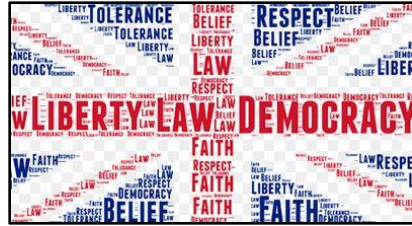


# Our theme is 'Adaptation and Evolution'

## British values from the national curriculum:

- Democracy.
- The rule of law.
- Individual liberty.
- Mutual respect.
- Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.



When living things produce *offspring*, they pass on their physical traits to their children so that they are similar but not identical. The offspring inherit traits from both their mother and father.

Living things are *adapted* to their *habitats*. This means that they have traits that help them to survive in one environment, but not in another.

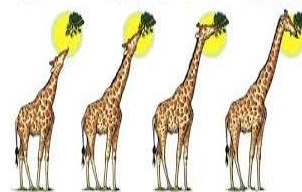


## Key Facts and Knowledge



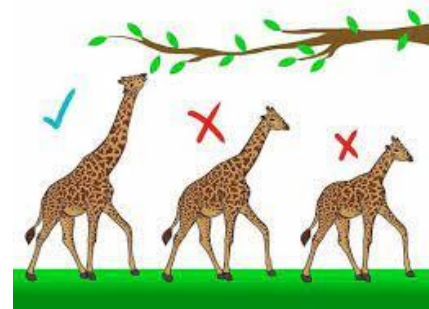
A *fossil* is the preserved remains or trace of a living thing that has been buried in the Earth for millions of years.

*Evolution* is the gradual process by which different kinds of living organism have developed from earlier forms over millions of years. Scientists have proof that living things are continuously evolving - even today!



**Charles Darwin** (born 1809) was one of the first scientists to write about evolution. He reached his ideas by travelling the world and observing living things in their natural habitats.

**Palaeontologists** are the scientists who search for fossils and use them to work out what life on Earth was like millions of years ago.



**Natural selection** is the term coined by Darwin, used to describe how animal species continue and survive. It is when organisms are **best suited** to their environment survive and pass on their genetic traits.

# Our theme is 'Adaptation and Evolution'

## Key Vocabulary

### **Fossil**

Fossils are the preserved remains of plants and animals whose bodies were buried in sediments.

### **Living things**

Living things take in and release certain chemicals. Animals breathe in oxygen and breathe out CO<sub>2</sub>. Green plants take in CO<sub>2</sub> through their leaves and release oxygen.

### **Organism**

An organism is any living thing, from the smallest bacteria to the humongous blue whale.

### **Species**

Species refers to a group of similar organisms that are able to reproduce. We are a species as humans, and so are dogs!

### **Offspring**

The child or young of a particular human, animal, or plant.

### **Trait**

a characteristic or quality that makes a person or animal different from others.

### **Inherit**

to receive through a parent's genes.

### **Habitat**

the natural environment of an animal or plant.

### **Environment**

All the physical surroundings on Earth are called the environment. The environment includes everything living and everything non-living.

### **Adaptation**

The process by which a species becomes better suited to its environment is called adaptation.

### **Evolution**

the theory that all the kinds of living things that exist today developed from earlier types.

### **Charles Darwin (1809 - 1882)**

Charles Darwin was an English scientist who studied nature. He is known for his theory of evolution by natural selection.

### **Natural selection**

Natural selection is where a species changes as its environment changes. Members of the species are in competition to survive.