Evolution and Inheritance – Chinook Class – Summer 2

Key Questions

How can we tell if something is living or not?

How are animals and plants classified?

What do all animals need to survive?

What 3 purposes does a skeleton have?

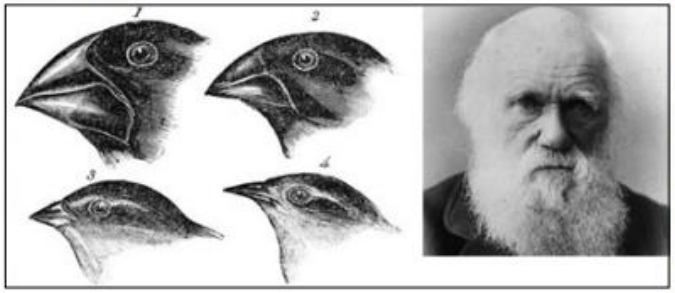
What is the role of a predator and prey?

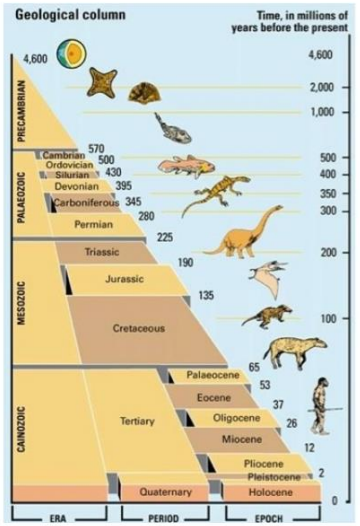
Key vocabulary

adaptation	a change in structure or function that improves the chance of **survival** for an animal or plant within a given **environment**
characteristics	the qualities or features that belong to them and make them recognisable
evolution	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**
species	a class of plants or animals whose members have the same main **characteristics** and are able to **breed** with each other
mutation	**characteristics** that are not **inherited** from the parents or **ancestors** and appear as new **characteristics**.
inherit	If you inherit a characteristic you are born with it, because your parents or ancestors also had it.
natural selection	a process by which **species** of animals and plants that are best **adapted** to their **environment** **survive** and **reproduce**, while those that are less well **adapted** die out

Diagrams

Charles Darwin, an evolutionary scientist, studied different animal and plant **species**, which allowed him to see how **adaptations** could come about. His work on the finches was some of his most famous.





- Earth is 4.6 billion years old.
- First life forms 2 billion years ago
- Dinosaurs from 225 to 65 millions years ago.
- Humans in last 6 million years.

Key Facts

Living things have changed over time and fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago.

Living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents.

Animals and plants are adapted to suit their environments in different wats and that adaption may lead to evolution.

Fossils are the preserved remains, or partial remains, of ancient animals and plants. **Fossils** let scientists know how plants and animals used to look millions of years ago. This is proof that living things have evolved over time.