

<b>Science Focus:</b> Evolution and Inheritance	<b>Year Group:</b> 6	<b>Autumn Term</b>
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**Key Knowledge:**

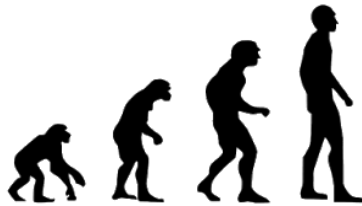
**How living things have changed over time.**

- The types of animals that live on Earth have changed over time.
- These animals have **adapted** to suit life on Earth now.



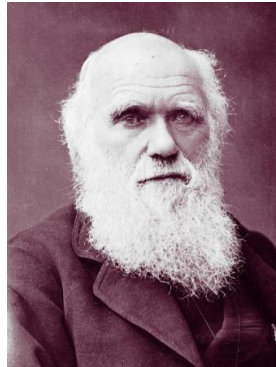
- Fossils are the remains of ancient animals and plants.
- Fossils give palaeontologists information about how plants and animals used to look.

• **Evolution** is the process by which different living things have developed over time. An example of this is that Scientists believe humans have evolved from chimps.



**Significant Person – Charles Darwin (Theory of Evolution)**

- Charles Darwin is a famous Scientist.
- He worked with finches (birds) that lived on the Galapagos islands.
- Darwin found that some finches had developed/ **adapted** different beaks in order to eat different food.
- Darwin's theory is that all species can develop/ **adapt** to increase their ability to survive.



**Family and their links.**

- *Animals and humans produce **offspring** (babies).*
- **Offspring** are similar and often look like their parents because of **inherited Traits**.
- *However not all adults and children will have the same coloured hair or eyes.*

**Animal and Plant adaptations.**

**Natural Selection**

- *The process where organisms **adapt** to suit their surroundings and to survive.*
- *They adapt to suit the **environment** in which they live (**adaptive Traits**).*

*Examples:*

*Polar Bear – Has white fur to camouflage against the snow.  
 Cactus – It stores water in its stem to stay hydrated in the desert.*

**Key Vocabulary:**

**Offspring** – The young animal or plant that is produced by the reproduction of that species.

**Inheritance** – This is when characteristics are passed on to offspring from their parents.

**Variations** – The differences between individuals within a species.

**Characteristics** – The distinguishing features or qualities that are specific to a species.

**Adaptation** – An adaptation is a trait changing to increase the chances of surviving.

**Habitat** – A specific area or place in which animals and plants can live.

**Environment** – An environment contains many habitats and includes areas where there are both living and non-living things.

**Evolution** – Adaptation over a very long time.

**Natural Selection** – The process where organisms that are better adapted to their environment tend to survive and produce more offspring.

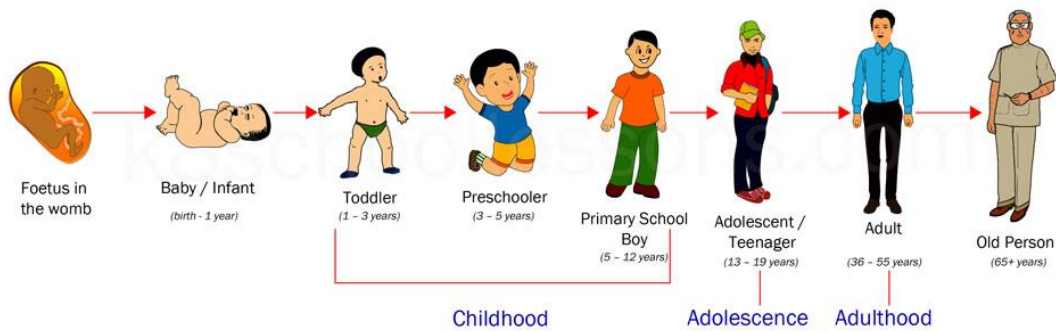
**Fossil** – The remains or imprint of a prehistoric plant or animal embedded in rock and preserved.

**Adaptive Traits** – Genetic features that help a living thing to survive.

**Inherited Traits** – These are traits you get from your parents. Within a family, you will often see similar traits. E.g. hair colour.

## Diagrams and Symbols:

### Life Cycle of Humans –



## Possible Experiments:

An investigation into their family tree and the inherited traits transferred between generations.  
Make their own fossils.

How fossils have changed over time.

<https://www.stem.org.uk/resources/elibrary/resource/36611/fossils>