A picture containing sketch, illustration, text, line art

Description automatically generated*Alfred Russel Wallace Timeline*

**1823** – Born 8th of January in Usk, Wales.

**1837** – Victoria becomes Queen.

**1840-43** – Wallace works as a surveyor in West England and Wales.

**1844** – Meets Henry Walter Bates who teaches him about insect collecting.

**1846-48** – Inherits his brother’s surveying business and works for the railways in Neath, earning enough money to propose a South American expedition to Bates.

A close up of a butterfly

Description automatically generated with medium confidence**1848** – Travels to the Amazon with Bates to begin a natural history collecting expedition.

**1851** – Travels further up the Rio Negro – one of the Amazon’s major rivers – than any previous European. Creates an accurate map of the course of the river.

**1852** – Leaves South America to return to England. His ship burns at sea and sinks.

**1854-62** – Travels to the Malay Archipelago, collecting specimens and formulating theories on the origin of species.

**1858** – Sends Charles Darwin a letter to share his ideas and asks him for his comments. Later that year Wallace and Darwin present a paper on evolution at a meeting of the Linnean Society.

A group of bugs in a frame

Description automatically generated with low confidence

**1859** – Darwin’s *The Origin of Species* is published.

**1869** – *The Mala Archipelago* by Wallace is published.

**1913** – Wallace dies in Dorset, England.

**1914** – Start of the First World War.

**1915** – Medallion bearing Wallace’s name placed in Westminster Abbey.

**Activity**

1. In pairs, look at the timeline of Wallace’s life.
2. Try and work out how old he was…
   1. when Queen Victoria became Queen
   2. when he travelled to the Amazon
   3. when he died
3. Looking at the things that he achieved in his life, what kind of person do you think Wallace was? Consider the words below and choose which best describe him. Discuss with your partner and share your decisions with the class.

lazy passionate inquisitive brave boring

interesting kind exciting tired strong

1. How would your timeline look?

Why not create a timeline with key dates from your life up until now? You could include the day you were born, the date/s your brothers or sisters were born (if they are younger than you, of course!), when you first started school or even when you learnt to do something rather brilliant.

My Timeline So Far