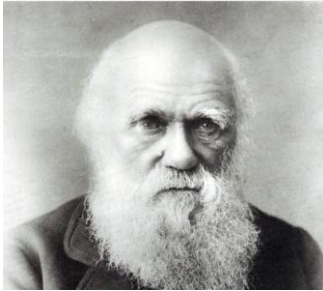




“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart”

Colossians 3:23



Evolution and Inheritance

Year 6
Spring 1

Key Knowledge:

Features in the offspring are inherited (passed on) from the parents.

Adaptation is when a living thing changes to better suit its environment in order to survive.

Evolution is the creation of a new species over a very long period of time, due to ongoing adaptation.

All living things have offspring of the same kind

Due to sexual reproduction, the offspring are not identical to their parents and vary from each other.

If the environment changes rapidly, some variations of a species may not suit the new environment and will die.

Over time, these inherited characteristics become more dominant within the population.

Fossils give us evidence of what lived on the Earth millions of years ago and provide evidence to support the theory of evolution.

Scientists such as Darwin and Wallace observed how living things adapt to different environments to become distinct varieties with their own characteristics.

Key Vocabulary:

offspring: an animal's young (children)

adaptation: the process of change to make a living thing better suited to its environment.

inheritance: the process by which genetic information is passed on from a parent to a child

species: a group of living organisms consisting of similar individuals capable of exchanging genes or breeding with each other.

evolution: the process by which different kinds of living organism are believed to have developed from earlier forms during the history of the earth by the long-term process of adaptation.

evolve: to develop/change gradually

vary: to differ in a characteristic.

characteristic— a special quality or trait that makes a person or animal different or the same as others



Key People / Dates/ Phrases:

Charles Darwin: Published the theory of evolution in 'On the origins of species'. He first shared his ideas to the Linnaean college in 1858.

Alfred Russell Wallace: First scientist to develop the theory of evolution and worked on it for 20 years before publishing it with Darwin.

Mary Anning: Famous fossil hunter in Lyme Regis who unearthed many fossils. She sold her first one to British History Museum in 1819.