

## Session: Evolution – Darwin, Wallace and the Great Game

“Change in inherited characteristics over generations.” This is how Charles Darwin defined natural selection in his 1859 publication of ‘On the Origin of Species’. In this session we explore the idea of evolution, and how some of our greatest scientific minds came to this conclusion. The group will look at the biological arms race between predators and prey, and ask the important question: How did we get here?

### Session Breakdown:

- Introduction: Why are we here?
  - Philosophy v Science
  - Evolution/Natural Selection: What is it?
- Evolution, how does it work?
  - Passing down traits
  - Successful creatures v Unsuccessful Creatures
  - Predators v Prey
  - Have humans evolved?
- Who’s idea is it?
  - Introduce Charles Darwin & Origin of Species
  - Why was Darwin afraid to speak up?
  - How did Darwin figure it out?
  - Who was Alfred Wallace?
- Understanding Finches
  - Adaptation & camouflage
- Are we still evolving?
- Activity: The Game of Evolution
- Summery & Farewell

Duration: 1.5hrs (Museum), 1hr (Outreach)

### Artefacts Used:

- Tiger Skull
- Sheep Skull
- Monkey Skull
- Finches
- Butterflies