

Evolution and inheritance	Key learning	Possible evidence	Knowledge at the end of the unit	Vocabulary
Year 6	1. recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago 2. recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents 3. identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution	Can explain the process of evolution Can give examples of how an animal or plant has evolved over time e.g. penguin, peppered moth Give examples of living things that lived millions of years ago and the fossil evidence we have to support this Can recognise that we share genes with our parents/grandparents etc and may have similar features but these will not be identical. Can state living things reproduce both sexually and asexually Can give examples of how plants and animals are suited to an environment Can give examples of fossil evidence that can be used to support the theory of evolution	Fossils give us evidence of what lived on the Earth millions of year ago and provide evidence to support the theory of evolution. More recently scientists such as Darwin and Wallace observed how living things adapt to different environments to become distinct varieties with their own characteristics. All living things have offspring of the same kind, as features in the offspring are inherited from the parents. Due to sexual reproduction, the offspring are not identical to their parents and vary from each other. Plants and animals have characteristics that make them suited (adapted) to their environment. If the environment changes rapidly some variations of a species may not suit the new environment and will die. If the environment changes slowly, animals and plants with variations that are best suited survive in greater numbers to reproduce and pass their characteristics on to their young. Over time these inherited characteristics become more dominant within the population. Over a very long period of time these characteristics may be so different to how they were originally that a new species is created. This is evolution.	Offspring, Vary/ variation characteristics, suited, adapted / adaptation environment, inherited / inheritance species, fossils Darwin Wallace Habitat Evolution Natural selection Adaptive traits Inherited traits