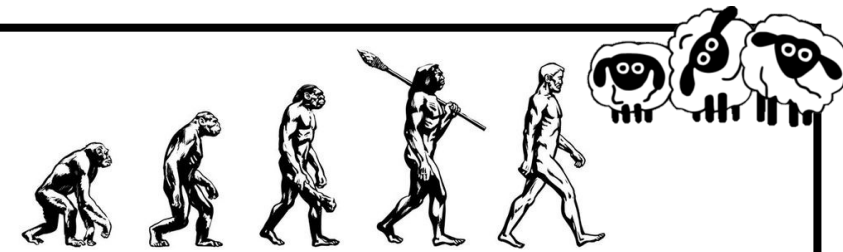


# Evolution & Inheritance



## Key Vocabulary

### Curriculum Links:

- 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.

### Key Facts:

- Evolution is a process of change which takes place over many generations where species of animals, plants or insects change their physical characteristics
- Evolution occurs when there is competition to survive—this is natural selection
- Difference within a species is caused by inheritance and mutations. Inheritance is where characteristics are passed on throughout the generations. Mutations are not inherited from the parents
- Fossils give us evidence of evolution, they provide us information about living things which inhabited the Earth millions of years ago
- Adaptation is where animals/plants have evolved to adapt to survive in their environment
- Some adaptations can be disadvantageous eg. the dodo
- When adaptations are not helpful, they are called maladaptations

### Possible experiences: We should already know:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| • Research Charles Darwin                                    | • Which things are living and which are not                |
| • Create plants/animals                                      | • Identify animals and plants using classification         |
| • Create a new planet—decide which animals/plants live there | • That animals are carnivores, herbivores and omnivores    |
| • Visit Brogdale   | • That animals have offspring which grow into adults       |
| • Wildwood visit   | • The basic needs of animals for survival                  |
| • Port Lympe visit   | • Habitats and the animals/plants which survive there      |
|  | • The features of rocks and the role they play in the for- |

Adaptation	A change in structure that improves the chance of survival for an animal/plant within a given environment
Ancestor	An early type of animal/plant from which a later type has evolved
Breeding	The process of producing animals/plants by reproduction
Characteristics	Features which belong to them and make them recognisable
Evolution	A process of change that takes place over many generations where animals/plants change some of their physical characteristics
Extinct	No longer has any living members, either in the world or a particular place
Generation	The process of being through reproduction
Inherit	A characteristic which you are born with because your parents had it
Mutation	Characteristics which are not inherited
Natural Selection	The process where species of animals/plants that are best adapted to their environment survive, while those which are less well adapted die out
Offspring	A person's child or animal's young
Variation	A change or slight difference