

Year 6 Knowledge Organiser: *Evolution*

Skills

Researching into different types of a species and their characteristics e.g. penguins
Classifying to show variation in a species (e.g. dogs, different species of plant, etc)
Identifying patterns such as beak design in birds with different diets

Knowledge

- Recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago
- Recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents
- Identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution

Year 6 Knowledge Mat: Evolution

Key vocabulary

offspring	animals' young
sexual reproduction	the process by which a male and female parent produce offspring
variation	differences between living things of the same species or family
evolve	how living things gradually change over time in response to their environment
environment	habitat or surroundings
inherited	characteristics passed on by parents to their children
species	a group of living things with very similar characteristics
fossils	the traces of plants or animals that lived long ago
acquired	a characteristic than cannot be passed on to offspring
adaptation	how plants and animals have changed to suit their environment
extinct	a species which has died out
endangered	at serious of risk of becoming extinct

Facts

Fossils provide evidence of how living things were different millions of years ago.

Charles Darwin's introduced the theory of natural selection in his book 'On the Origin of Species' .

Natural selection ('survival of the fittest') is the process by which living things which are better adapted to their environment survive, whereas those that are not well suited become extinct.

Living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents.

