

Y6 Science: Evolution & Inheritance

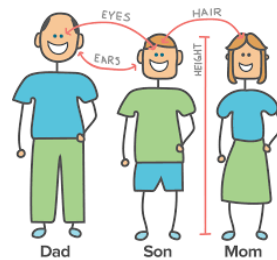


All living things have **offspring** of the same kind.



What I can remember from Y5:

- Most animals reproduce sexually
- Plants reproduce both sexually and asexually
- Some animals give birth to live young, some lay eggs



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**.

Camel

Very little urine and very dry faeces (you can burn it!)

Long, layered eye lashes to protect eyes from sand and sun

Hair all over body to protect skin from the sun and keep warm at night

Hump for storing extra water – can go for months without drinking



3 large toes so the camel does not sink into the sand

Lives in the desert: dry, arid so needs to be adapted to store water. Little food or vegetation. Hot and sandy.

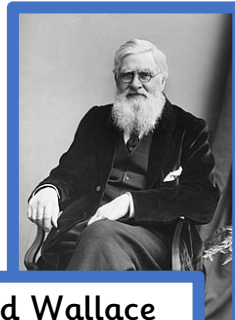
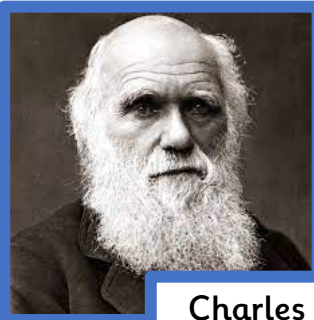
Long legs to keep the body away from hot sand

Fast changes in an environment can mean living things die out as they are no longer suited to the environment.

If the environment changes slowly, animals and plants with variations that are best suited survive in greater numbers ('**survival of the fittest**') to reproduce and pass their **characteristics** on to their young (**natural selection**).

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**.

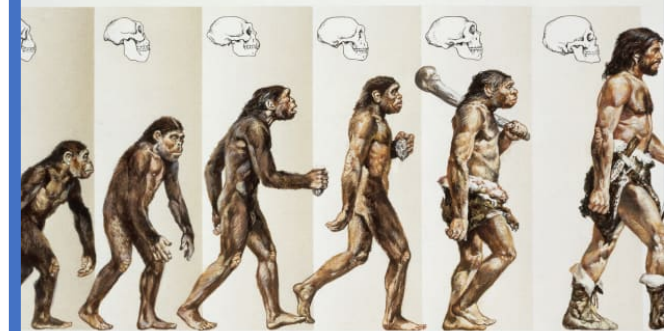


Charles Darwin & Alfred Wallace
1809-1882 1823-1913
- both came up with the theory of evolution through natural selection.



Fossil evidence supports the theory of evolution.

Human evolution



Darwin's finches

