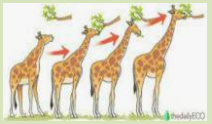
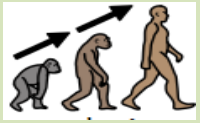
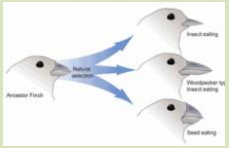
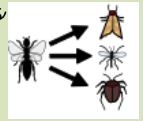
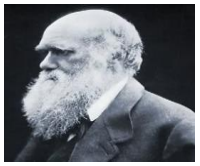
Year 6 Summer 1- Evolution and inheritance

Key vocabulary

Adaptive traits 	Characteristics that are influenced by the environment the living things live in. These adaptations can develop as a result of many things, such as food and climate..
Evolution 	Adaption over a long time.
Genetics 	The way physical traits and characteristics get passed down from one generation to the next
Inherited traits 	These are traits you get from your parents. Within a family, you will often see similar traits, e.g. curly hair, eye colour.
Natural Selection 	The process where organisms that are better adapted to their environment tend to survive and produce more offspring.
Variations 	The differences between individuals within a species.

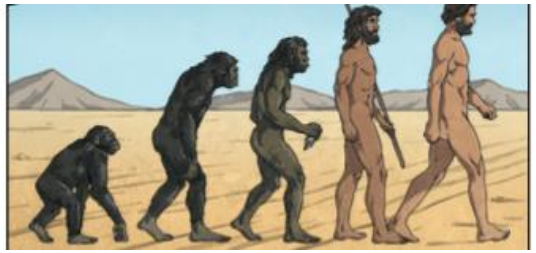
Influential Individual



Charles Darwin 1809-1882

Charles Darwin was an English naturalist, geologist and biologist, widely known for his contributions to evolutionary biology.

Fossils are the preserved remains, or partial remains, of ancient animals and plants. **Fossils** let scientists know how plants and animals used to look millions of years ago. This is proof that living things have **evolved** over time.



Evolution is the gradual process by which different kinds of living organism have developed from earlier forms over millions of years. Scientists have proof that living things are continuously **evolving** - even today!

Offspring

Animals and plants produce **offspring** that are similar but not identical to them. **Offspring** often look like their parents because features are passed on.

Variation

In the same way that there is **variation** between parents and their **offspring**, you can see **variation** within any species, even plants.

Living Things		Habitat		Adaptive Traits
polar bear		arctic		Its white fur enables it to camouflage in the snow.
camel		desert		It has wide feet to make it easier to walk in the sand.
cactus		desert		It stores water in its stem.
toucan		rainforest		Its narrow tongue allows it to eat small fruit and insects.