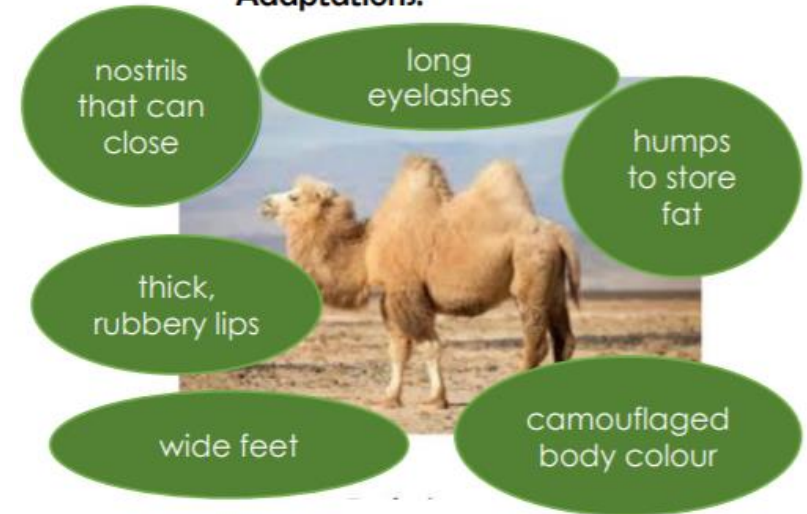




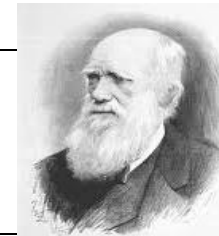
YEAR 6 - EVOLUTION & INHERITANCE

Related vocabulary	Definition
evolution	The process of gradual change that takes place over many generations
inheritance	The particular characteristics received from a parent through genes
genes	Part of a cell in a living which controls its physical characteristics
natural selection	The process by which species that are best adapted to their environment survive and reproduce, while less adapted species die out
species	Plants and animals which have the same characteristics and are able to produce off spring
mutation	Permanent changes in genes which pass on to future off spring
adaption	The process of change by which an organism or species becomes better suited to its new environment
characteristics	Distinguishing qualities, traits, or features of a living thing
variation	Differences between cells, individual organisms, or groups of organisms of any species caused either by genetic differences or by the effect of environmental factors
palaeontology	The branch of science concerned with fossil animals and plants
pre-history	Relating to the period before written records
extinct	A species that is no longer existing

Adaptations:



Charles Darwin



Charles Darwin (1809-1882) was an English scientist best known for his theory of evolution. He was a geologist who travelled across the world in 1831 on the HMS Beagle. He studied many animals and plants on his travels and came up with the idea of natural selection. His book 'On the Origin of Species' was very controversial at the time because it went against the creation story in the Bible. He studied finches and tortoises living across the Galapagos islands.

Fossils give us evidence of what lived on Earth millions of years ago. By studying fossils, scientists can put together how a plant or animal looked. They can identify what the animal ate, where it lived and how it

