Essential Learning

By the end of this term, you will have learned...

- about the life of Charles Darwin, his voyage on the HMS Beagle, his observations and discoveries
- to research and explore evidence provided by fossils about the past
- how animals and plants adapt to their environment
- how adaptation can lead to evolution (e.g. the birds of The Galapagos Island)
- how parents have offspring that are similar, but not identical to them
- to plan and write a biography on Darwin, exploring his theory of evolution
- to write a letter, exploring Darwin's emotions as he discovers the Galapagos Islands and in the lead-up to the Oxford debate.



Hook Day

Introduction to Darwin and Evolution

Introduction to Adaptations (including camouflage) and designing imaginary animal adaptations



Block 1

Adaptation of finches on the Galapagos Islands Factfile on Darwin Biography on Darwin, exploring his life and theory of evolution



Block 2

Evolution of the horse Letters, including emotive language



Block 3

Inheritance (Mr Men) Observational drawing Designing board game

Year 6: My, How You've Changed! / National Curriculum Links

Science		Geography
 recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago 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 their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution 		 develop contextual knowledge of the location of globally significant places – both terrestrial and marine – including their defining physical and human characteristics and how these provide a geographical context for understanding the actions of processes understand the processes that give rise to key physical and human geographical features of the world, how these are interdependent and how they bring about spatial variation and change over time
Art		History
 Create sketch books to record their observations and use them to review and revisit ideas. Improve their mastery of art and design techniques, including drawing, painting and sculpture with a range of materials [for example, pencil, charcoal, paint, clay]. 		A study of an aspect or theme in British history that extends pupils' chronological knowledge beyond 1066.
DT		Key vocabulary
NA – art topic		Science – Adaptation, changes, characteristics, Darwin, differences, environment, evolution, generations, genes, inherit, inheritance, parents, similarities, survival of the fittest, variation organism, habitat, classification keys, environment, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, mammals, vertebrates, invertebrates.
Writing genres	Key texts	
Writing to inform – Biography Recall and descriptive (Letter Writing)	'Island, A Story of the Galapagos' by Jason Chin 'The Beagle with Charles Darwin' by Fiona MacDonald 'What Darwin Saw: The Journey that Changed the World' by Rosalyn Schanzer 'Evolution: How We and All Living Things Came to Be' by Daniel Loxton 'All About Evolution' by Robert Winston	