



Year 6 – Evolution and Inheritance

Prior Learning: the children will know the differences in lifecycles between a mammal, amphibian, insect and bird.

Concept: Living things

In this unit we will learn that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago.



Ask scientific questions

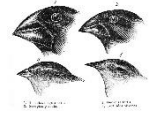


Plan and set up an enquiry



4. TWAL about the theory of evolution by natural selection

In this lesson we will learn about the theory that Darwin arrived at, his theory of evolution by natural selection. One of Darwin's main discoveries were the different types of finches in the Galapagos islands, which all had different beaks to match different food even though they had all descended from the same basic type of bird!



Natural selection- to adapt favourably to an environment.

1. TWAL that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited Earth millions of years ago

In this lesson you will learn how fossils are formed, what the fossil record is and why fossils are so important to understanding the past history of Earth.



The fossil record gives us information about how living things and the environment have changed over time.



Ask scientific questions

5. TWAL about ways in which plants and animals adapt in order to suit their environment

Today we will consider how various animals would need to adapt in order to survive in a completely different environment- for example a polar bear living in the Amazon rainforest! Can you weigh up the advantages & disadvantages of the adaptations?



2. TWAL: about the life and work of the palaeontologist Mary Anning

In this lesson we will learn about Mary Anning and the work she did discovering and collecting fossils. Then you will create a 'Linked in' profile for her, detailing why her work had such an impact on palaeontology.



Ask scientific questions



6. TWAL that living things produce offspring of the same kind but offspring vary and are not identical to the parent

Today we will learn that genes are the basic unit of heredity. This means that genes determine what traits are passed down from a mother and father to their child. We will be thinking about the question 'Are offspring identical to their parents?'



Some characteristics are **inherited** from **parents**, however others are influenced by **environmental** factors.

3. TWAL about the theory of evolution by natural selection

We will discover the voyage Charles Darwin undertook on his ship the HMS Beagle to discover different species of animals. We will learn how over many years of travelling Darwin was able to arrive at his theory of evolution by natural selection.



Darwin's theory explained why all life forms have changed throughout the history of Earth.

Words we will know!

