History Topic: The Voyage of HMS Beagle

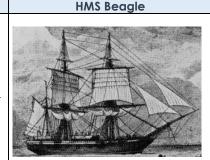
Year Group: 6

Autumn Term 1

Key Knowledge:

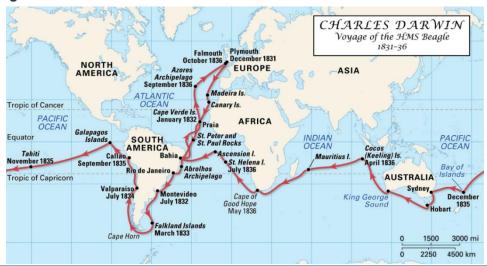
Overview The HMS Beagle was a Royal Navy ship that set sail and travelled around a large part of the world.

- Its purpose was to map countries and continents more accurately than had ever been done before.
- HMS Beagle was made entirely of wood and had been converted from a warship. It
 was powered by sails and was considered the 5th fastest vessel in England.
- The ship set sail from Plymouth on 27th December 1831, captained by Robert Fitzroy, who invited a young natural scientist called Charles Darwin to accompany him on the voyage.
- The voyage of the HMS Beagle visited four continents (Europe, Africa, South America and Australia). It also sailed in four different oceans (Atlantic, Southern, Pacific and the Indian Ocean).
- The Beagle went from Europe to Africa and then travelled the Atlantic Ocean to the Americas. It then travelled to Australia back to Africa before returning home to England.
- The crew had many adventures and made many discoveries. The voyage is remembered for the vital role it played in Darwin's theory of evolution.
- The voyage took 5 years with HMS Beagle returning to Falmouth in England on 2nd October 1836.





HMS Beagle voyage route.



Key Vocabulary:

Voyage	A long journey involving travel by sea or air.
HMS Beagle	A Royal Navy ship launched in 1820. Carried Charles Darwin on its second voyage.
Naturalist	A person who studies the natural world.
Expedition	A journey with a particular purpose, especially that of exploration or research.
Discovery	Something found, invented or uncovered.
Archipelago	A sea or stretch of water having many islands.
Galapagos Islands	A volcanic archipelago, part of the country of Ecuador and situated in the Pacific Ocean.
Ecuador	A country in South America, bordered by Colombia on the north, Peru on the east and south and the Pacific Ocean on the west. Ecuador includes the Galapagos Islands.
Environmental regions	Regions that are based on natural features such as ecosystems, mountain ranges, soil types.
Pacific Ocean	The largest and deepest ocean on Earth.
Hydrographer	Someone who measures and maps the surface water of the world e.g oceans, rivers.
quarters	The crew's living and sleeping area on board a ship.

Historical Skills and Enquiry:

- What was HMS Beagle?
- Why was Charles Darwin on HMS Beagle?
- Where did HMS Beggle travel to/ explore?
- Why do we remember HMS Beagle and its voyage?
- How did HMS Beagles discoveries influence modern life?

Timeline of Charles Darwin's life:

27th
December
1831- HMS
Beagle sets
sail from
Plymouth,
England.

January 1832- HMS
Beagle arrives at the
Cape Verde Islands.
Darwin begins to make
observations and notes
on the natural world.

February 1832- HMS Beagle crosses the Atlantic Ocean, passing Tenerife and Madeira. Darwin makes observation of marine wildlife and collects plankton samples. March 1832- HMS

Beagle reached

South America.

Their first stop was

Brazil.

July 1832- For the next 2 years, HMS Beagle sailed back and forth along the southern and eastern coasts of South America visiting Uruguay and Argentina.

1835- HMS
Beagle
explores the
countries of
Chile, Peru
and Ecuador.

September 1835- HMS Beagle reaches the Galapagos Islands. Darwin makes some of his most important observations. Darwin and the crew spend 5 weeks exploring the islands.

1836- HMS Beagle visits Australia, New Zealand, Mauritius and South Africa before returning to South America. 2nd October 1836-HMS Beagle arrives back in Falmouth, England after nearly 5 years.

HMS Beagle Crew

- When HMS Beagle left England in 1831 there were 74 men on board. When the ship returned almost 5 years later there were 12 less crew members. Some crew members left during the journey and unfortunately 5 died during the voyage from illness or accident.
- Below are some of the key crew members that took part in the voyage.

Vice-Admiral Robert Fitzroy (1805-1865)



Vice Admiral Fitzroy was the captain on the voyage.

After the voyage he invented a barometer to allow sailors to check the weather before setting sale.

Charles Darwin (1809-1882)



Charles Darwin was the naturalist on the voyage. This meant that he was responsible for observing plants and animals in different places as well as collecting samples that could be studied and experimented on back in Britain. Charles Darwin was 22 years old when he was invited to on the voyage.

82) John Wickham (1798-1864)

John Wickham was a Sottish naval officer, explorer and hydrographer. A hydrographer is someone who measures and maps

the surface water of the

world.

Syms Covington (1816-1861)



Syms Covington became Darwin's servant boy during the voyage. He helped Darwin to collect and label specimens. He continued to work for Darwin after the voyage and helped him organise his Galapagos Islands specimens.

George Phillips (1807-?)

George Phillips was

a seaman on

vovage before

becoming the

ships' cook. He had

to prepare and

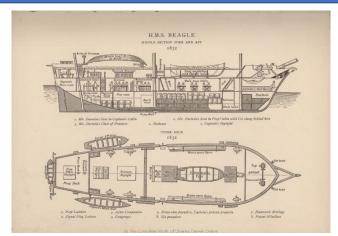
cook meals for all

the crew during the

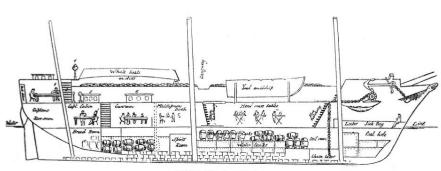
Admiral John Lort Stokes (1811-1885)



Admiral John Lort Stokes was a naval officer who travelled on HMS Beagle for almost 18 years. On this voyage of the Beagle he was the assistant surveyor. He took notes and helped to make maps of the countries they explored. He also shared a cabin with Charles Darwin.

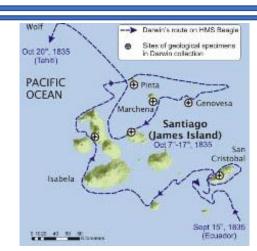


A cross section view of HMS Beagle.



H.M.S. Beagle 1832

The crew quarters on HMS Beagle.



HMS Beagle's journey and Darwin's exploration of the Galapagos Islands.