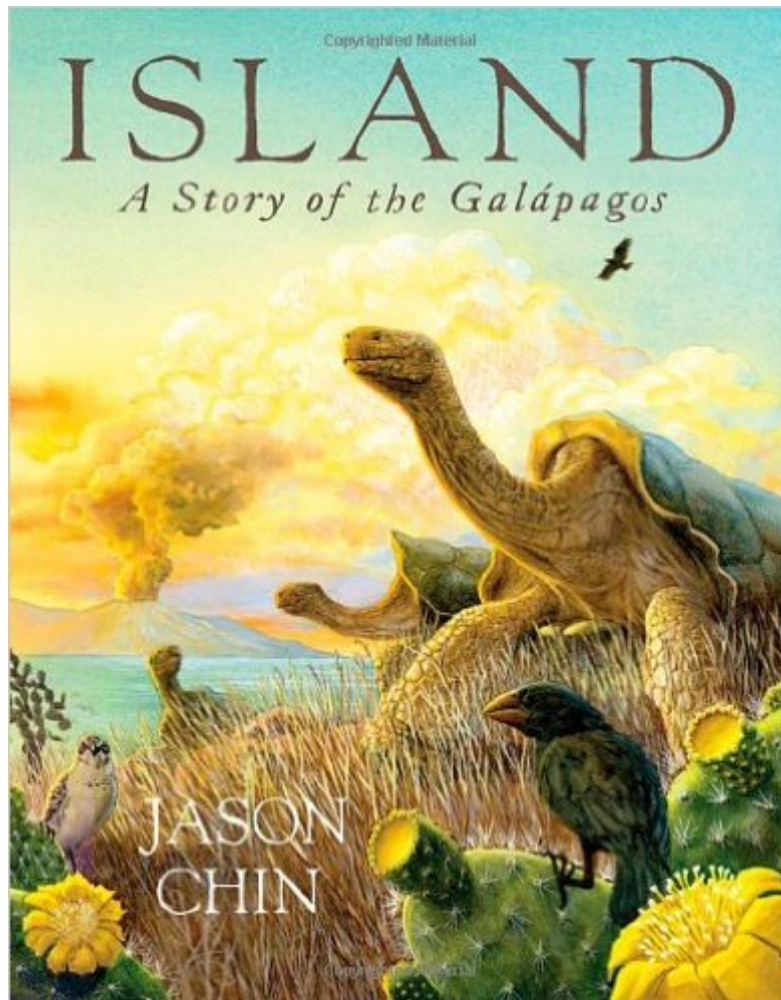


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# Island: A Story Of The Galápagos



## Synopsis

Charles Darwin first visited the Galápagos Islands almost 200 years ago, only to discover a land filled with plants and animals that could not be found anywhere else on earth. How did they come to inhabit the island? How long will they remain? Thoroughly researched and filled with intricate and beautiful paintings, this extraordinary book by Award-winning author and artist Jason Chin is an epic saga of the life of an island—born of fire, rising to greatness, its decline, and finally the emergence of life on new islands. Chin's approach makes this book a must-have common core tool for teachers and librarians introducing scientific principals to young students. Island is one of Kirkus Reviews' Best Children's Books of 2012

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 900L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Roaring Brook Press (September 18, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1596437162

ISBN-13: 978-1596437166

Product Dimensions: 8.9 x 0.4 x 11.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (26 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #264,177 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #98 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Oceans & Seas](#) #126 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Water](#) #178 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Environment & Ecology](#)

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

We live in the Galapagos part time due to my husband's work and this is the ONLY book that I have found that tells the story of these amazing islands to children in a language that is fun and easy for them to understand. We love reading this book at home over and over again. It brings the magic of the islands home when we are so far away. Your kids will love it!

Jason Chin has done an excellent job with this book. If you or your child likes nature or science, this

is a must have!! Jason Chin won the Giverny Award for his book Redwood, so when I saw this one was available at the library- I had to read it to my 6 year old. Afterwards, she had so many questions which turned into over an hour long conversation about island biogeography and evolution; hence, it was a must have for our personal library. She loved it and I've purchased a second one for my niece. We have also read Coral Reefs but this one by far is my favorite! It explains how the first island formed, organisms which migrated there and how they changed, and also how islands die. I'm really into science and love children books (we've read all of the Giverny Award books-- which is specifically for children's science books-- highly recommend many of those too: [...] ) and this book is by far in the top 3 science books for children that I have ever read.

I recently got back from Galapagos and got this book for my 8 year old grandson. He loved it. It was a bit dis-jointed for my taste, but he loved it. And since this is a kids book, that's all that mattered. Hence the rating.

Redwoods was my introduction to the wonderful Jason Chin a couple of years back, but it was a bit too fiction-y for the other Cybils panelists back then. Times have changed, though, and we readers are more open to a whisk here and there of fiction elements in our nonfiction. And (at least I think) it makes for a better world. So then Island. Let's look at Island. Chin, panel by panel, takes us through the birth, growth, and eventually disappearance of an island in the Galápagos. We see the island and its inhabitants change, over years and years, in little ways that, as time passes, become big and helpful modifications. Chin pulls his characters, all the creatures who begin to populate the island, right to the center of his drawings, posing for us, where we can look closely at all the curious developments, and slowly, reading along, we are pulled into the story of this intriguing spot in the world. Perhaps for the first time, like the first people who visited the islands, we see the inevitability of slow evolution and change in our world. Beautiful.

The air is still and the sea is calm, but beneath the water something is stirring."Six million years ago and over 600 miles away from the closest continent, a new island is about to be born. From birth to death, the life story of an island and its evolution is recounted in a five part biographical format. Plant and animal life on the island is nonexistent for many years, until a seed falls from a tree on a neighboring island and makes its way to the new island. Mangrove trees begin to grow, and soon seabirds and marine iguanas from older islands begin to make the new island their home. In time, sharks, sea turtles, sting rays, seagulls, penguins, frigate birds, pelicans, sea lions, tortoises,

finches, snails, and cormorants join the first plant and animal settlers. As the island changes over time, plant and animal life evolve and adapt to the different environmental changes. Eventually the island sinks below the blue waves forever. Through the years, new islands have emerged and the endemic plant and animal descendants of the island now exist on these other islands. Author and artist, Jason Chin's beautiful paintings and insightful text journal the Galapagos Islands' history, taking the reader on a fascinating fact filled island safari. *Island A Story of the Galapagos Islands* is an exceptional reading journey through nature and time.

We're a homeschooling family studying South America this month, we checked this out from the library and yesterday, enjoyed this beautiful book together. My kids really enjoyed it and learned so much, even my little 4 year old was loving it. Beautiful theory of the history of the Galapagos Islands, how they formed, and how the animals came to live there and evolved to become endemic species (species that exist nowhere else in the world). It was enjoyable for us on so many levels, we just finished a Unit on Australia and it was wonderful to be provided with this definition of these species in both Galapagos and Australia that are found no where else. We also did a unit on Archeology and went into evolution and Charles Darwin earlier this year and it was nice to review and learn about him again. This book teaches so much and has such beautiful and plentiful illustrations that children want to keep listening, and you'll be looking forward to reading it again. Adding it to my pinterest list of books I Love, and would like to buy.

The story of the formation of the Galapagos Islands. Beginning 6 million years ago the author takes readers through the formation of an island, the first signs of life, evolution, natural selection, and the sinking of the island back into the sea. In the epilogue readers are introduced to Charles Darwin and in an afterword more information is provided on Darwin's connection to the islands. A truly great and engaging science book for children. The illustrations move back and forth between full page picture book illustrations to smaller panels of pictures that looks more like the pages of a graphic novel. These alternating views give both a close up view of island life as well as the big picture.

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