



Key knowledge:

Evolution	
Do things evolve?	Living things used to look different in comparison to how they look now Fossils have been found that prove this and they show us that living things change over time
How do things evolve?	Charles Darwin observed that although individuals in a species shared similarities, they were not exact copies of each other He noticed that everything in the natural world was in competition and the winners were those that had characteristics which made them better adapted for survival e.g. stronger, faster, cleverer These living things were more likely to reproduce and pass on their useful characteristics to their offspring Individuals that were poorly adapted were less likely to survive and their characteristics were not as likely to be inherited

Variation

Living things produce offspring but they are not identical to their parents

Natural variation like this can lead to offspring being more likely or less likely to survive in their environment

If the variant makes them more likely to survive, they are more likely to be alive to pass this variant onto their offspring and the variant will become more common in this species

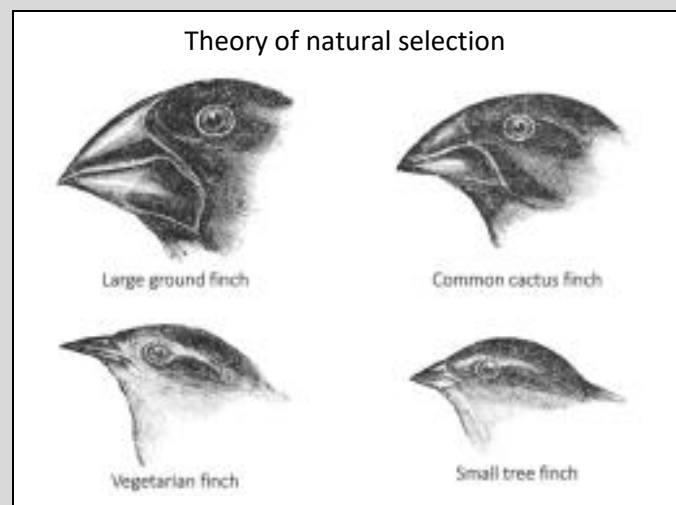
Examples of adaptation

Adaptations for cold environments	Arctic foxes adapt to winter by growing a thicker, white coat that better insulates them and serves as camouflage.
Adaptations for hot environments	Kangaroo rats dig themselves underground homes. This keeps them out of the sun.

Key vocabulary:

Adaptation	A characteristic of a living thing that makes it suited to its environment
Evolution	The process by which living things gradually change over time
Fossils	The naturally preserved remains of traces of animals or plants that lived in the past
Migration	Seasonal movement of animals from one location to another
Offspring	Children or young
Reproduce	To produce again/ give birth
Species	A group of organisms that have common characteristics and can breed
Variation	Small differences

Diagrams:



Possible experiences:

Investigate the work of palaeontologists such as Mary Anning

Investigate how Charles Darwin and Alfred Wallace developed their ideas of evolution

Identify examples of how animals have adapted to their environments

Key concepts:

Investigating	Recognising
Researching	Identifying