

Historical Fiction

Definition: A “made up” story based on real historical events, set in the past, featuring *both real figures from history and invented characters*.



Directions: Read both the story and author’s note carefully. Then complete worksheet.

Title: _____

Author: _____

List real people (if any) from history. Include people the story was based on:

List made up characters (if any):

Tell what you learned about the historical time period using information from author’s note if necessary. Include the years the story takes place, significant event and their importance to history:

List one thing that you would like to learn more about based on your reading of this story:

Who Was Charles Darwin?

Answer Key

1. What word, invented in 1842 by scientist Richard Owen, means “terrible lizard”?

Dinosaur

2. Name the islands, off the coast of South America, whose name means “tortoises” in Spanish.

Galapagos

3. What is an ornithologist?

Scientist who studies birds

4. How long was Charles Darwin’s journey on the Beagle?
Extra Credit-Calculate the number of days!

Almost 5 years approximately 1,740 days

5. Darwin was curious about everything in nature. Name 3 creatures that he studied, each from a different animal group.

Answers will vary (Reptile-Galapagos Tortoise; Insect-red ants; Birds-South American finch; Crustacean-barnacles)

6. What did Darwin call the “force” that causes plants animals to change in order to survive?

Natural Selection

7. What word describes a “hunch that needs to be tested”?

Theory (“hypothesis” is also an acceptable answer)

Empire State Math

Answer Key

Begin with the number of tons of marble

2000

Add the number of hours old the steel was

+ 80

= 2080

Subtract the number of stories in height

- 102

= 1978

Divide by the number of men in the riveting gang

/ 4

(ignore the remainder)

= 494

Add the number of stairs

+ 1860

= 2354

Subtract the number of columns lifted by derricks

- 210

= 2144

Add the street address (_____ 5th Avenue)

+ 350

= 2494

Subtract the (estimated) number of men

working at the beginning of the book

- 600

= 1894

Add the number of feet the concrete piers were sunk

+ 55

= 1949

Subtract the day in March that the mast was hoisted

- 18

Equals the year the Empire State Building was finished

= 1931