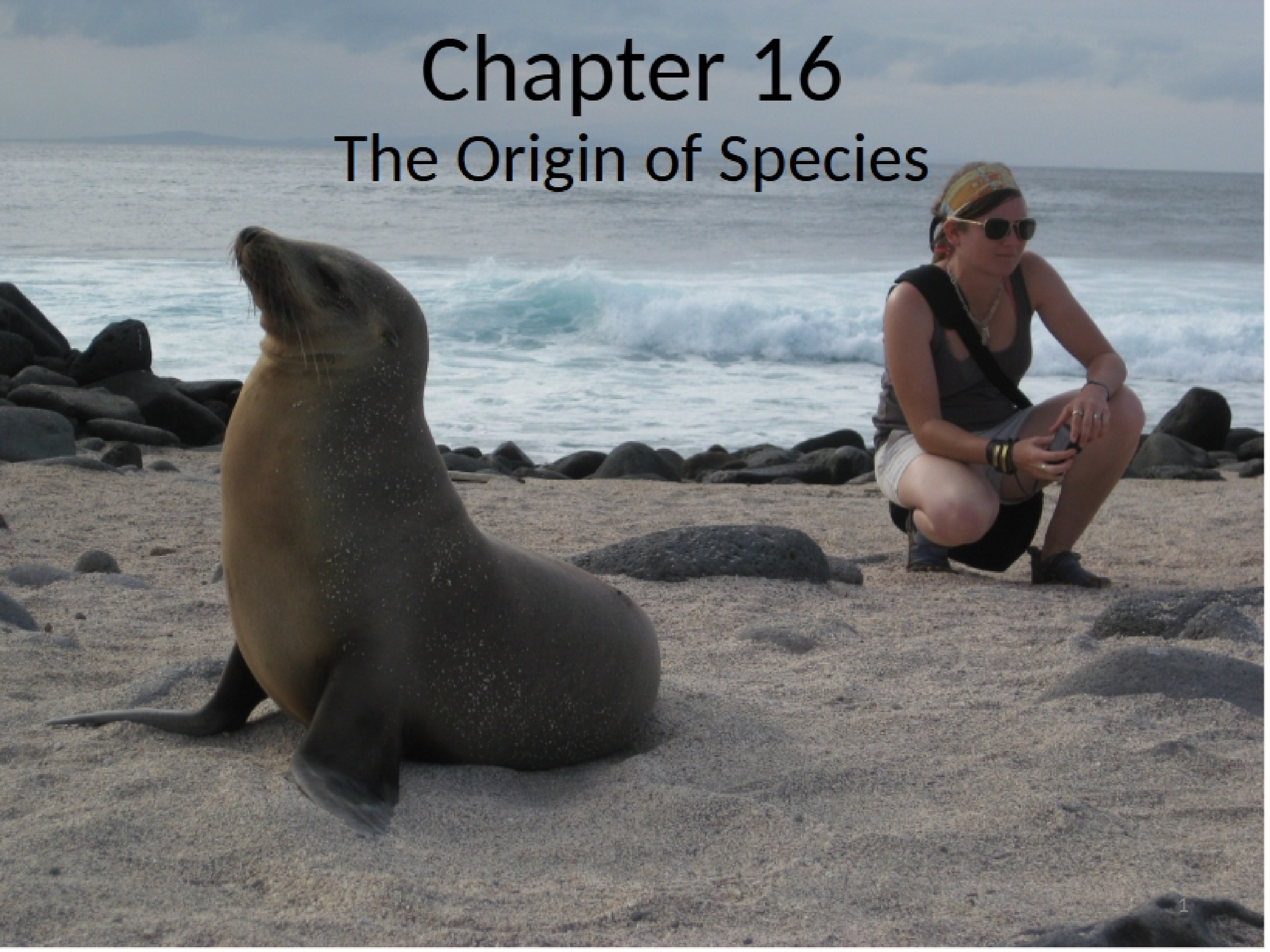


Chapter 16

The Origin of Species



Species

- The basic unit of taxonomic classification
- a population that evolves independently of other populations
- The **biological species concept**

Kingdom-Phylum-Class-Order-Family-Genus-Species

The Biological Species Concept

Based on the observation that **reproductive isolation** ensures evolutionary independence

Defining a species can be confusing

Appearance can be misleading...

- Some organisms look very similar but are different species
- Some organisms look different but are the same species