Inheritance and Evolution



Vocabulary: asexual meiosis mitosis gene chromosome DNA genome variation natural selection extinction species classification



Core Questions Evolution

- 1. What is a fossil?
- 2. How do fossils provide evidence of evolution?
- 3. What is a mutation?
- 4. Describe how selective breeding is carried out
- 5. Who proposed the Theory of Natural Selection?
- 6. What does an evolutionary tree illustrate?
- 7. What is meant by the phrase "Survival of the fittest?
- 8. Define a species
- 9. What is variation?
- 10. How do new species arise?

Core questions and Answers

Core Questions Evolution

- 1. What is a fossil? The stone remains of an organism that lived millions of years ago
- 2. How do fossils provide evidence of evolution? Show what organisms looked like millions of years ago and how they differ from those that are alive today
- 3. What is a mutation? A change to the DNA of an organism
- 4. Describe how selective breeding is carried out. Select two parents that have the characteristics you want and breed them together over many generations until you achieve the characteristic you want.
- 5. Who proposed the Theory of Natural Selection? Charles Darwin
- 6. What does an evolutionary tree illustrate? How organisms are related based on their evolutionary origins determined by their Physical characteristics and upon their DNA
- 7. What is meant by the phrase "Survival of the fittest? The best adapted/suited animals to their habitats survive
- 8. Define a species. A group of organism that can interbreed and produce fertile offspring
- 9. Define a population. A group of organisms of the same species, living in the same area.
- 10. What is variation? Differences between members of the same species
- 11. How do new species arise? A single population becomes isolated geographically, they adapt to their new environments over many years and become so genetically different that when they come together again they can no longer interbreed.

Year 11 Natural Selection and Evolution

Natural Selection

Some individuals are better adapted to their environment and are therefore better able to compete for survival, passing on their successful genes.

This is HOW evolution occurs.

Theory first put forward by Charles Darwin.



Different offsprings, from the same parents.
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Variation

Differences in the appearance of organisms is due to their **genes**, their **environment** or a combination of both.

Humans and chimps are descended from a **common** ancestor

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	Key words	Definition
	Classification	Grouping of living organisms based on common features.
tom.	Continuous Variation	Variation which has a range of values e.g. height
	Discontinuous Variation	Variation which has distinct categories e.g. blood group
	Evolution	Changes that occur to a species over thousands of years.
	Evolutionary Tree	Diagram to show the relationship between different species and
		their common ancestors.
	Extinction	The permanent disappearance of a species across the planet
	Fossil	The 'remains' of organisms from many years ago, which are
		found in rocks.
	Gene banks	Storage vaults for DNA – kept under specific conditions to
		prevent extinction
	Mutation	A change in the DNA so the allele codes for something different.
ce r a	Natural Selection	Best adapted individuals survive and pass on their genes to the
		next generation.
	Selective Breeding	Humans choose animals or plants with particular features (eg
	(Artificial Selection)	muscle size) to breed from to 'improve' the breed; takes many
		generations.
	Species	Organisms with v similar features that can reproduce together
		to produce fertile offspring.
	Speciation	The formation of a new species from an isolated population;
		takes many generations.



voi uo uo Branch Felid ancestor Root

Evolutionary Trees show the relationships between similar species and their common ancestors. This tree shows that a lion is more closely related to a leopard than a tiger. Fossils can be used to show the changes that have occurred over millions of years by evolution. However specific conditions are needed for fossils to form so it is not a complete record.



Inheritance and Selection

Core questions

- 1. Name the gametes in animals and plants Sperm and eggs in animals pollen and eggs in plants
- 2. Where is genetic information stored in a cell? Nucleus
- 3. What is a gene? Small piece of DNA that makes a protein
- 4. Which type of cell division makes the gametes? Meiosis
- 5. How many chromosomes are there in a human body cell? 46
- 6. How many chromosomes are there in a human gamete? 23
- 7. What is an allele? An alternative form of a gene
- 8. Write down the genotype of a female XX
- 9. What is meant by a recessive allele? Only shows up in the phenotype if there are 2 present
- 10. What is a punnett square? Table used to determine the probability of offspring
- 11. Name a genetic disease caused by a recessive allele Cystic fibrosis
- 12. Name a genetic disease caused by a dominant allele Polydactylyl
- 13. What is an organism's genome? All of its DNA
- 14. What is genetic engineering? When a gene is taken from one organism and inserted into another
- 15. Describe the structure of DNA Polymer made of repeating nucleotides/double helix

Inheritance and Selection Core Questions

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- 15. Describe the structure of DNA

Year 11 - Inheritance



We inherit characteristics from our parents which are passed on through sperm and egg cells.



Genes are the unit of heredity which pass on our features to the next generation. Genes are short lengths of DNA which coil up to form chromosomes. They are found in the nucleus of living cells.

The DNA structure was modelled by four scientists:

Watson, Crick, Franklin and Wilkins.

Key word	Definition	
Allele	Different versions of the same gene, eg blue or brown for eye can be dominant or	
	recessive	
Chromosome	Long strands of DNA which carries the genes	
Dominant allele	Only need 1 copy for it to show up (in the phenotype)	
DNA	The molecule from which chromosomes and genes are made of	
Gamete	Sex cells eg. sperm and egg	
Gene	a section of DNA that codes for a characteristic eg eye colour	
Genome	All the DNA (and associated proteins) of an organism.	
Genetic	The process of cutting a gene from one organisms DNA and inserting into another	
Engineering		
Genetic	Changes made to the genome of an organism. (GM)	
Modification		
Gene Therapy	Inserting a 'healthy' gene into cells of someone suffering from a genetic disorder.	
Genotype	The combination of alleles (genes) an individual has	
Heterozygous	When the two alleles inherited are DIFFERENT (hybrid)	
genotype		
Homozygous	When the 2 alleles inherited are the SAME	
genotype		
Inheritance	The combination of DNA that you inherit from your parents.	
Meiosis	Cell division to make gametes for sexual reproduction – new cells are different	
Mitosis	Cell division to make identical copies for growth, repair an asexual reproduction.	
Phenotype	The 'appearance' or expression of an individual's features	
	eg they have brown eyes.	
Recessive	An allele that only shows up if BOTH copies inherited are the same and there is no	
	dominant allele.	
Variation	Different features in the same and different species can be continuous or	
	discontinuous. Caused by genes and/or environment	
Vector	A method of getting recombinant DNA into the new cell, eg a plasmid or virus.	



Genetic Engineering uses ENZYMES to cut DNA and insert genes from one organism into another, using a vector. The organism with the new DNA is said be Genetically Modified. Common process for 'improving' crops and livestock for food.