

Year 6 - Evolution and Inheritance

Subject Specific Vocabulary

characteristics	A feature or quality belonging to a person or an animal
adaptation	Adaptation is the process by which animals, plants and other living things have changed so that they better suit their habitat.
evolution	Evolution is the theory that all the kinds of living things that exist today developed from earlier types.
inheritance	When living things reproduce they pass on characteristics to their offspring. This is known as inheritance .
Palaeontologist	A palaeontologist is someone studying the life of past geological periods as known from fossil remains
genes	Genes that are passed on to you determine many of your traits, such as your hair colour and skin colour.
variation	A change or slight difference
Natural selection	A process where organisms that are better adapted to their environment survive and produce more off spring

Prior Knowledge

- I can explain how a fossil is formed
- I can name living things living in a range of habitats, giving the key features that help to identify them
- I know that living things produce off-spring
- I know what an environment is and that it can change naturally or due to human activity

New Knowledge

Recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago

Recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents

Identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution

Charles Darwin

Charles Robert Darwin (1809 – 1882) was an English naturalist, geologist and biologist, best known for his contributions to the science of evolution. His proposition that all species of life have descended from common ancestors is now widely accepted and considered a fundamental concept in science

