


Learning Organiser for Year 6 Science - Evolution and Inheritance		
National Curriculum Summary Key Subject Concept		Key Questions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is adaptation? How do local animals/insects differ from ones in other countries? How are animals adapted to their environment? What are the advantages and disadvantages of adaptations? What is the theory of evolution? How do we know about evolution?
Key Vocabulary	Definition	Key Facts
Adaptation	A change that improves the chance of survival for an animal or plant within their environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evolution is a process of change that takes place over many generations, during which species of animals, plants, or insects slowly change some of their physical characteristics. Adaptation is where animals or plants have evolved to suit their environment. These changes can help animals and plants to survive and reproduce. Evidence of evolution comes from using fossils to compare living creatures from the past with today.
Characteristics	The qualities or features that belong to an animal or plant	
Evolution	A process of change that takes place over many generations	
Inherit	If you inherit a characteristic, you are born with it because one or more ancestors had it	
Natural Selection	The process by which species who are best adapted to their environment survive and reproduce above others less well adapted	
Palaeontology	The study of fossils as a guide to the history of life on Earth.	
Mutation	A characteristic which develops that is not inherited.	
Working Scientifically Skills		Diagrams/Charts/Pictures
<p>Identify scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments.</p> <p>Record data and results of increasing complexity using scientific diagrams and labels, classification keys, tables, scatter graphs, bar and line graphs</p>		<p>The top diagram shows a sequence of five human-like figures from an ape-like ancestor to a modern human, illustrating the process of evolution. The bottom diagram shows four bird-like species with different beak shapes, labeled 1 through 4, illustrating adaptation to different environments.</p>

Possible Experiences	Biographical Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Odd one out. A child chooses 3 pictures of a minibeast, bird, plant. Others say which is the odd one out and why • Classify pictures of animals. Which live in hot or cold climates? • Use online resources to find out about a specific animal or a specific plant and find out how it is suited to the environment in which it lives. • Create a tree of life to show the link between species. • Identify examples of how animals have adapted to their environment. • Explore Darwin's idea of evolution by using websites such as http://tinyurl.com/pxle7sh • Fossil hunting 	<p data-bbox="842 237 1198 271">Charles Darwin (1809-1882)</p>  <p data-bbox="842 584 1385 725">Charles Darwin, an evolutionary scientist, studied different animal and plant species, which allowed him to see how adaptations could come about.</p>