

Evolution and Inheritance: Nova's Science Expedition

Learning objective: To understand the processes of evolution, adaptation, and inheritance in living things as per the Year 6 Science curriculum.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of evolution. Read the question on the front, try to answer it, then check the answer provided after the pipe symbol.

What is evolution?

The process by which living things change over many generations to become better suited to their environment.

Define 'Inheritance'.

The process where characteristics are passed from parents to their offspring through genes.

What is an adaptation?

A specific feature or behaviour that helps a living thing survive in its habitat, such as a polar bear's thick fur.

What is 'Natural Selection'?

The theory that individuals with characteristics best suited to their environment are more likely to survive and reproduce.

How do fossils help scientists understand evolution?

Fossils provide evidence of plants and animals that lived millions of years ago, showing how species have changed over time.

What is 'Variation'?

The differences that exist between individuals of the same species, such as height, eye colour, or leaf shape.

True or False: Evolution happens to an individual animal during its lifetime.

False. Evolution occurs over many generations, not within a single animal's life.

What is a species?

A group of living organisms that are similar enough to breed and produce fertile offspring.

Nova the Owl notices that desert animals have large ears. Why might this be an adaptation?

Large ears help dissipate heat, keeping the animal cool in a hot, arid environment.

What do we call the babies or young produced by living organisms?

Offspring.