





Key Facts Related To Evolution	
Evolution	Explains why animals and plants are so good at surviving in their environments. What it means is that a species changes over time and can even split into new species .
Fossils	The oldest fossil found is 3.5 billion years old. We have found fossils of plants and animals that no longer exist and they give us clues to how those creatures lived and what they could do, as in the case of ' Ida '.
Genes	There are 23 pairs of chromosomes in every human cell (approx 20,000). Genes determine all our features such as eye and hair colour.
Selective breeding and variation	There are approximately 339 different breeds of dog, mostly created by selective breeding. This can cause problems as well as being beneficial.

Vocabulary Dozen (Bakers Dozen this time!)	
Adaptation	Features of organisms that allow them to survive in a certain environment.
Characteristics	Features distinctive to a certain species.
Evolution	Changes in organisms over time due to natural selection.
Extinction	When a species of plant or animal dies out and there are no individual organisms left.
Fossils	Naturally-preserved remains of animals or plants.
Identical	Exactly the same.
Inheritance	Passing on features from parents to offspring.
Natural selection	Organisms with favourable characteristics being more likely to survive and reproduce.
Offspring	Children or descendants of a parent/ parents.
Opposable	Placed opposite to something.
Organism	A living thing.
Selective breeding	Breeding from particular plants / animals with desirable genetic characteristics.
Variation	Genetic differences within a species.

Scientists Involved In The Theory of Evolution	
	<p>Charles Darwin was an English scientist who studied nature known for his theory of evolution. He travelled to the Galapagos islands where he noticed that on different islands the birds had different beak sizes, yet were still part of the same family, this provided evidence for natural selection. He realised that the finches have different beaks because they are adapted to eat different kinds of food. According to his theory of evolution, all living things are struggling to survive. These living things then pass along their helpful traits to their young. In this way, animals evolve, over hundreds of years.</p>

Scientists Involved In The Theory of Evolution	
	<p>Mary Anning was a famous fossil hunter and collector. She found and identified many pre-historic fossils from the time of the dinosaurs and sold them to make money for her family. Mary Anning shared her specimens and impressive knowledge about them with scientists at the time.</p>

Home Scientist

Whilst at home you can use the link below to watch videos to help you with consolidating your knowledge of evolution.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zvhhvcw>





Where are the Galapagos Islands?



Charles Darwin	'The survival of the fittest'
Fossils (Mary Anning)	<i>She sells sea-shells on the sea-shore. The shells she sells are sea-shells, I'm sure. For if she sells sea-shells on the sea-shore Then I'm sure she sells sea-shore shells.</i>

