



Adaptations

Year 6

Knowing More, Remembering More

Remembering previous learning

What is a species? A species is a group of similar organisms where two parents can create offspring.

What is variation? Variation is the differences between organisms.

What are characteristics? Characteristics are the features of an organism, used to identify individuals or a group.

Where do characteristics come from? Human offspring inherit characteristics from their parents, such as eye colour, hair colour and skin colour.

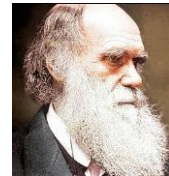
In this unit children will:

- Identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution.

Working Scientifically:

- 6.3 Make predictions based on scientific knowledge.
- 6.5 Plan different types of scientific enquiries to answer questions, including recognising and controlling variables where necessary.
- 6.10 Report and present findings from enquiries, including conclusions, causal relationships and explanations of and a degree of trust in results, in oral and written forms such as displays and other presentations.
- 6.12 Use scientific evidence to answer questions.
- 6.13 Make conclusions based on scientific evidence and from their own testing and findings.

Key Scientists:



Classic

Charles Darwin (1809 - 1882)

English naturalist, geologist and biologist, known for his work 'On the Origin of Species'.

Key Learning Steps:

1. Animal adaptations
2. Plant adaptations
3. Evolution
4. Charles Darwin
5. Natural selection
6. Darwin's finches

Key Vocabulary:

- characteristics
- adaptations
- polar habitat
- desert habitat
- habitat
- evolution
- common ancestor
- species
- theory
- natural selection
- finch

Knowing More, Remembering More

Knowing more in Y6

What is meant by the term 'adaptation'? Adaptations are characteristics which improve an animal's chances of survival in a habitat.

How are some animals adapted to living in cold environments? Animals in cold environments have characteristics which allow them to survive. For example, they may have thick fur or blubber.

How are some animals adapted to living in desert environments? Animals in desert environments have characteristics which allow them to survive in extreme heat. Some of these include thin fur and long eyelashes.

How are some plants adapted to living in desert environments? Plants in desert environments have longer roots and larger stems, so they can absorb and store more water. This allows them to survive in hot, dry environments such as deserts, where there is not much water available.

What is evolution? Evolution is a change in characteristics in animals and plants over a long period of time.

Who was Charles Darwin? Darwin was a scientist who suggested that different species of animals had evolved from a shared ancestor and that organisms change their characteristics over a long period of time so that they can adapt to their environment.

What is natural selection? Natural selection is the process where organisms which are better adapted to their habitat are more likely to survive and reproduce.