

Adaptations:

Animals have adaptations that help them survive in the conditions they live in.

Examples:

Cold environments - a thick layer of fat to keep warm



Hot environments - big ears to help cool down



Nocturnal (being awake at night) - big eyes to see better

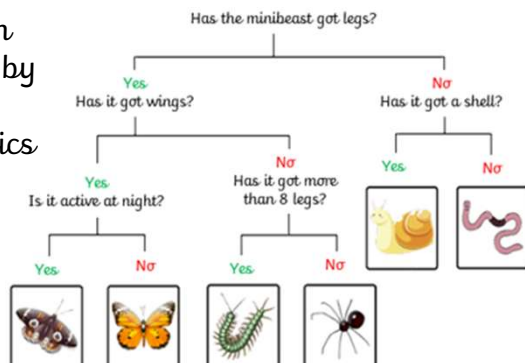


Camouflage - to hide from predators, or from prey



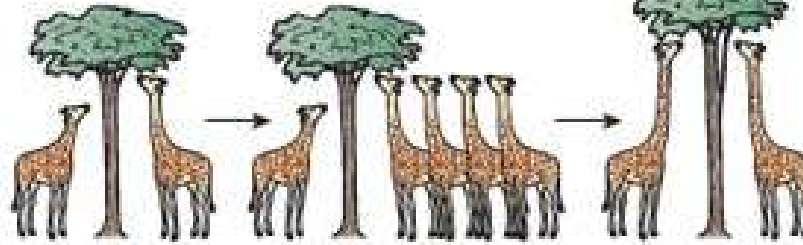
Hard food - strong jaws or beak

Animals can be grouped by similar characteristics



Year 6 How are adaptation and evolution linked?

Evolution happens over many generations



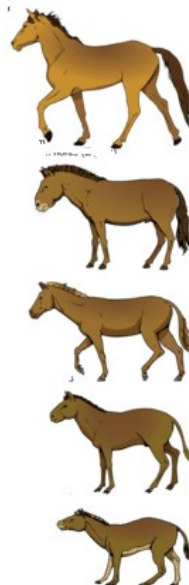
Giraffes with longer necks can get more food. They are better adapted to their environment.

These giraffes will have more offspring.

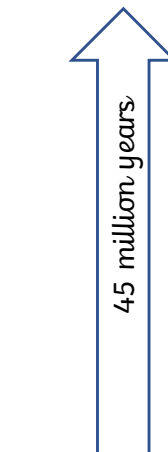
This happens repeatedly over many generations until all giraffes are better suited to their environment

An example of evolution

The characteristics changed over time resulting in a species better adapted to its environment.



Modern horse

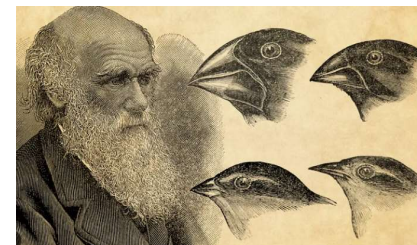


Horse ancestor (known from fossils)



Variation - each animal is slightly different to another, even if they are close relatives.

Characteristics - features that can vary between individuals, for example tail length, patterned fur or webbed feet.



Charles Darwin came up with the theory of evolution after looking at the beaks of finches in the Galapagos. Each species had a different beak adapted to eating different types of food.



Fossils can tell us about animals that lived millions of years ago and help us work out how creatures have evolved over time.