



Science – Year 6 Evolution and Inheritance

Vocabulary

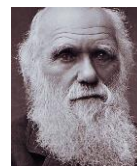
| Tier 1 | Tier 2 | Tier 3 |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Offspring | Inheritance | Evolution |
| Environment | Variations | Natural selection |
| Habitat | Characteristics | Adaptive traits |
| Species | Resemble | Inherited traits |
| Survive | Fossil | Adaptation |
| Identical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



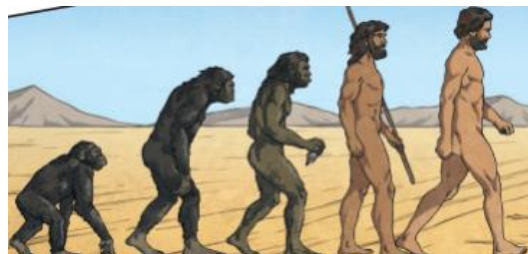
Dr Seirian Sumner (Born 1974) - is an evolutionary biologist. She specialises in social evolution and behaviour in insects (bees, wasps and ants).



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.