



I AM UNIQUE KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

YEAR 6—SPRING TERM 1



Word	Definition
Natural selection	The process whereby organisms better adapted to their environment tend to survive and produce more offspring .
Fingerprint	An impression or mark made on a surface by a person's fingertip, able to be used for identifying individuals from the unique pattern of whorls and lines on the fingertips.
Species	A group of living organisms consisting of similar individuals capable of exchanging genes or interbreeding.
Evolution	The process of change to animal and plant species over long periods of time, or how plant species and animals have developed from generation to generation.
Classification	The arrangement of animals and plants in groups according to their observed similarities .
Genes	Genes carry the information that determines your traits, which are features or characteristics that are passed on to you — or inherited — from your parents.
Trait	A distinguishing quality or characteristic .
Chromosome	A chromosome is a strand of DNA that is encoded with genes .
Forensic	the application of scientific methods and techniques to the investigation of crime .
Identity	The fact of being who or what a person or thing is .

Animal Classification	Identifying features
Mammals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have fur/hair • Bear live young • Warm-blooded • Young are fed by mother's milk.
Amphibians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cold-blooded • Lay eggs • Breathe through skin • Spend time on land and in water.
Birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have feathers • Have wings • Have beaks or bills • Lay eggs • Warm-blooded
Fish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cold-blooded • Live in water • Use gills to breathe • Have fins • Have swim bladders
Reptiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lay eggs • Cold-blooded • Have scales • Lay eggs or bear live young.
Invertebrates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not have a spine (backbone) eg. Insects, arachnids, molluscs.

Charles Darwin

Charles Darwin was born on 12th February 1809 in Shrewsbury, England. When he was nine years old, Charles Darwin went to Shrewsbury School for boys. Darwin loved science and was always asking questions. When he was 16 years old, Darwin was sent to Edinburgh to train to become a doctor, like his father, grandfather and brother, who were also all doctors. However, Darwin did not enjoy it and knew he did not want to become a doctor. His father then sent him to Cambridge to become a vicar but he was more interested in learning about nature and animals. He had lots of friends and teachers at university who helped him to learn more about these things. Darwin passed his exams to become a vicar but he did not want this to be his job.

John Henslow, a teacher from Cambridge, sent him a letter saying that Robert FitzRoy, the captain of the ship HMS Beagle, was looking for someone to be the ship's naturalist. The person would have to explore, collect and record information about the rocks, plants and animals that they found on their trip. Darwin knew this was his dream job and so persuaded his father to let him go on the trip.

The Beagle's voyage lasted for 5 years. They travelled to South America and reached the Galapagos islands. When he went ashore Darwin found plants and animals that nobody had ever seen before!

In 1859 Charles Darwin wrote a famous book all about the things he had found on his travels. After 20 years of studying, he had an idea that the plants and creatures he had collected hadn't always been the same as they were when we found them. Charles Darwin died on 19th April 1882 and even now, over 100 years later, people are still talking about his ideas and findings.

He thought that, millions of years ago, living things had all started off in the same way and had gradually, very, very slowly, changed. In this way lots of different animals and plants had developed. This idea is called 'evolution'.

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David Attenborough

Sir David Attenborough is a natural historian and TV presenter who has introduced millions of people to a variety of animals from around the world. He has a distinctive and widely recognisable voice which people have come to both copy and love. His Younger Years and Family Life David Frederick Attenborough was born 8th May 1926 in London. Attenborough became interested in the natural world and animals from a young age. By the age of seven, he had an impressive collection of bird eggs and fossils. Once he had finished school, David studied natural sciences at the University of Cambridge. During the 1950s, there were few programmes about the natural sciences and those that were did not film animals in their natural environment. This troubled Attenborough and so in 1954, he began a series called 'Zoo Quest'. 'Zoo Quest' filmed animals in the wild, allowing viewers to see animals in their natural environment in sometimes far off and exotic locations. The show was incredibly successful.

Attenborough began to write and produce many TV series on his own. His most successful programme was 'Life on Earth' which first aired in 1976. 'Life on Earth' was a series that explored wildlife in its natural habitat around the world. At the height of its popularity, around 500 million people tuned in to watch the show. More recently, Attenborough's 'Planet Earth' has become the biggest wildlife documentary ever made and was the first show to air in high definition on the BBC.

Attenborough has gained many awards throughout his career. In 1985, he received a knighthood from the Queen, earning the title of Sir David Attenborough. Most important of all perhaps is that Sir David Attenborough has several species of plants, insects and birds named after him. Sir David Attenborough has made significant contributions to our understanding of nature and the need to care for it.

