the year of your first environmental challenge:
 - b. Did you survive?
3. Environmental Challenge 2:
 - a. Year:
 - b. Did you survive?
4. Environmental Challenge 3: (if needed)
 - a. Year:
 - b. Did you survive?
5. Describe any and all mutations that you added to the population.
6. If you survived a million years, describe the traits that survived in your population?
7. Play again and describe three differences that you noticed from the first time you played.
8. Take the quiz and write which "species" you were after the first time you took it:
Thingus _____.