

# KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER – Evolution and Inheritance



Fossils are the 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

## KEY CONCEPTS

## DEFINITIONS

### Natural Selection

The idea that living things survive better if they are better adapted to a habitat. First suggested by Charles Darwin

### Genetic Mutations

Random changes between parent and offspring

## Adaption

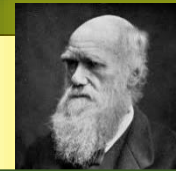
Adaption can lead to evolution

Living things are adapted to suit their **environment** in different ways



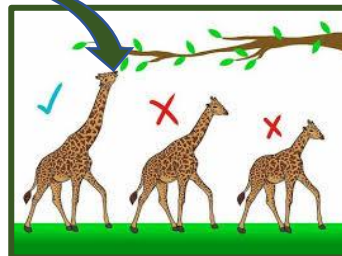
## Theory of Evolution Timeline

1809	1831-36	1859	1882	1953
Darwin born	Darwin's voyage on HMS Beagle	'Origins of the Species' published	Darwin dies	Crick and Watson discover DNA double-helix



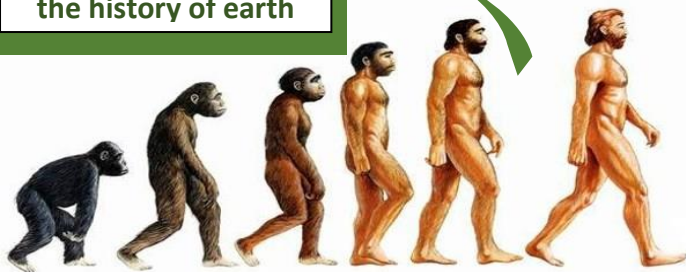
Charles Darwin

An example of  
Natural selection



The process by which living organisms have developed from earlier forms during the history of earth

## Evolution



## USEFUL VOCABULARY

Breeding	The mating and production of offspring by animals
Characteristic	Feature/trait/quality (e.g. size, shape colour) of a plant or animal
Environment	The surrounding/conditions a person, animal or plant lives
Inherit	To gain a characteristic/ quality genetically from a parent or ancestor
Offspring	A person's child or children/an animal's young
Reproduction	The production of offspring by a sexual or asexual process
Variation	A change or slight difference

