

Wallace discovery trail

Alfred Russel Wallace was a great and clever man who loved to study the animals of the world. He worked out why they all looked so different, that they all evolved. Charles Darwin came up with the same idea even though they were thousands of miles apart at the time. This year, the Natural History Museum is celebrating Wallace's life and achievements, 100 years since he died.

Follow this trail to start your own journey of discovery through the Museum, and see animals Wallace collected on his travels. Don't worry – unlike Wallace, you won't get shipwrecked!

Key

1. Search for the origin of species.
2. Portrait of Wallace.
3. Flights of imagination.
4. Collectors in the Amazon.
5. Orang-utans of the Malay Archipelago.
6. Wallace's birdwing butterfly.
7. Beautiful beetles.
8. Wallace the scientific hero.
9. Collecting evidence for natural selection.

Ground Floor

Darwin Centre

Central Hall

Entrance
(Cromwell Road)

West lawn

Collecting evidence for natural selection

This flying frog was unlike anything Wallace had ever seen. Imagine having parachutes as feet, and being able to glide from treetop to treetop. Think how could webbed hands and feet make your life easier?

Wallace the scientific hero

Wallace went to New Guinea in search of birds of paradise, which no European had ever seen in the wild. He discovered a completely new one in 1858 with the help of his Malaysian assistant Ali, who collected it for him.

Which bird of paradise is it? This is a _____.

Flights of imagination

Wallace spent much of his time on the move, trekking through the Amazon. He sailed up the Rio Negro and around the islands of what is now Singapore, stopping off to continue to explore and collect specimens. He lived in the wild, eating whatever food he could find.

Which of these did Wallace not eat on his travels?

- Fruit bat fricassée ☐ Durian fruit ☐ Sago cakes ☐
 Roasted dragonflies ☐ Beetle bread ☐
 Spiny catfish ☐ Orang-utan ☐

Search for the origin of species

A young Wallace arrived in the Amazon with his good friend Henry Walter Bates, ready to collect as many specimens as he could.

Imagine arriving in a jungle. How would you feel?

- Excited ☐ Nervous ☐ Scared ☐
 Homesick ☐ Happy ☐

Join the dots to complete the bird.



Beautiful beetles

Draw your favourite beetle.

Colour me in...
I'm a golden birdwing butterfly

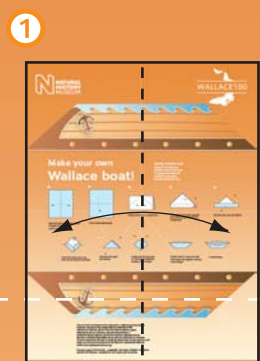
Guess how many insects, birds and mammals Wallace collected over the eight years he spent in the Malay Archipelago?

125,660
83,200
13,400
109,700

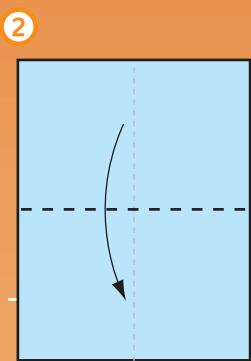
The Natural History Museum holds about 70% of the specimens Wallace collected. Turn over for answers.

Make your own explorer's boat.
Turn over and find out how.
You won't need glue or scissors.

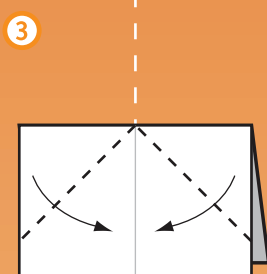
Make your own Wallace boat



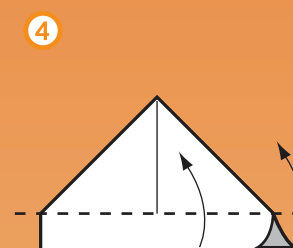
1 Start with this piece of paper, this side up. Fold in half, then open.



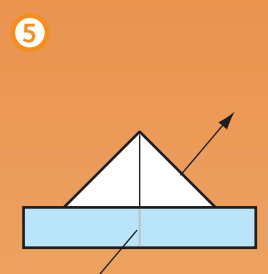
2 Fold in half downwards.



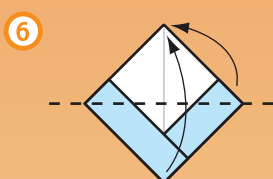
3 Bring corners in to centre line.



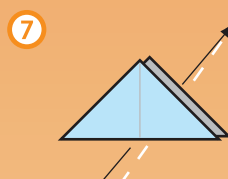
4 Fold uppermost layer upwards and do the same to the back. Crease well.



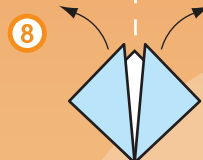
5 Pull the sides out and flatten.



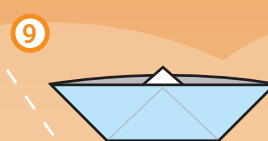
6 Fold front layer up to top, then do the same at the back.



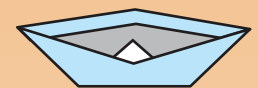
7 Pull the sides apart and flatten.



8 Gently pull the top parts of the model outwards, making a boat shape.



9 Flatten well to crease all folds. Then open out slightly, forming a boat shape.



You're ready to set sail.

Find out how the Natural History Museum is celebrating Alfred Russel Wallace's centenary here: www.nhm.ac.uk/wallace100

Inspired by Wallace's genius?

Play the natural selection game www.nhm.ac.uk/evolutiongame

Become a Member

www.nhm.ac.uk/visit-us/become-a-member

If you're inspired by the idea of studying nature, why not get outdoors and study your local environment with the Open Air Laboratories Network (OPAL)

www.opalexplornature.org

Pick up a copy of *Wild World* from the shop – a quarterly, full-colour children's magazine, packed with features, competitions and a giant pull-out poster.

Answers from overleaf:

3. Beetle bread.

8. Wallace's standard wing.

9. 125,660.