

Lead Subjects: Science & Geography

Geography

Key Questions

1. What are the names of the 7 continents?
2. Can you name the oceans of the world?
3. What is extreme weather?
4. Can you name any types of extreme weather?
5. Where in the world is Thailand?
6. What are the typical weather patterns in Thailand?
7. What effect did the tsunami have on Thailand?
8. What happens in Thailand during their harvest festival?

Key Vocabulary

Continent - one of the great divisions of land (as North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, or Antarctica) on the globe.

Ocean - one of the large bodies of water into which the ocean is divided.

Weather - the state of the atmosphere in regard to heat or cold, wetness or dryness, calm or storm, clearness or cloudiness.

Extreme - a very pronounced or excessive degree.

Tsunami - a great sea wave produced especially by an earthquake or volcanic eruption under the sea.

Science

Key Questions

1. Why do animals and plants need to adapt to survive in their environment?
2. How do animals and plants adapt to suit their environment?
3. What are inherited and acquired characteristics?
4. How are inherited characteristics passed to offspring from their parents?
5. How do fossils provide information about living things?
6. How do fossils show that things have adapted over time?
7. Who was Charles Darwin?
8. What were his theories?

Key Vocabulary

Adapt - to change so as to fit a new or specific use or situation.

Survival - the act or fact of living or continuing longer than another person or thing.

Characteristic - a special quality or appearance that makes an individual or group different from others.

Acquired - caused by environmental forces and not passed from parent to offspring in the genes.

Inherited - to have handed on to one by someone else.

Theory - the general ideas or principles of an art or science.

Parents - an animal or plant that produces offspring.

Offspring - the young of a person, animal, or plant.

Fossil - a trace or print or the remains of a plant or animal of a past age preserved in earth or rock.

Environment - the whole complex of factors (as soil, climate, and living things) that influence the form and the ability to survive of a plant or animal.

Knowing More and Remembering More at St Joseph's

Adaptive Traits

Characteristics that are influenced by the **environment** the living things live in. These **adaptations** can develop as a result of many things, such as food and climate.

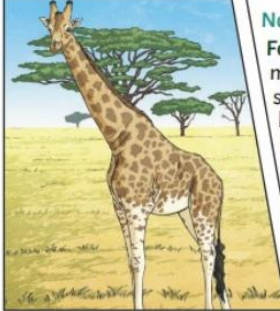


Inherited Traits

Eye colour is an example of an **inherited trait**, but so are things like hair colour, the shape of your earlobes and whether or not you can smell certain flowers.

Variation

In the same way that there is **variation** between parents and their **offspring**, you can see **variation** within any species, even plants.

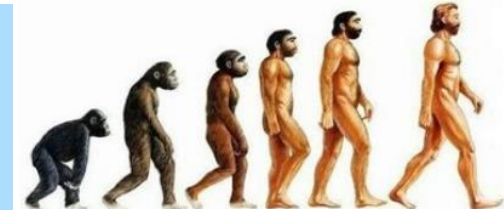
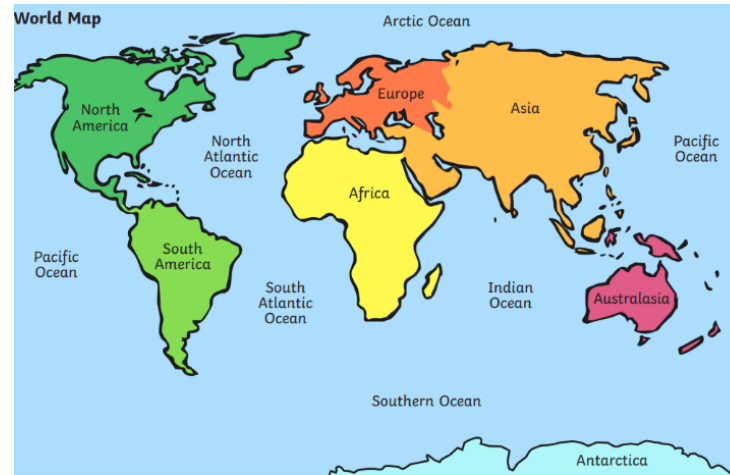
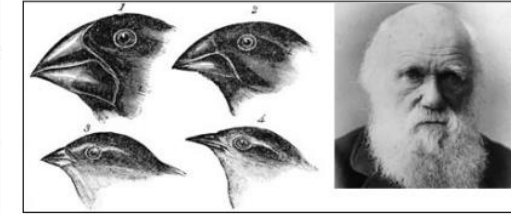


Natural Selection

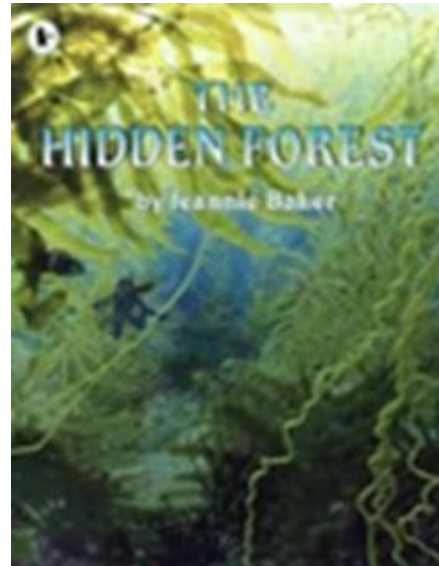
Fossils of giraffes from millions of years ago show that they used to have shorter necks. They have gradually **evolved** through **natural selection** to have longer necks so that they can reach the top leaves on taller trees.

Living Things		Habitat	Adaptive Traits
polar bear		arctic	Its white fur enables it to camouflage in the snow.
camel		desert	It has wide feet to make it easier to walk in the sand.
cactus		desert	It stores water in its stem.
toucan		rainforest	Its narrow tongue allows it to eat small fruit and insects.

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.



English Texts



Weather Dangers

People need to take special care in **extreme** weather such as: **droughts**, **flooding**, **blizzards**, **heatwaves** and **hurricanes**. **Extreme** weather can **affect** our surroundings as well as us.