



Knowledge Organiser for Year 6 Science - Evolution and Inheritance



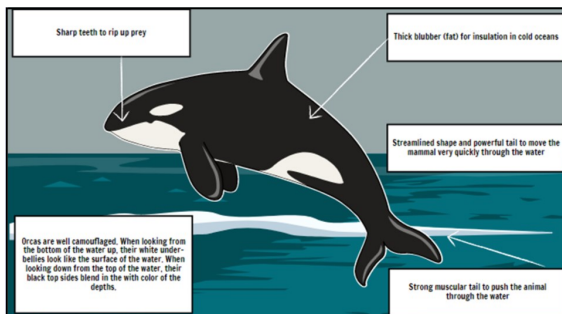
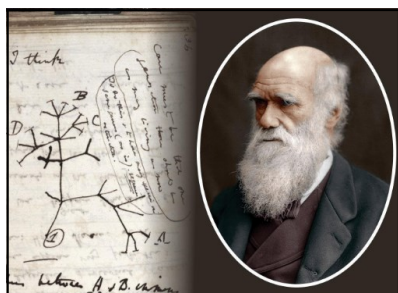
Fossils are the preserved remains of plants and animals whose bodies were buried in sediments, such as sand and mud, under ancient seas, lakes and rivers. Fossils provide a snapshot of the past and by studying fossils, scientists can learn how much (or how little) living things have changed over time.

Charles Darwin

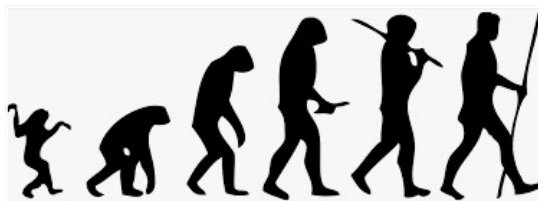
Naturalist

1809 - 1882

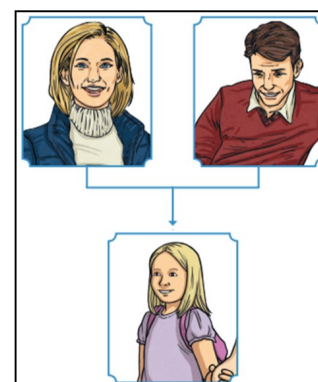
In 1858, Darwin revealed his 'Theory of Evolution by Natural Selection' and a year later published the controversial 'On the Origin of Species', explaining his daring new ideas.



Animal adaptations are behaviours or physical traits that improve an animal's chance of survival in its environment - leading to the survival of the fittest.



When living things reproduce they pass on characteristics to their offspring. Inherited characteristics are passed on from one generation to another but acquired characteristics develop because of the influence of the environment.



Tier 3 Vocabulary

Adaptation	A trait (or characteristic) changing to increase a living thing's chances of surviving and reproducing.
Characteristics	The distinguishing features or qualities that are specific to a species.
Evolution	Adaptation over a very long time.
Extinct	The complete disappearance of a species on Earth; no longer in existence.
Fossil	The remains or imprint of a prehistoric plant or animal embedded in rock and preserved.
Gene	The basic unit of inheritance .
Inheritance	When characteristics are passed on to offspring from their parents.
Mutation	A change in the structure of a gene.
Natural Selection	The process where organisms that are better suited to their environments tend to survive and produce more offspring .
Offspring	The young animal or plant that is produced by the reproduction of that species.
Trait	A quality that makes one living thing different from another.
Variations	The differences between individuals within a species.

Past learning: In Year 6 I learned about animal and plant reproduction.

Current learning:
Year 6
Evolution and Inheritance

Future learning: In Key Stage 3 I will learn about genetics and evolution.