

Subject: Science	Area of learning: Evolution and	
Year Group: Yea	r 5/6 Inheritance (Year B)	
Links to	 KS1 – Children may have learnt that most living things live in 	
previous	habitats to which they are suited and be able to describe	
work/Remember	how different habitats provide the basic needs of different	
when	kinds of animals and plants.	
	 They may have leant to identify animals and plants from a 	
	variety of environments. They may have noticed that	
	animals have offspring that grow into adults.	
	 They also learnt about reproduction in some plants and 	
	animals.	
	 KS2 – In the Rocks and Soils topic (Y3), children may have 	
	learnt how fossils are formed.	
	Working Scientifically	
	 being able to ask and investigate relevant scientific 	
	questions;	
	setting up simple scientific enquiries;	
	making systematic and careful observations; acthoring, recording and presenting data;	
	gathering, recording and presenting data;	
	• reporting on findings both oral and written;	
	 using results to uraw simple conclusions using straight forward scientific evidence to support what 	
	they have found out	
	Year Key Skills to be taught	
	5/6	
Summer 1	 recognise that living things have changed over time and that 	
2024	fossils provide information about living things that inherited	
	the Earth millions of years ago.	
What the	Recognise that living things produce offspring of the same	
children should	kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their	
of this sories of	parents.	
lessons	 Identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their 	
16330113	environment in different ways and that adaption may lead to	
	environment in different ways and that adaption may lead to	
	evolution.	
	Working Scientifically	
	working Scientifically	
	• plan unrerent types of scientific enquires about local animals	
	and now they are adapted to their environment, including	
	Compare how some living this so are adapted to survive in	
	 Compare now some living things are adapted to survive in 	
	extreme environments, e.g. cactuses, penguins and camels	



 take measurements, using a range of scientific equipment, with increasing accuracy and precision, taking repeat readings when appropriate record results using scientific diagrams and labels use test results to make predictions to set up further comparative and fair tests report and present findings from enquiries, including conclusions, causal relationships and explanations of and degree of trust in results, in oral and written forms such as displays and other presentations identify scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments

Vocabulary

Offspring, characteristics, vary/variation, inherit/inheritance, environmental variation, suited/suitable, environment, natural selection, fossils, theory, opinion, evolution adaptation, gene, organism, species, adapt, genes, genetics, physical traits.

Sequence of learning	Learning Objectives/Outcomes	Suggested lesson outline
1 Use Explorify Zoom in Zoom out - Garden	Learning Objective: I can identify how plants are adapted to their environment. Key Knowledge:	Recap – What do you already know about evolution, adaptation and inheritance? What can you remember about habitats and the basic needs of plants and animals?
Blades as a way in.	In this context, adapt means the biological mechanism by which organisms adapt or change due to changes in their environment. Organisms have to adapt when their environment changes over time. Cacti are adapted to life in hot	Plant Adaptation In this lesson children understand that adaptation is how a plant or animal has changed over a long period to be better suited to the environment in which they live. Focus - camels, then water lilies, cacti and dandelions.
	arid environments by having fixed stems that store water and very small leaves to minimise evaporation.	Children write an explanation of how cactus are well adapted to suit life in a desert. They may go on and say why a cactus has large spikes and what might happen if they didn't. As a next step, they could give two reasons, based on their
	Enquiry Type:	scientific thinking, as to how water lilies benefit from having large leaves.



	Compare how some living	
	things are adapted to	
	survive in extreme	
	environments.	
2	Learning Objective: I can identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in	Recap – paired talk - What does adaptation mean? How are camels adapted to their environment?
	adaptation may lead to evolution.	Animal adaptations In this lesson the children will focus on animal adaptations, writing an introduction to a chosen animal then
	Key Knowledge: In this context, adapt means the biological mechanism by which organisms adapt or change due to changes in their environment. Organisms have to adapt when their environment changes over time. Animals are adapted in different ways to suit different environments	researching and writing a paragraph to explain the specific adaptations for the animal. Animal adaptation is a physical or behavioural adaptation which helps them survive in their chosen environment. <i>Children write an introduction to their</i> <i>chosen animal giving details about where</i> <i>they live, what they eat, and if they live</i> <i>solitary lives or part of a group. They</i> <i>then research the adaptations the animal</i> <i>has before writing a second paragraph to</i>
	Enquiry Type: Identify scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments.	explain those adaptations.
3 <mark>You could</mark> use Explorify -	Learning Objective: I recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils	Recap – What does adaptation mean? Can you give an example of a plant or animal adaptation?
The Drinks	provide information about	Natural Selection
Menu	living things that	In this lesson the children will learn that
here.	inhabited the Earth	natural selection is when organisms that
	millions of years ago.	are best suited to their environment
		survive and pass on their genetic traits.
	Key Knowledge:	At the same time, organisms that are
	Natural selection is the	less likely to survive tend to be
	survival of the fittest, the	eliminated from the ecosystem. This is
	best adapted organisms	often called the survival of the fittest.
	are able to survive. The	
	most desirable	Children study the Dark Peppered Moth
	characteristics get	as a recent example of natural selection.



		Prin
	passed down to their offspring because they survive and breed, whereas those with less desirable characteristics may not be so lucky. Enquiry Type: Identify scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments.	They then design a pattern for a moth to remain camouflage against different surfaces before matching the key words to their definition. You could give the children a short research task of finding three interesting facts about Charles Darwin, who is credited with developing the theory of evolution.
4	Learning Objective: I can identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution.	Recap – Can you remember what adaptation, natural selection and evolution mean? Discuss and reinforce understanding. Why did finches in the Galapagos Islands have to evolve their beaks? How does adaptation lead to evolution?
	Key Knowledge: One of Darwin's expeditions when he was younger took him to the Galapagos Islands. Darwin observed that the finches on the islands were identical to each other and those on the mainland except for their beaks. They had adapted their beaks to be able to eat the seeds that were available on the different islands. Enquiry Type: Report and present findings from enquiries, including conclusions, causal relationships and explanations of and degree of trust in results, in oral and written forms such as displays and other presentations	Darwin and the Galapagos Finches In this lesson the children will learn about the Galapagos Island Finches and what Darwin learnt from them. They will then go on to simulate this adaptation by planning in brief and carrying out a 'beak' investigation, finding out which of the three beaks was best at picking up which size of seed. Children will record an outline of their investigation and record their forms in a table. Children will then record which 'beak' was best at picking up which type of seed. This should help them understand why birds had to adapt via the processes already taught in this unit.



5	Learning Objective: I recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents. Key Knowledge: I know genes are the things in your DNA that make you how you are, and that some genetic characteristics, such as eye colour and blood type, can be inherited from your parents. Parents and offspring vary, because not all genes are passed down. Siblings will therefore look similar, but not identical. Enquiry Type: Observing closely, using simple equipment.	Recap – Why did the Galapagos Island finches have different beaks? What did you learn about 'beaks' through your investigation? What are genes? Genetics & Parents and their Offspring In this lesson the children will be introduced to genetics and understand how offspring inherit their parents' qualities. They therefore look similar but are not identical. Children look at the Beckham family and try to identify which characteristics have been inherited from each parent.
6	Learning Objective: I recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago. Key Knowledge: Fossils are any preserved remains or traces of a living thing from a previous geological age. Fossilisation occurs when the remains of a plant or animal decay and are replaced with minerals from the ground water, or	 Recap – What is a fossil? Has anyone ever found a fossil? Can you remember how fossils form? Fossils and the Fossil Record Children will recap what fossils are and how they are formed before considering how they can help us to understand evolution. Children look at photographs of horse skulls before looking at how they have changed over the past 60 million years. They work together to list how the horse has evolved over those 60 million years. They then think (excepting the influence of man) why they think extinction might occur.



assessment.

Learning Outcome/product

and inheritance.

Children have explored how animals and plants are adapted to the environment in which they live. They will learn that adaptations occur over time and that may lead to a species evolving. Children will have considered how certain adaptations occur in response to environmental conditions. They will learn about natural selection and how this links to inheritance and how some characteristics are inherited from parents and some are not. Children will consolidate previous learning on fossilisation and understand how studying fossils has helped explain the theory of evolution.

Assessment records	List only those children who have not achieved the expected outcomes.	

