**B3 Adaptations**

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| **Keyword** | **Definition** |
| Adaptation | A characteristic that helps an organism to survive in its environment |
| Biodiversity | The range of organisms living in an area |
| Chromosome | Long strand of DNA which contains many genes |
| Competition | Competing with other organisms for resources |
| Continuous Variation | A characteristic that can take any value within a certain range e.g. height |
| Discontinuous Variation | A characteristic that can only be a certain value e.g. eye colour |
| DNA | Chemical that contains all the information needed to make up an organism |
| Endangered | Species of plants and animals that only have a small population in existence and are in danger of becoming extinct |
| Evolution | Development of a species over time |
| Extinct | When there are no individuals of a species left |
| Fossils | The remains of plants and animals that have turned to stone |
| Fossil Fuels | Coal, oil and gas made from the remains of trees and sea creatures over millions of years |
| Gene Bank | A store of genetic samples which can be used for research and to prevent extinction |
| Genes | Section of DNA that contains information for a characteristic |
| Habitat | The natural home or environment of an animal, plant or other organism |
| Interdependence | The way in which living organisms depend on each other to survive, grow and reproduce |
| Natural Selection | The process by which organisms with characteristics most suited to their environment will survive and reproduce, passing on their genes to their offspring (survival of the fittest) |
| Species | Organisms that are similar to each other and can reproduce to produce fertile offspring |
| Variation | Differences in characteristics amongst a species |