



Buxton Junior School

Year 6 Topic Information Sheet - Autumn Term 2

Science - Have Living Things Always Been The Same?

Key facts which the children will have learnt by the end of this topic:

Know that all life on Earth began from a single point around 4.5 billion years ago.

Know that living things changes over time and that this gradual change is called evolution.

Know that natural selection is the cause of this change, and that natural selection works as across a species and there is natural variation within a species.

Know that there is also competition to survive and reproduce and that members of a species with advantageous characteristics survive and reproduce - these characteristics are passed down to their offspring.

Know that members of a species with less advantageous characteristics do not survive and reproduce – these characteristics are not passed down to offspring.

Know that Charles Darwin put forward the theory of evolution by natural selection.

Know that the gradual change of species over millions of years can be observed by looking at examples of fossils.

Our Class Text:

This term we will be studying the following book in our English lessons:
“Darwin’s Dragons” by Lyndsay Galvin

Universal Themes: Power, Journeys, Equality and Diversity, Invention

Key Vocabulary: You may wish to discuss the meanings of these words with your child.

vary, variation reproduce, reproduction descend, descendent diverse, diversity, diversify , characteristic, acquire, adaptation, theory, modify, generation, evolve, survival, species, clone, inherit, fossil.

Ourselves	Our Environment	The Wider World
<p>PSHE work on ‘Being Me’ linked to diversity.</p> <p>Understanding how people inherit characteristics from their ancestors.</p>	<p>Activities to understand the variation of living things around the world</p> <p>Studying the living things in our local environment.</p>	<p>Appreciation of living things.</p> <p>Understanding of how living things are adapted to different climates and biomes in different parts of the world.</p>

Main concepts with links to prior and current learning:

The Historical concepts covered in this unit are:

Links to prior learning: Rocks Y3, Water Cycle Y4, Life Cycles and Reproduction Y5, Animals Including Humans Y5, Properties and Changes of Materials Y5.

Current Learning - In this unit, pupils will:

Discover how living things change over time and how life has evolved. Find out what DNA is and what does it does and whether all things are identical to parents.

To discover what evidence Darwin and Wallace shared to argue the case for evolution, what the ‘Survival of the Fittest’ is and how animals have changed to suit their environment.