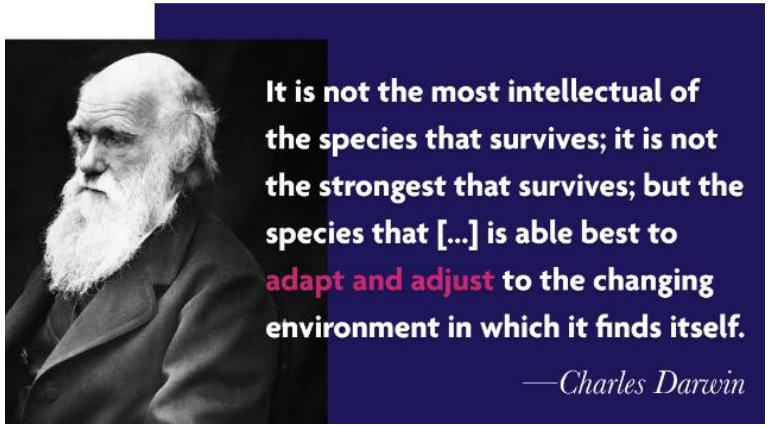
Science: evolution and inheritance

Y6 spring term

National Curriculum subject content:
✓ Recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago
✓ Recognise that living things produce offspring vary and are not identical to their parents
✓ Identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptations may lead to evolution
National Curriculum working scientifically:
✓ Identifying scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas or arguments



Charles Darwin and a quote about his theory of evolution.

Key Vocabulary:	
fossils	The remains or impression of a prehistoric plant or animal embedded in rock and preserved in petrified (changed into a stony substance) form.
adaptation	The process of change by which an organism or species becomes better suited to its environment.
organism	An individual animal, plant or single-celled life form.
evolution	The process by which different kinds of a living organism are believed to have developed from earlier forms during the history of the earth.
characteristics	A feature or quality belonging typically to a person, place or thing and serving to identify them.
reproduction	The production of offspring.
offspring	An animal's young.
genetics	The study of the way physical traits (quality) and characteristics get passed from one generation to the next.
variation	The heritable difference within a species.
heritable	Passed on from parent to offspring
species	A kind or sort.
palaeontology	The study of fossils.
sediment	Matter that settles to the bottom of a liquid.
matter	Matter is anything that has weight and takes up space. Everything you can see and touch is made up of matter. Matter exists in three main forms: solids, liquids, and gases.
inheritance	Passing on characteristics to an offspring.
decay	To rot and decompose (break down).
Charles Darwin	A scientist who studied nature.
theory	An explanation of why or how things work based on observations and ideas that can be tested,

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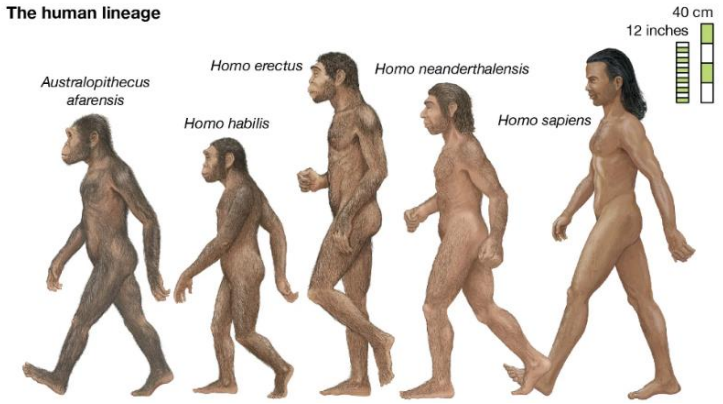
Sequence of Learning:					
Objectives (key knowledge):					
Lesson 1 To learn the scientific definition of inheritance	Lesson 2 To learn what information fossils tell us	Lesson 3 To learn how fossils are formed	Lesson 4 To learn the scientific definition of adaptation in plants.	Lesson 5 To learn the scientific definition of adaptation in animals.	Lesson 6 To learn Charles Darwin's theory of evolution in animals
Lesson 7 To learn how the theory of evolution is evident in humans	Lesson 8 (working scientifically) To learn how to analyse the advantages and disadvantages of specific adaptations				



Adaptation and Evolution	**Inheritance**
Adaptation is when a species becomes better suited to its environment. Adaptation occurs when a natural habitat for a species changes. Evolution describes the changes that happen in the same species that live in the same location over a long period of time. Evolution only happens over a longer time period and can only happen between parents and their offspring through inheritance.	Characteristics are passed from parents to their offspring. Offspring are not exact copies of their parents. Variation over time can make animals more or less able to survive in particular environments.