

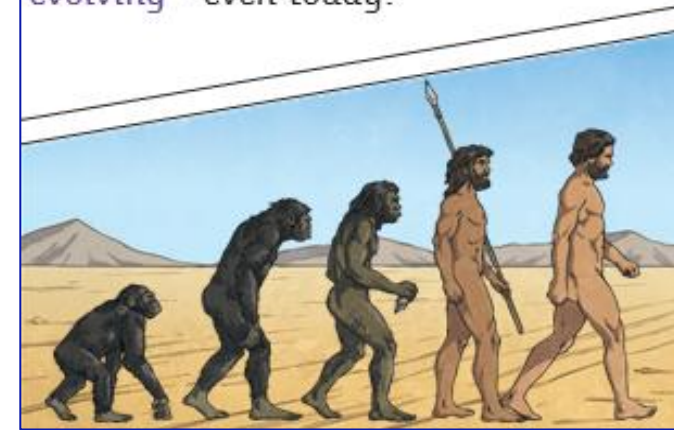
## Key Vocabulary

<b>adaptation:</b>	a small change that a living thing goes through
<b>dinosaur:</b>	a particular kind of reptile that lived in prehistoric times
<b>evolution:</b>	change in living things over time
<b>fossil:</b>	a living thing that has been turned to stone by one of several methods
<b>inherited:</b>	the way that a trait or characteristic is passed to offspring from parents
<b>natural selection:</b>	a process in which living things adapt themselves in order to survive, that they don't have any control over
<b>prehistoric:</b>	the time classed as 'before history' as it was so long ago it hasn't been recorded or written
<b>variety:</b>	differences between things as part of a whole group

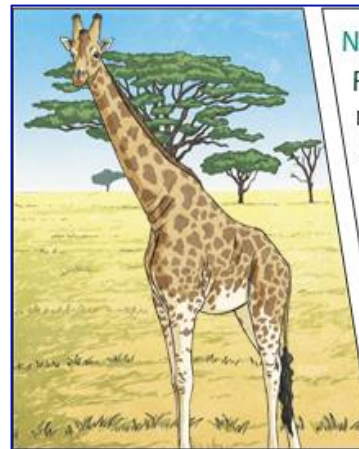
Fossils are the preserved remains, or partial remains, of ancient animals and plants. Fossils let scientists know how plants and animals used to look millions of years ago. This is proof that living things have **evolved** over time.



Evolution is the gradual process by which different kinds of living organism have developed from earlier forms over millions of years. Scientists have proof that living things are continuously **evolving** - even today!



**Key question:**  
What is the difference between adaptation and inheritance?



### Natural Selection

Fossils of giraffes from millions of years ago show that they used to have shorter necks. They have gradually **evolved** through **natural selection** to have longer necks so that they can reach the top leaves on taller trees.

Living Things		Habitat		Adaptive Traits
polar bear		arctic		Its white fur enables it to camouflage in the snow.
camel		desert		It has wide feet to make it easier to walk in the sand.
cactus		desert		It stores water in its stem.
toucan		rainforest		Its narrow tongue allows it to eat small fruit and insects.