

Task: To know what Darwin liked to do as a child.

Read the text about Darwin when he was a child.

Find 6 things he liked to do - the key words below the chart will help you.

Write a sentence to explain what Darwin liked to do and draw a picture to match. You can read more on the ebook...

<file:///E:/Topic/Beards%20and%20Brains/Darwin-Storybook.pdf>

Get sticky

Throughout his life Charles Darwin collected anything that grew, crept or flew. He would often take a walk to collect samples or think his ideas through. Why not take your own 'Thinking Walk'?

Take some masking tape or sticky tape. Wrap it around your wrist, sticky side up. Get a friend to help and remember not to make it too tight.

Creative Task

As you will discover, as a child Darwin loved to collect things from nature. You could go into your garden and make your own nature collection. You could find different types of plants, leaves and even look for some minibeasts - but be sure to leave these in their habitats.

Then you could do some drawings or make them into a collage or picture. Be creative. It would be lovely to see what you do!



1817–1831

☀ Shrewsbury, Edinburgh
and Cambridge

☀ Darwin aged 8-22



It was four o'clock. School was over and Charles Robert Darwin was busy. He was lying in the grass with his chin propped in his hands doing one of the things he liked best. What was he doing? He was looking hard at what was happening just past the end of his nose.

He was looking at the insects buzzing among the flowers, he was watching the worms moving in the damp earth, he was noticing how the plants grew. But he wasn't just looking, he was also thinking and wondering. Why did the insects go to one flower more than another? Why were the leaves of that plant so different from the one next to it? What were the worms doing to the earth? In fact he was thinking so hard that he didn't hear his three big sisters calling, "Bobby, Bobby, where are you? It's time for tea."

"And what have you got in your pockets today?" asked Caroline. Charles put his hand into his bulging pocket

and pulled out shells, stones, coins and leaves. Caroline wasn't surprised. She knew that Charles was as crazy about collecting things as he was about looking at insects, plants, rocks and animals. He was always wondering why they were like they were and why they did what they did. Caroline knew that Charles really only liked doing what he was interested in; and what he was interested in was being outside, going for long walks, exploring the countryside and fishing in the River Severn, which ran past their garden. He could also be quite naughty, scrumping apples and making up wild stories.

Back at the house tea was ready. Erasmus ('Ras for short) Charles' older brother was wondering why the girls were making a fuss. "You know what he's like. He's always dreaming. Remember the time he was walking on the old city walls, thinking about something or other, and he managed to fall off. He survived. He always does."

should know. When he was 13 he and 'Ras set up a science lab in the garden shed at home; that was much more exciting. The two brothers were often there late into the night experimenting with potions and powders and

making smelly things. Their sisters thought they might blow up the house. As a grown-up, Charles said he had learned a lot from that science lab about how to do science experiments. At the time, Charles' father, Dr Robert Darwin, was not impressed. "You will be a disgrace to yourself and your family," he told Charles.

LO I know about the childhood of Charles Darwin

Darwin liked to		

Looking collecting walks fishing scrumping science lab