

## Key Learning

Define and identify variation in organisms and recall that it is caused by inherited and environmental factors.

Recall that living things produce offspring of the same kind but are not normally identical to their parents.

Describe patterns of inheritance from parent to offspring in a given example or family tree.

Describe what an adaptation is; it cannot be chosen and is usually inherited.

## Key Individuals

**Charles Darwin** was a clever scientist who figured out how animals and plants change over time. He explored different creatures, like birds and turtles, and visited cool places like the Galapagos Islands. Darwin wrote a book called "On the Origin of Species" where he explained how animals adapt to survive in their homes. His ideas about evolution, or how life develops, are super important and help us understand how living things have changed over millions of years.

## Working Scientifically

Sort variation as environmental, inherited or a mixture of both.

Evaluate a method by recalling variables that were effectively kept the same and those that were harder to control.

Comment on the reliability of the results and the degree of trust.

Consider how evidence is used to form theories and the degree of trust the evidence offers.

## Key Vocabulary

<b>Adaptation</b>	When plants or animals change to survive in their environment, like a chameleon changing color to hide or a cactus storing water.
<b>Competition</b>	Different animals fighting for food, homes, or mates to survive and pass on their traits.
<b>Evolution</b>	How animals and plants change slowly over a long time to survive better in their environments.
<b>Gene</b>	Instructions that decide our traits and characteristics.
<b>Natural Selection</b>	Nature picking traits that help animals survive.
<b>Survival</b>	Staying alive and well, managing challenges in the environment and living happily.
<b>Ancestor</b>	A family member from a long time ago, like a grandparent's grandparent's grandparent.
<b>Extinct</b>	No longer alive, like dinosaurs, with no more of that animal left in the world.
<b>Habitat</b>	A home where plants and animals live, providing food, water, shelter, and space.
<b>Offspring</b>	babies of animals, like a kitten or a puppy.
<b>Reproduce</b>	making new plants or animals to continue their species through babies or seeds.