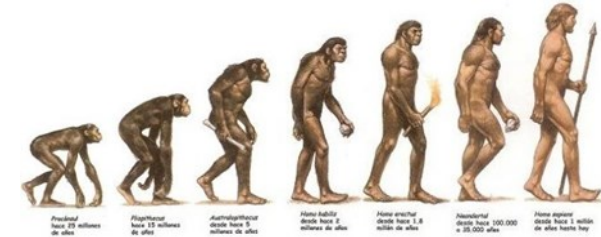




Year 6 Sticky Knowledge Mat: Evolution and Inheritance



Sticky Knowledge

Living things produce offspring of the same kind but they are not identical to their parents and they vary from each other. Variation in offspring over time can make animals and plants more or less able to survive in particular environments.

Animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways. If an environment changes, the living things that are best suited survive and reproduce. These characteristics are then passed onto their offspring. Over time, a species will change or a new species may be created. This is evolution.

Fossils are the remains of living things which are found in layers of rock. They tell us about living things that inhabited the earth millions of years ago and provide evidence for evolution.

Charles Darwin observed how living things adapt to different environments to become different varieties of the same species. This research formed the basis of his Theory of Evolution.

Prior Learning

- Identify that most living things live in habitats to which they are suited (Y2)
- Animals have offspring that grow into adults (Y2)
- Describe in simple terms how fossils are formed (Y3)
- Recognise that environments can change and this can endanger living things (Y4)
- Describe reproduction (Y5)

Subject Specific Vocabulary

adaptation	When living things change over time to suit their environment.
environment	The conditions in which an animal or plant lives.
evolution	The development of animals and plants from simpler forms over time.
fossil	The remains of a prehistoric animal or plant.
habitat	Where an animal or plant lives naturally.
inheritance	To get certain characteristics from our parents.
offspring	The young of a living thing.
reproduce	To produce offspring (e.g. a calf, a kitten)
variation	The differences between individuals in a species.