



EVOLUTION AND INHERITANCE



WHAT IS EVOLUTION?

Evolution is the process by which living things change over time. It happens very slowly. Animals and plants adapt to their environment to survive. These changes can happen over many generations. For example, animals may develop new features like longer necks or better camouflage to help them find food or stay safe.

HOW DO SPECIES CHANGE?

Species change because of natural selection. This is when the animals or plants with helpful traits are more likely to survive and reproduce. Over time, these helpful traits become more common in the group. For example, giraffes with longer necks can reach higher leaves, so they are more likely to survive and have babies with long necks.

WHAT IS INHERITANCE?

Inheritance is how traits are passed from parents to their children. Every living thing gets its features from its parents. For example, a child may have the same eye colour or hair type as their parents. This happens because of genes, which are tiny bits of information inside every cell in our body.

WHY IS EVOLUTION IMPORTANT?

Evolution is important because it helps living things survive in changing environments. As the world changes, animals and plants need to adapt in order to live. Without evolution, life on Earth would not be as diverse and interesting as it is today.

FIND OUT MORE...

[Evolution and inheritance - KS2 Science - BBC Bitesize](#)

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS:

1. What is evolution and how does it happen?
2. How does natural selection help species change over time?
3. What is inheritance and how do traits get passed from parents to children?
4. How do genes affect the way we look and how our bodies work?
5. Why is evolution important for the survival of living things?