

Y6 - Evolution & Inheritance

Key Vocabulary

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 plant or animal, embedded in a 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. curly hair.

Inheritance- this is when characteristics are passed onto offspring from their parents.

Variations - the difference between individuals within a species


Characteristics - the distinguishing features or qualities that are specific to a species

Adaptation - a trait or characteristic changing to increase a living things chances of survival


Habitat - refers to a specific area or place in which particular animals and plants can live

Environment - contains many habitats and includes areas where there are both living and nonliving things.



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.

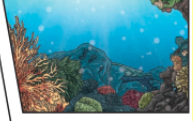

Inherited Traits
 Eye colour is an example of an **inherited trait**, but so are things like hair colour, the shape of your earlobes and whether or not you can smell certain flowers.












Habitats
 A good **habitat** should provide shelter, water, enough space and plenty of food.

Environments
 There are many types of **environment** around the world. Polar regions, deserts, rainforests, oceans, rivers, and grasslands are all **environments**.

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.

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