

What should I already know?		Key Vocabulary - Definitions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Which things are living and which are not. Animals have offspring which grow into adults. The basic needs of animals for survival (water, food, air) Food chains, food webs and the role of predators and prey. Features of habitats and the animals and plants that exist there. The life cycle of some animals and plants Sometimes environments can change and this has an effect on the plants and animals that exist there Living things breed to produce offspring which grow into adults. This is called reproduction. The features of some rocks and the role they play in the formation of fossils. 		adaptation	A change in structure or function that improves the chance of survival.
		ancestor	An early type of animal or plant from which a later type has evolved.
		biodiversity	A variety of plant and animal species living in their natural environment.
What will I know by the end of the unit?			
What is the theory of evolution?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evolution is a process of change that takes place over many generations, during which species of animals, plants, or insects slowly change some of their physical characteristics. It occurs when there is competition to survive. This is called natural selection. Difference within a species can be caused by inheritance and mutations. Inheritance is when characteristics are passed on from generation to the next. Mutations in characteristics are not inherited from the parents and appear as new characteristics. 	biome	A community of animals and plants occupying a major habitat.
		evolution	A process of physical change that takes place over many generations
		extinct	A species no longer has any living members.
		fossil	The rock-like remains of a prehistoric animal or plant.
		generation	All of the people born and living at about the same time
		inherit	The act of being born with a characteristic that your parents had.
		maladaptation	Failing to adapt properly to a new environment.
How do we know about evolution?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of evolution comes from fossils - when these are compared to living creatures from today, palaeontologists can compare similarities and differences. 	mutation	Characteristics that are not inherited and appear as new.
		natural selection	Species that are best suited to their environment survive while others die out
What is adaptation?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adaptation is when animals and plants have evolved so that they have adapted to survive in their environments. For example, polar bears have a thick layer of blubber under their fur to survive the cold in the Arctic. Sometimes adaptations can be disadvantageous and when adaptations are more harmful than helpful, these are called maladaptations. 	offspring	An animal's young.
		palaeontology	The study of fossils.
		species	Plants or animals are able to breed with each other.
		survive	Continue to exist.
		variation	A change or slight difference.