

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

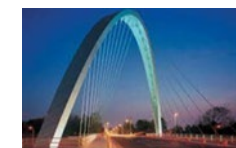
- Recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago*
- Recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents*
- Identify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

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Key vocabulary	
adaptation	how plants and animals have changed to suit their environment
characteristics	features which vary between individuals
evolve	gradually change over time in response to their environment
environment	habitat or surroundings
fossils	the traces of plants or animals that lived long ago
sexual reproduction	the process by which a male and female parent produce offspring(young)
variation	differences between living things of the same species or family
inherited	characteristics passed on by parents to their offspring
acquired	a characteristic than cannot be passed on to offspring
	Bridging backwards:

Question	Essential Knowledge
1. What are fossils and how are they useful to scientists?	1. Fossils are the preserved remains of ancient animals and plants. Fossils let scientists know how animals or plants use to look millions of years ago. This is proof that living things have evolved over time.
2. What is an inherited trait?	2. An inherited trait is a trait you get from your family. Within a family you often see similar traits, such as curly hair.
3. What is evolution?	3. Evolution is the gradual process through which different types of living organisms have developed from earlier forms over millions of years. Scientists have proof that living things are still evolving.
4. What is natural selection?	4. Natural selection is known as 'the survival of the fittest'. The best adapted organisms are able to survive . The most desirable characteristics get passed down from parents to their offspring .
5. What is an adaptation?	5. An adaptation is a trait (or characteristic) changing to increase a living thing's chance of surviving and reproducing.

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.



Bridging forwards:
Year 7 Biology