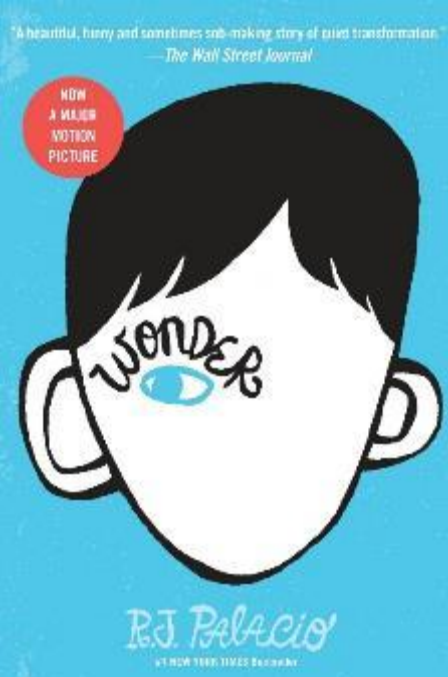
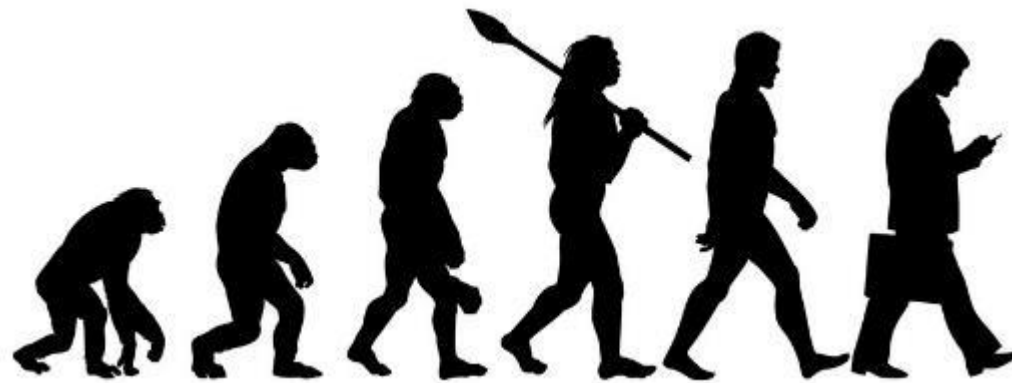





Year 6
Spring Term 2026
Knowledge Mats



Year 6: Evolution & Inheritance Knowledge Mat

Subject Specific Vocabulary		Interesting Book	Sticky Knowledge about evolution & inheritance
off-spring	When living things reproduce they pass on characteristics to their offspring. All living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring are not identical to their parents	<p>"A beautiful, funny and sometimes sob-making story of talent transformation." —The Wall Street Journal</p>  <p>BY R.J. PALACIO</p>	<p>Sticky Knowledge about evolution & inheritance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Evolution is a scientific theory used by biologists. It explains how living things changed over a long time, and how they have come to be the way they are. <input type="checkbox"/> We know that living things have changed over time, because we can see their remains in the rocks. <input type="checkbox"/> We know that the animals and plants of today are different from those of long ago. <input type="checkbox"/> Evolutionary questions are still being actively researched by biologists.
adaptation	Adaptation is the process by which animals, plants and other living things have changed so that they better suit their habitat.		
evolution	Evolution is the theory that all the kinds of living things that exist today developed from earlier types.		
inheritance	When living things reproduce they pass on characteristics to their offspring. This is known as inheritance.		
palaeontologist	A palaeontologist is someone studying the life of past geological periods, as known from fossil remains.		
Charles Darwin	Charles Darwin was an English scientist who studied nature. He is known for his theory of evolution.		
genes	Genes that are passed on to you determine many of your traits, such as your hair colour and skin colour.		
chromosomes	Chromosomes are tiny structures inside cells made from DNA and protein.		
syndrome	A syndrome is a genetic condition which can affect learning and physical features.		
genotype	A genotype refers to a particular gene or set of genes carried by an individual.		
			

Year 6: Animal Classification Knowledge Mat


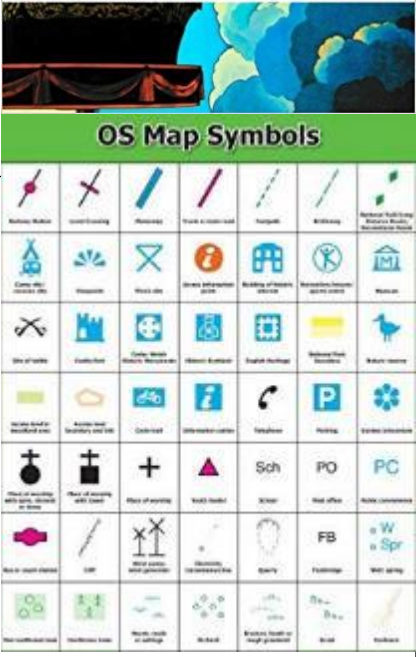
Subject Specific Vocabulary		Interesting Books	Sticky Knowledge about Classification of animals
micro-organism	Micro-organisms are tiny. They are so small they can only be seen with a microscope.	 <p>Important facts to know by the end of the classification of animals topic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be able to classify living things into broad groups according to observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences. • Know how living things have been classified. • Give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics. 	<input type="checkbox"/> The largest vertebrate is the blue whale, which can grow to 25m long and weighs 140,000kg.
vertebrates	A vertebrate animal is one that has a backbone.		<input type="checkbox"/> The smallest vertebrate is thought to be a tiny frog called the Paedophryne amauensis. It only grows to about 8mm in length.
invertebrates	An Invertebrate animal does not have a backbone and 97% of creatures belong to this group.		<input type="checkbox"/> Vertebrates tend to be much more intelligent than invertebrates.
species	This is the grouping together of similar species of plants, animals and other organisms.		<input type="checkbox"/> Vertebrate animals can be either warm or cold-blooded. A cold-blooded animal cannot maintain a constant body temperature. The temperature of their body is determined by the outside surroundings.
fungi	Fungi are a group of living organisms which are classified in their own kingdom. This means they are not animals, plants, or bacteria.		<input type="checkbox"/> An invertebrate is an animal that does not have a backbone. 97% of all animal species are invertebrates.
monera	The whole organism is made up of just one cell. The cell is more basic than cells of other organisms.		<input type="checkbox"/> Frogs can breathe through their skin.
bacteria	Bacteria are tiny little organisms that are everywhere around us.		<input type="checkbox"/> There are a wide variety of interesting ocean animals that are invertebrates. These include sponges, corals, jellyfish, anemones, and starfish.
protista	Protists are not animals, plants, fungi, or bacteria. Many protists are so small that people can see them only through a microscope.		
algae	Algae is a single or multi-cellular organism that has no roots, stems or leaves and is often found in water.		
Carl Linnaeus	Carl Linnaeus is famous for his work in Taxonomy, the science of identifying, naming and classifying organisms (plants, animals, bacteria, fungi, etc.).		

Mayan Civilisation: KS2 Knowledge Mat

Subject Specific Vocabulary			Exciting Books	
glyphs	Symbols used in the Mayan writing system. Each symbol represents a word or sound.		<h3>Sticky Knowledge about the Mayan civilization</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ The Mayans were expert mathematicians and astronomers. They used this expertise to make calendars. ❑ Although the Mayans had metal-working skills, metal ores were scarce. Mayans used stone tools to carve the limestone that they used for their buildings. ❑ Mayan religion was extremely bloodthirsty, demanding human sacrifices and blood-letting rituals. The Mayans believed in an afterlife and that those who were sacrificed, as well as those killed in war and women who died in childbirth, went to 'the place of misty sky'. ❑ At the top of Mayan society was the king and royal family who were believed to be closely linked to the gods. An educated elite of scribes, priests and nobles formed the ruling class. They occupied the finest buildings in the city. ❑ Mayan society was formed of a number of city states each with their own ruler. 	
codices	Books created by the Mayans. They were made of soft bark and folded like a fan.			
Chichen Itza	The Mayans most well-known pyramid.			
cocoa	Seeds that the Maya used to make chocolate.			
ahau or ahaw	The main king or lord of a Maya city-state.			
batab	A lesser lord, usually ruling over a small town.			
Itzamna	The main god of the Maya, Itzamna was the god of fire who created the Earth.			
huipil	A traditional garment worn by Maya women.			
Kin	Word representing a day in the Maya calendar.			
Kukulcan	The serpent god of the Maya. One of the primary gods, especially to the Itza peoples of Chichen Itza.			
Uinal	Word for a month in the Maya calendar. It was 20 days long.			

Mayans. The **Mayan**, or **Maya**, peoples made their home in an area known as Mesoamerica (modern day Mexico and Central America). **Mayan** culture was well established by 1000 BCE, and it lasted until 1697.

Map Reading KS2 Knowledge Mat

Subject Specific Vocabulary			Exciting Books
Ordnance Survey	An Ordnance Survey map is a detailed map produced by mapping agency of the United Kingdom (UK).		<h3>Sticky Knowledge about Map Reading</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cartography is the study of maps and map making. Someone who makes maps is called a cartographer. There are two norths: true north and magnetic north. True north is the direction of the geographic North Pole. Magnetic north is the direction the north end of a needle in a compass points. Throughout Medieval times in Europe most maps of the world, known as Mappae Mundi, were expensive to create by hand, so were used by royals and nobles as displays of wealth rather than for practical purposes. The map that's familiar to most of us is the Mercator projection, but it is also, full of distortions. North may be at the top of maps today, but that wasn't always the case. During the middle ages, most Western maps put east at the top instead.
symbol	Map symbols are used to represent real objects. Both shapes and colours can be used for symbols on maps.	 <p>OS Map Symbols</p>	
hemisphere	A hemisphere is formed by dividing the earth into the Northern and Southern Hemispheres at the equator.		
latitude	The lines extending around the Earth horizontally are called lines of latitude.		
longitude	The lines extending around the Earth vertically are called lines of longitude.		
time zones	Time zones give specific areas on the earth a time of day that is earlier or later than the neighbouring time zones.		
grid reference	Numerical grid references consist of an even number of digits. Eastings are written before Northings.		
aerial photograph	Aerial photography is the taking of photographs of the ground from an elevated/direct-down position.		
Greenwich meridian	The prime meridian is the imaginary line that divides Earth into two equal parts: the Eastern Hemisphere and the Western Hemisphere, often called the Greenwich meridian.		
tropics	The tropics are regions of the Earth that lie roughly in the middle of the globe.		

North America KS2 Knowledge Mat



Subject Specific Vocabulary	
A buck	A nickname for the American dollar.
Cherokee	A member of an American Indian people formerly inhabiting much of the southern US.
American state	The U.S. is a country of 50 states covering a vast swathe of North America.
national park	An area of countryside, or occasionally sea or fresh water, protected by the state for the enjoyment of the general public or the preservation of wildlife.
The 'big apple'	This is the nickname associated with New York City (NYC). The nickname became common from the 1920s.
coyotes	Coyotes were a purely North American animal that lived in the West. They are small wolf-like creatures.
Statue of Liberty	The Statue of Liberty is a colossal neoclassical sculpture on Liberty Island in New York Harbour in New York City.
Chichén Itzá	Chichén Itzá is a complex of Mayan ruins in Mexico. It is a massive step pyramid.
A cold shoulder	An American metaphor for deliberately ignoring someone.
lighten up	To relax and not to take things too seriously.

Sticky Knowledge about North America

- There are 23 countries in North America, with Canada being the biggest.
- Mexico City is the largest city with more than 9 million people living there.
- Before the Europeans arrived, the indigenous and native Americans lived in the continent. Today, only about 2% of US Americans consider themselves as descendants from native Americans.
- Greenland is the not only the biggest island in North America but also in the world.
- The Missouri River is the longest in North America and flows through seven US states. Denali is the highest mountain in North America.
- Lake Superior, which borders Canada and the US, is the third largest lake in the world and the largest North American lake.

Exciting Books



10 biggest North American countries

- Canada
- USA
- Mexico
- Nicaragua
- Honduras
- Cuba
- Guatemala
- Panama
- Cost Rica
- Dominican Republic