

# The Galapagos Islands

## Ecuador

23



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**WHAT? islands**

**WHERE? Pacific Ocean**

**WHAT? wildlife**

**WHAT KIND? strange, unique**

**WHO? Charles Darwin**

**WHY? to study the wildlife**

**WHO? tourists**

**WHY? to see the wildlife**

## A. Where's Igor?

(rrrrring)

Igor: Hello.

You: Hello. Where are you?

Igor: I'm in the Galapagos Islands.

You: Really, what are you doing?

Igor: I'm looking at strange birds and animals.

You: Interesting?

Igor: Yes, very interesting, but I'm going to start ... running.

You: What's happening!

Igor: A ... very ... large ... iguana ... is ... (click)

## B. Do you know these words?

unique \_\_\_\_\_

powerful \_\_\_\_\_

to fly \_\_\_\_\_

to weigh \_\_\_\_\_

a lizard \_\_\_\_\_

to develop \_\_\_\_\_

evolution \_\_\_\_\_

near \_\_\_\_\_

to bother \_\_\_\_\_

a threat \_\_\_\_\_

## C. Read.

The Galapagos Islands are in the Pacific Ocean. They are on the equator, 600 miles from the coast of Ecuador. They were formed by an underwater volcano. Strange and unique birds and animals live there. There is a bird, the cormorant. It is big and powerful. It dives for fish but it cannot fly. There are huge tortoises. They weigh over 500 pounds! And there are thousands of lizards called iguanas. Charles Darwin came here many years ago to study the Islands' wildlife. His studies helped him develop his ideas about evolution.

Today, many tourists visit the islands all year. They walk around and near the animals. They are careful not to bother the animals. However, tourism can be a threat to the unique wildlife of the islands. (128)

## D. Match the two parts of the sentence.

- |                               |                        |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. ____ The Galapagos Islands | A. cannot fly.         |
| 2. ____ They are 600 miles    | B. visit the islands.  |
| 3. ____ They were formed      | C. is a threat.        |
| 4. ____ The strange cormorant | D. from the coast.     |
| 5. ____ It dives              | E. are huge.           |
| 6. ____ The tortoises         | F. for fish.           |
| 7. ____ Many tourists         | G. by a volcano.       |
| 8. ____ Tourism               | H. are in the Pacific. |

## E. Write the answer.

1. What are the Galapagos? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Where are they? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who comes here? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Why do they come? \_\_\_\_\_
5. How often do they come? \_\_\_\_\_

**F. Grammar check.** Use: *They or There.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ are 13 main islands.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ are 600 miles from the coast.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ are many strange animals there.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ are hundreds of tortoises on the islands.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ are huge.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ are thousands of lizards.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ are called iguanas.

**G. Word check.** Fill in the blanks. Use these words: *unique, powerful, fly, weigh, lizard, developed, evolution, bother, threatens*

1. The cormorant can swim and dive, but it cannot \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The tortoises \_\_\_\_\_ a lot.
3. The iguana is a strange looking \_\_\_\_\_, and it is a very \_\_\_\_\_ swimmer.
4. Please don't \_\_\_\_\_ the animals.
5. Too much tourism \_\_\_\_\_ the wildlife.
6. They \_\_\_\_\_ a program to protect the wildlife.
7. Darwin developed the theory of \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Most of the wildlife on the islands is \_\_\_\_\_.

**H. Listen and write.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

## I. Writing check.

Write a postcard to a friend about the Galapagos Islands.

POSTCARD  
BABY FRIGATE  
© DAVID BATE / DREAMSTIME



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## J. Pronunciation practice.

Big birds there.  
And lizards, too.  
And lizards, too!  
They're very, very big  
They're very, very old!  
The Galapagos Islands.  
And waiting for you!  
The Galapagos.

Strange birds there.  
And lizards, too?  
And how about tortoises?  
and very, very old.  
In the Galapagos?  
They're waiting there.  
They're waiting for us!  
The Galapagos.

## **K. Group conversations.**

Would you like to visit Galapagos? Why?

What kind of animals do you like?

Where do they live?

Is a zoo a good place for animals?

## **L. It's Igor, isn't it?**

(rrrrring)

**Igor: Diga!**

**Maria: Igor?**

**Igor: Maria?**

**Maria: Igor, how have you been? And where?**

**Igor: I've been to another world.**

**Maria: What do you mean?**

**Igor: The Galapagos. Fantastic place!**

**Maria: So I've heard. You're so lucky.**

**Igor: Well, uh, sort of.**

**Maria: Oh?**

**Igor: Yeah. I ate something bad.**

**Maria: Oh. Diarrhea?**

**Igor: Yeah. Uh, oh, Maria. I've got to go!**

## **M. Check the Internet: < [www.worldwildlife.org/galapagos](http://www.worldwildlife.org/galapagos)>**