

Year 6 Evolution Knowledge Organiser

Selected Vocabulary and Definitions

Adaptation	The process of change so that an organism or species can become better suited to their environment.
Breeding	The mating and production of offspring by animals.
Environment	The surroundings or conditions in which a person, animal, or plant lives.
Evolution	The process by which different kinds of living organism are believed to have developed from earlier forms during the history of the earth.
Fossil	The remains or impression of a prehistoric plant or animal embedded in rock and preserved.
Inherit	To gain a quality, characteristic or predisposition genetically from a parent or ancestor.
Offspring	A person's child or children/ an animal's young.
Selective breeding	The process by which humans use animal breeding and plant breeding to develop selective characteristics by choosing particular animals and plants.
Trace fossil	Indirect evidence of life in the past such as the footprints, tracks, burrows and waste left behind by animals.

Curriculum objectives

I can recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago.

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

I can identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways.

I can identify scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments.

Key Questions

What do evolution and inheritance mean?

Why are fossils useful to show evidence of evolution?

What is natural selection? How does it drive forwards evolution?

Give an example of an animal and plant who have adapted to their environments?

Why was the work of Charles Darwin important?

