

## Key to Galapagos Finches

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. Beak yellow or orange.....                       | 2                              |
| Beak black or white.....                            | 4                              |
| 2. Head feathers lighter than eye colour.....       | 3                              |
| Head feathers as dark as eye colour.....            | CACTUS EATING GROUND FINCH     |
| 3. Claws splayed for standing on soil or rocks..... | SHARP-BEAKED GROUND FINCH      |
| Claws curved for gripping twigs and branches.       | VEGETARIAN TREE FINCH          |
| 4. Body yellow or green.....                        | 5                              |
| Body pale with some black feathers.....             | SMALL INSECT-EATING TREE FINCH |
| 5. Beak black.....                                  | WOODPECKER FINCH               |
| Beak brown and yellow.....                          | WARBLER FINCH                  |

### Notes on the birds

Cactus eating ground finches eat cactus

Woodpecker, warbler and the small tree finch all eat insects found on trees. The woodpecker finch lives in hot dry forests, while the small tree finch is better adapted to hot, wet (humid) forests. The warbler finch has spread to every island in the Galapagos.

The Vegetarian Tree Finch eats seeds found on mountainous islands.

The sharp-beaked ground finch eats seeds in areas where there are bushes and small plants but not many trees. Its beak is adapted to picking seeds from the ground. But it can also survive in very barren places by using its beak to take blood from gulls and boobies (large sea-birds). For this reason it is sometimes known as the Vampire Finch.