



Human Evolution, Adaptation and Inheritance Knowledge Organiser

Term 1 and 2

- Key Questions**
- What is evolution?
 - What is inheritance and how are traits passed to offspring?
 - How can we find out about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago?
 - How are animals and plants adapted to suit their environments?



Key Vocabulary

inheritance – the passing on of genetic characteristics from parent to offspring

evolution – the process by which different kinds of living organism are believed to have developed from earlier forms during the history of the Earth

fossil – the remains or impression of a prehistoric plant or animal embedded in rock or preserved in petrified form

variation – the occurrence of an organism in more than one distinct colour or form

identical – with exactly the same genetic make-up

offspring – child produced by two parents

adaptation – the process of change by which an organism or species becomes better suited to its environment

environment – the surroundings or conditions in which a person, animal or plant lives or operates

habitat – the natural home or environment of an animal, plant or other organism

organism – a living thing

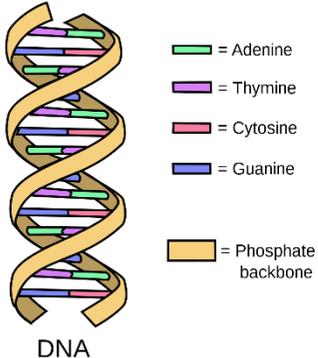
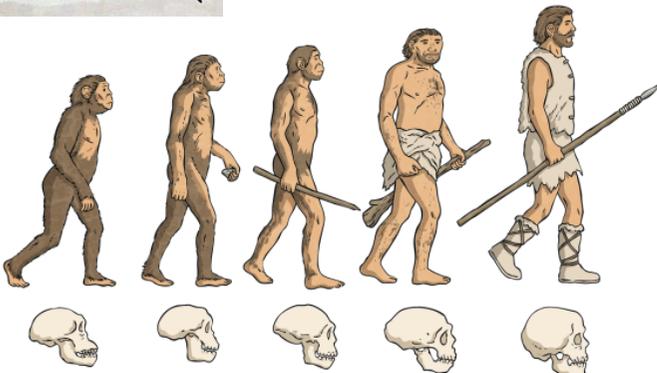
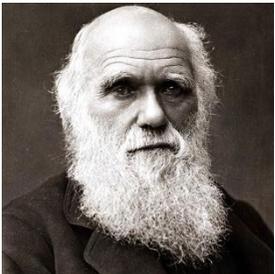
Key People

Charles Darwin - an English naturalist, geologist, biologist, best known for his contributions to evolutionary biology. His proposition that all species of life have descended from a common ancestor is widely accepted and considered a fundamental principle in science.

Mary Anning – an English fossil hunter and amateur anatomist credited with the discovery of several dinosaur specimens that assisted in the development of paleontology.

Rosalind Elsie Franklin - was a British chemist and crystallographer whose work was central to the understanding of the molecular structures of DNA, viruses, coal, and graphite.

Francis Crick and James Watson – Scientists who worked on understanding the structure of DNA. Unknown to Crick, Franklin, Watson and Crick saw some of her unpublished data. Using Franklin's photograph and their own data, Watson and Crick created their famous DNA double helix model. Watson, Crick and Wilkins shared the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1962. Franklin's contribution was not acknowledged, but after her death Crick said that her contribution had been critical in understanding the structure and how genetic information is passed on.



Useful web links:

- https://school-learningzone.co.uk/key_stage_two/ks2_science/the_human_body/evolution_and_inheritance/evolution_and_inheritance.html
- <https://www.nhm.ac.uk/schools/teaching-resources/key-stage-2/evolution-and-inheritance.html>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zvhhvcw>

