

# Detecting Darwin

## Further Activity: Cross-hatch writing

<http://www.darwinproject.ac.uk/learning/7-11/detecting-darwin>

### How long will activity take?

- 30 mins

### What do I need?

- Paper and pens
- Image of Fanny Owen's letter to Darwin
- Blank letter template

Discuss the different ways that we communicate with each other today. What options did Darwin have?

Why do you think he wrote so many letters?

Imagine you are on an expedition and paper is limited. Try writing a crossed letter to a classmate about an amazing thing that you have found.

### What do I do?

1. Choose who you are writing to (make sure everyone will be receiving a letter). Using lined paper, start by writing a page of words leaving a line space between each line.
2. Once you have filled the page, turn it 90 degrees to your left so that the page is now wider than it is long. Begin writing again, you will be writing over your original words, so try to keep it neat.
3. Sign the bottom of the letter.
4. Fold up the letter using the blank letter template as a guide. On the back, write the name of your class mate.
5. Choose someone to deliver the mail to everyone in class.
6. See if you can read the letter that you have been sent.



Sometimes they are not easy to read!



# Blank letter template

Darwin Correspondence Project (CC BY-ND 2.0)

Cut

Your Address

The Date

Greeting (Dear...)

Write your letter...

Farewell (Yours...)

Fold 4

To...

Address posting to

Fold 2

Fold 5

Fold 3

Fold 1

Cut

Cut

Cut