

Galápagos tortoise evolution.



Galápagos Islands



Because they are so new all plants, insects, birds, etc. on the island are species that must have arrived on the islands

- They might have flown there
- They might have swum there
- They might have drifted there.



Galápagos tortoise

Because tortoises cannot fly (at all), it is most likely that several million years ago, some tortoises on the beach in South America were somehow blown out to sea during a storm.



Those tortoises
would have had
babies and soon
there would
have been a
whole
population of
tortoises on the
island.



When there were more storms the tortoises were swept to other nearby islands.

These islands were different and had different plants for the tortoises to eat.

One some of the islands the leaves on
the plants were high



This suited babies with long necks and high topped
shells.

Evolution

Over time, on this island, tortoises with the long neck were successful because they were the only ones that could reach the food. Their babies were born with long necks too.

Babies with a short neck died out.

On some of the islands the leaves on the plants were low to the ground



This suited babies with short necks and low topped shells.

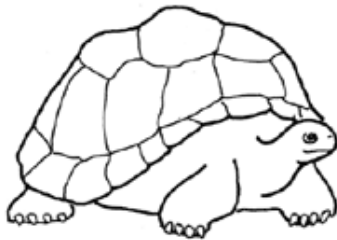
Evolution

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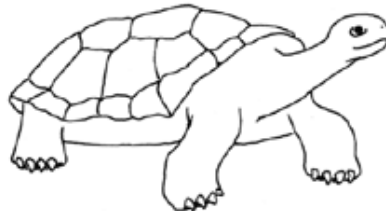
Babies with a long neck died out.

Now.

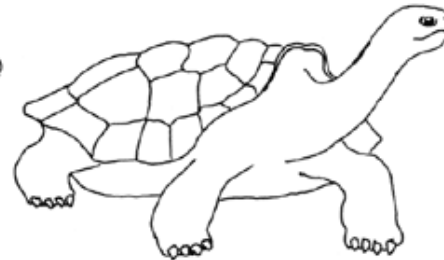
Now there are three different types of tortoise living on these different islands.



domed



intermediate



saddle

Each one of them are perfectly suited to eat the food on the island that they live.

They have each **EVOLVED** differently over a long period of time!

Task

Your task is to tell this story in pictures.

You must include:

- The island
- The first tortoises being swept there
- Them having lots of babies
- Being swept to the other islands
- The different types of plants
- How the different tortoises evolved.