



SCIENCE EXPLORATIONS

Animals, Adaptation, and the Galápagos Islands
Discover with Darwin

Solve the Mystery

1. What evidence have you gained by examining the crate?
2. How would you describe the shape of this shell? Is it domed, saddleback, or somewhere in the middle — intermediate?
3. What evidence have you gained by examining the shell?
4. What evidence have you gained by examining the DNA?
5. What evidence have you gained by examining the field notes?

Based on your analysis of the evidence, write a short reply to Beatrice Quagmeyer's letter. Make sure to explain to her how you found answers to her three questions:

- A) Is this tortoise shell from Darwin's lifetime?
- B) If so, where did the tortoise live when it was alive? Was it from the Indian Ocean or the Galápagos Islands?
- C) If you are able to determine where it came from, where did it live specifically — which island or area?