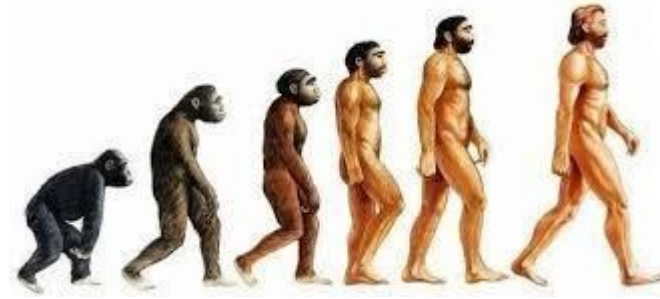




# EVOLUTION AND INHERITANCE



## Useful Vocabulary

**Evolution:** the change in the characteristics of a species over several generations

**Inheritance:** genetic information is passed from parent to child

**Adaptation:** changing for a specific purpose or need

**Environment:** the surroundings or conditions in which a person, animal, or plant lives or operates

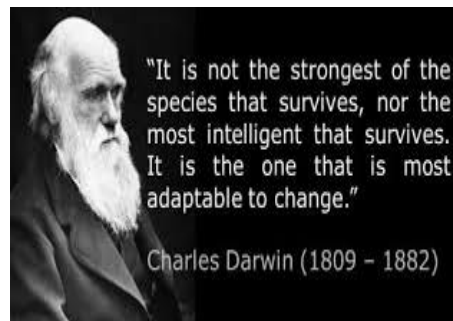
**Ancestor:** an early type of animal or plant from which others have evolved

**Fossil:** the remains or impression of a prehistoric plant or animal embedded in rock and preserved in petrified form

**Offspring:** an animal's young

**Trait:** a distinguishing quality or characteristic, typically one belonging to a person.

**Species:** a group of living organisms.



## Key Knowledge

**Theory of evolution:** The theory of evolution is based on the idea that all species are related and gradually change over time and adapt to their environmental needs.

**Inheritance:** all living things receive genetic information which has been passed down from parents, these help shape everything about the living thing.

**Fossils:** remains or traces of plants and animals that lived long ago. They form when layers of the earth build up on top of each other and turn into hard rock. The FOSSIL stays preserved in its shape by the hard rock around it.

## Three key figures

**Charles Darwin:** he provided evidence that evolution has taken place. He also suggested a theory to explain how evolution works. That theory is called natural selection. Evolution and natural selection is the key to understanding the diversity of life on Earth.

**Mary Anning:** Mary is recognised as a pioneer in the field of palaeontology (the study of fossils) and is celebrated as the greatest fossil hunter of all time!

**Alfred Wallace:** He is best known for proposing a theory of natural selection. This was published in 1858 together with Charles Darwin's idea.



# Anglo-Saxons

In 1939, a discovery of an Anglo-Saxon ship burial was made in **Sutton Hoo**, Suffolk. This find of a helmet, coins, treasures and other artefacts is believed to have belonged to an Anglo-Saxon king (probably King Raedwald).

The helmet  
(reconstructed by  
historians) found at  
Sutton Hoo is one of  
only 4 ever found.



## Useful Vocabulary

**BCE/CE** - Before Common Era or Common Era. The Common Era begins in Year 1.

**artefacts** - historical items

**exile** - to be sent away

**invade** - to enter and occupy land

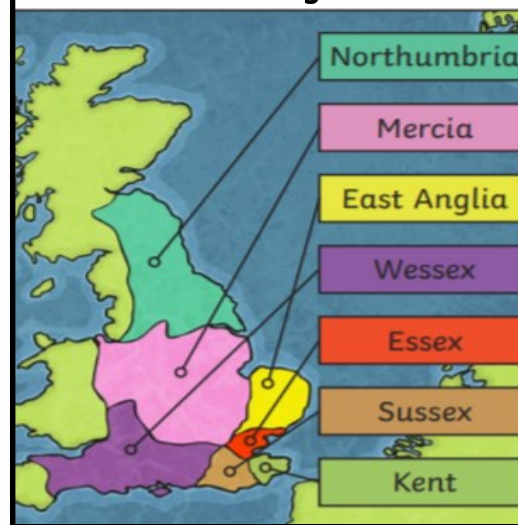
**kingdom** - an area ruled by a king

**outlawed** - having all property taken away and no longer being able to live in the community

**pagans** - a religion where many gods and goddesses are worshipped

**raid** - a surprise attack

## Saxon Kingdoms



## Anglo-Saxon Religion

Most of the Britons left when the Roman Empire collapsed were Christians. When the Anglo-Saxons invaded Britain, they were mostly Pagans. The king of the Anglo-Saxon gods was Woden. Other prominent gods were Tiw, Thunor and Frige. Some days of the week were named after them... can you work out which ones?

## Anglo-Saxon Kings and Kingdoms

The kings of Anglo-Saxon Britain each ruled their own **kingdom** and the people in it. They fought to defend their **kingdom** or take control of other **kingdoms**. When the Anglo-Saxons first settled in Britain, there were seven **kingdoms**, but by AD 878 there was just one **kingdom** (Wessex) left, as the others had been over-run by the Vikings. Many Anglo-Saxon kings tried to resist the Vikings and fought hard to keep control of their land. King Alfred the Great was the best known Anglo-Saxon king and the first to defeat the Vikings in battle.

In AD 1042, Edward the Confessor became the King. He was known as the 'Confessor' because he led a very religious life and was very kind and thoughtful.

In AD 1066, Harold II tried to stop Harald of Norway from **invading** England and killed him in the battle of Stamford Bridge. William, the Duke of Normandy, thought he should be king so came to fight Harold II in the Battle of Hastings (AD 1066). Harold was shot through the eye with an arrow and died in the battle. William of Normandy became King and was known as William the Conqueror. This brought the Viking and Anglo-Saxon age to an end in 1066.

## Key dates

**CE410(approx.): Saxons invaded and settled in Britain**

**CE1066: Anglo-Saxon and Viking rule ended in Britain**

## Significant historical figures:

**Alfred the Great** - defended his kingdom against the Vikings

**Edward the Confessor** - last reigning Anglo-Saxon king, whose death led to the fight for power at the Battle of Hastings