

## Key Vocabulary:

**Living Things** – A living thing pertains to any organism or a life form that possesses or shows the characteristics of life or being alive (MRS GREN)

**Fossils** – The remains of living things which inhabited the world millions of years ago

**Offspring** – A person's child or children or the young of an animal

**Vary** – Differ in size, shape

**Identical** – Exactly the same

**Adapted** – Become adjusted to new conditions

**Environment** – The surroundings or conditions in which a person, animal, or plant lives or operates

**Evolution** – Means change over time

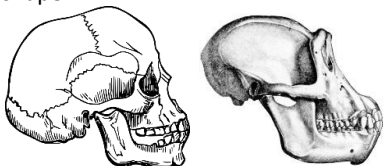
**Inheritance** – Something is passed on to the next generation

**Gene** – DNA including the traits passed onto you from your parents

### Fossils:



Fossils are the remains of living things which inhabited the world millions of years ago. They are formed in sedimentary rock (sand, mud and pebbles squashed under layer, after layer over time) and plants/animals get trapped in these layers, revealing their shape.



HUMAN SKULL CHIMPANZEE SKULL

When palaeontologists compare fossils to animals from today, they can see similarities and identify relationships between them. Since evolution of a species happens over such long periods of time, evidence is usually taken from fossils.



## Holy Family Halewood Year 5 & 6 Science Evolution & Inheritance



### Learning Objectives:

- To recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago
- To recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents
- To identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaption may lead to evolution

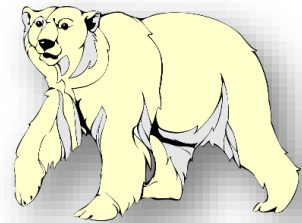
### Adaption:

Adaption is a change in a plant or animal's body to suit its location which can evolve over thousands of years in the most efficient way. If they don't adapt, then they may not survive.



A camel has humps of fat storage to use up for energy in the dry desert when there is a shortage of food.

A polar bear has adapted to camouflage itself against white snow/ice so it can hunt without being seen.



A cactus stores water to help keep it alive in the desert. It also has spikes to protect itself from attack.

### Evolution & Inheritance:

**Evolution** means change over time. It is the reason we have so many species on earth. It happens when there is competition to survive (natural selection) and through differences within a species caused by inheritance and mutations.

**Inheritance** is when something is passed on to the next generation. Offspring are not identical to their parents and some characteristics are inherited (carried in offspring from parents) and other differences are new in the offspring – these are called mutations