

# Science - From Creation and Beyond—Evolution and Inheritance - Year 6 - Summer 2 - How have living organisms in our world evolved over time?



## Vocabulary Top Ten:

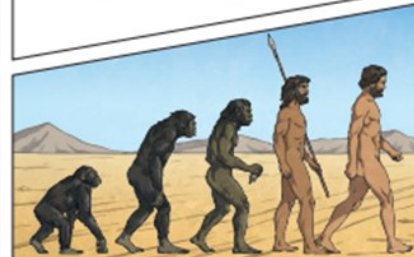
<b>offspring</b>	The young animal or plant that is produced by the reproduction of that species.
<b>inheritance</b>	This is when characteristics are passed on to offspring from their parents
<b>variations</b>	The differences between individuals between a species.
<b>characteristics</b>	The distinguishing features or qualities that are specific to a species
<b>adaptation</b>	Is a trait (or characteristic) changing to increase a living thing's chances of surviving and reproducing.
<b>habitat</b>	Refers to a specific area or place in which particular plants or animals live
<b>environment</b>	Contains many habitats and includes areas where there are both living and non-living things
<b>natural selection</b>	where organisms adapt to their environment in order to better survive and reproduce
<b>fossil</b>	The remains or imprint of a pre-historic plant or animal embedded in rock and preserved.
<b>evolution</b>	Adaptation over a long time
<b>adaptive traits</b>	Genetic features that help a living thing to survive.
<b>inherited traits</b>	These are the traits that you get from your parents. Within a family you will often see similar traits. E.g. curly hair

## Key Facts:

**Fossils** are the preserved remains, or partial remains, of ancient animals and plants. **Fossils** let scientists know how plants and animals used to look millions of years ago. This is proof that living things have **evolved** over time.



**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!



**Offspring**  
Animals and plants produce **offspring** that are similar but not identical to them. **Offspring** often look like their parents because features are passed on.

**Variation**  
In the same way that there is **variation** between parents and their **offspring**, you can see **variation** within any species, even plants.



**Adaptive Traits**  
**Characteristics** that 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.

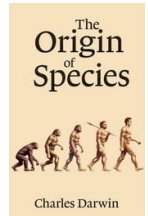


**Inherited Traits**  
Eye colour is an example of an **inherited trait**, but so are things like hair colour, the shape of your earlobes and whether or not you can smell certain flowers.

## Charles Darwin

**(1809-1882)**

Charles Darwin was an English scientist who studied nature. He is known for his theory of evolution by natural selection.



## Rachel Carson

**(1907-1964)**

Marine biologist, author, and environmentalist



## What will we know by the end of this unit?

- 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.