DoodleBeez Worksheets

Grade 8 | Science

Name: Date: Score: / 8

Natural Selection: Learn and Practice

Why some traits win out over time

Read each question. Circle the best answer.

💡 Natural Selection

- Individuals in a population have different inherited traits.
- Those with traits that suit the environment survive and reproduce more.
- Over many generations, helpful traits become more common.
- dark moths hidden on sooty trees: more dark moths survive

1 Which scientist is famous for the idea of natural selection?

A. Isaac Newton B. Charles Darwin

C. Robert Hooke D. Marie Curie

2 Organisms often make more offspring than can survive. What does this lead to?

A. No predators B. Unlimited food

C. Identical offspring

D. Competition for resources

3 What does it mean if a trait is inherited?

A. It comes from food B. It is learned at school

C. It is passed on from parents

D. It is chosen by the animal

4 🏝️ Where did Darwin study finches with different beak shapes?

A. The Moon B. The Galapagos Islands

C. Iceland D. Antarctica

5 Can a single animal evolve during its lifetime?

A. Only if it eats more B. Only when it sleeps

C. Yes, every day

D. No, populations change over generations

6 In natural selection, which individuals are most likely to survive and reproduce?

A. Those that try the hardest

B. Those best suited to their surroundings

C. Only the youngest ones

D. Only the biggest ones

7 What do we call differences in traits among members of a species?

A. Pollination B. Extinction C. Variation

D. Photosynthesis

8 🦋 During heavy pollution in England, dark peppered moths became more common. Why?

A. Light moths flew away

B. Birds had trouble seeing them

C. Soot dyed their wings

D. They chose to turn dark

✏️ Explain it! Write two facts you learned about natural selection.

ANSWER KEY

Natural Selection: Learn and Practice (answers)

Why some traits win out over time

Read each question. Circle the best answer.

1 Which scientist is famous for the idea of natural selection?

A. Isaac Newton **B. Charles Darwin**

C. Robert Hooke D. Marie Curie

Charles Darwin described natural selection in 1859 after years of studying living things.

2 Organisms often make more offspring than can survive. What does this lead to?

A. No predators B. Unlimited food

C. Identical offspring

D. Competition for resources

With more young than food and space, individuals must compete, and not all survive.

3 What does it mean if a trait is inherited?

A. It comes from food B. It is learned at school

C. It is passed on from parents

D. It is chosen by the animal

Inherited traits are passed from parents to offspring through genes.

4 🏝️ Where did Darwin study finches with different beak shapes?

A. The Moon **B. The Galapagos Islands**

C. Iceland D. Antarctica

On the Galapagos Islands, Darwin noticed finches with beaks suited to different foods.

5 Can a single animal evolve during its lifetime?

A. Only if it eats more B. Only when it sleeps

C. Yes, every day

D. No, populations change over generations

An individual's genes do not change to fit its needs. Evolution is a change in a population over generations.

6 In natural selection, which individuals are most likely to survive and reproduce?

A. Those that try the hardest

B. Those best suited to their surroundings

C. Only the youngest ones

D. Only the biggest ones

Individuals with traits that fit their environment tend to survive and have more offspring.

7 What do we call differences in traits among members of a species?

A. Pollination B. Extinction **C. Variation**

D. Photosynthesis

Variation means members of a species are not all the same. It is the raw material for natural selection.

8 🦋 During heavy pollution in England, dark peppered moths became more common. Why?

A. Light moths flew away

B. Birds had trouble seeing them

C. Soot dyed their wings

D. They chose to turn dark

On soot covered trees, dark moths were hidden from birds, so more survived to reproduce.