HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year 6

Variation

science

What are we learning?

To identify different variations between animals and their characteristics.	To explore and identify how inheritance and characteristics are transfered in sexual reproduction.

Key vocabulary

organism	a living thing such as an animal, plant, bacterium or fungus	
variation	differences between organisms	
species	similar organisms where two parents can create offspring	
offspring	the young of a living thing	
characteristic	a feature of an organism, used to identify individuals or a group	
inheritance	the passing on of characteristics from parent to offspring	

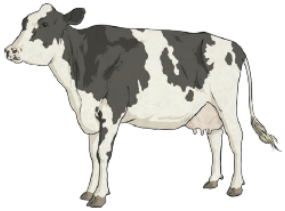
Why is Variation Important?

Some **characteristics** are better suited to particular environments than others. **Variation** allows a **species** to survive in different conditions and reduces the risk of extinction within a **species**.

Desirable Characteristics

Desirable characteristics are features that are preferred by humans.

Certain breeds of cattle have **desirable characteristics**, such as the ability to produce more milk or being better suited to producing high-quality meat.



Selective Breeding

Selective breeding is when **organisms** are bred for certain **desirable characteristics**. It can have many benefits.

However, it can lead to features in the **offspring** that are not healthy. For example, pugs are bred for their flattened faces. However, this can lead to breathing difficulties and skin disorders.