

Variation- the heritable differences, or variations, that exist in every population are the basis for natural selection

Overproduction- having many offspring increases chances of survival as well as competition among individuals for resources

Natural Selection

A mechanism by which individuals that have inherited beneficial adaptations produce more offspring on average than do other individuals

Adaptation- a certain variation allows an individual to survive better than other individuals it competes against in its environment

Descent with modification-over time, natural selection will result in species with adaptations that are well suited for survival and reproduction in an environment.

Content Practice B

LESSON 2

Theory of Evolution by Natural Selection

Directions: On each line write the letter of the term from the word bank that matches the definition correctly. Some terms will not be used.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| A. adaptations | E. ancestor | I. artificial selection |
| B. behavioral adaptation | F. camouflage | J. functional adaptation |
| C. mimicry | G. naturalist | K. natural selection |
| D. selective breeding | H. structural adaptation | L. variations |

- _____ 1. the breeding of organisms for desired characteristics
- _____ 2. characteristics of a species that enable it to survive
- _____ 3. explains how populations change as their environment changes
- _____ 4. slight differences in the appearance of individual members of a species
- _____ 5. an adaptation that involves the way an organism behaves
- _____ 6. an adaptation that enables a species to blend in with its environment
- _____ 7. an adaptation that involves internal body systems that affect biochemistry
- _____ 8. an adaptation that involves color, shape, and other physical characteristics
- _____ 9. the resemblance of one species to another species
- _____ 10. the results of selective breeding

School to Home

LESSON 2

Theory of Evolution by Natural Selection

Directions: Use your textbook to complete the table. The table below lists four steps that contribute to the process of natural selection. For each step listed in the first column, describe its importance in the space provided in the second column.

Natural Selection	
Step 1: Reproduction	a.
Step 2: Variation	b.
Step 3: Competition	c.
Step 4: Selection	d.