



Session Outline: Evolution and Inheritance Y6

National curriculum:

Recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents

Identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution

| Learning objectives | Session structure | |
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| <p>To understand the various language and concepts that support the model of evolution</p> <p>To understand that evolution is not a random process</p> <p>To understand that some characteristics are genetically inherited, and some are not</p> <p>To be able to look at living things and create realistic theories for why they are the way they are based upon meeting their needs for survival</p> | <p>Introduction We have a look at some real artefacts from animals and discuss why they might be the way that they are.</p> <p>Evolution and inheritance This session fleshes out the story of how evolution actually works by bringing together all of the key concepts: variation, inheritance, natural selection, leading to evolution of organisms with helpful adaptations to their environment.</p> <p>Exploring adaptations and variation The children do an experiment using some imaginary ducks to help them understand how when resources become limited it can have an influence upon which types of creatures survive which can then lead to change in a population of creatures.</p> <p>Children then play a game where they guess which traits are genetically inherited, which aren't, and which have are partially inherited.</p> <p>Physical adaptations in pond life We dip for creatures in the pond and then take a very close look at them to understand how their bodies help them to survive in the pond.</p> | |
| Before your visit | After your visit | Key vocabulary |
| <p>Introduce some of the language: population, variation, inheritance.</p> | <p>Ensure that you make plenty of time for children to ask questions and to test their understanding: there can be a lot of misconceptions in children's understanding of this topic.</p> | <p>Population, variation, inheritance, genes, natural selection, adaptation, evolution. Extinction Physical, behavioural adaptation.</p> |