



## Science – Year 6 Evolution and Inheritance

### Vocabulary

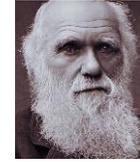
Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Offspring	Inheritance	Evolution
Environment	Variations	Natural selection
Habitat	Characteristics	Adaptive traits
Species	Resemble	Inherited traits
Survive	Fossil	Adaptation
Identical	Trait	Organism

### Useful Resources

- Pictures and video clips to observe and explore different animals and their habitats.
- Animal picture cards to sort and classify.

### Key Scientists:

**Charles Darwin (1809-1882):** was an English biologist who is famous for his scientific theory of evolution by natural selection.



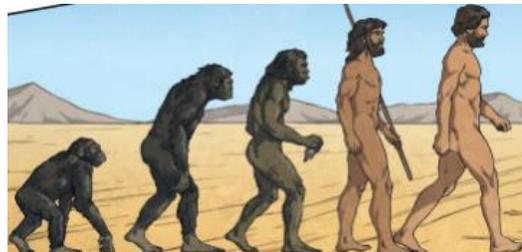
**Dr Seirian Sumner (Born 1974)** - is an evolutionary biologist. She specialises in social evolution and behaviour in insects (bees, wasps and ants).



### Animal Adaptations

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.

### Evolution



### Key Questions/Facts

#### How do an animal's offspring resemble their parents?

- Animals and plants produce offspring that are similar but not identical to them.
- In the same way that there is variation between parents and their offspring, you can see variation within any species, even plants.

#### What characteristics do animals develop and why?

- Adaptive Traits 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.
- They are changes designed to increase a living thing's chances of surviving and reproducing.
- Inherited Traits are characteristics that are passed on to offspring from their parents, such as eye colour.

#### What is evolution?

- 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!

#### What is natural selection?

- Natural Selection is the process where organisms that are better adapted to their environment tend to survive and produce more offspring.