

Evolution of species

Topic/language idea: Evolution of species.

Class: Middle school/high school

Level: Upper-intermediate.

Time: 45 minutes

- Aims: To learn about evolution of human species.
- To learn about species, natural selection, adaptation.
- To learn about the criticism of the theory of evolution.
- To learn vocabulary connected with evolution.
- To look for specific information on the internet.
- To read for specific information
- To transfer the information.
- To use web pages.
- To watch the film and listen for specific information.

CLIL: biology, religious education

Materials: included photocopies, access to the internet and personal computer, speakers.

STAGE	AIMS	PROCEDURE	CLASSROOM LANGUAGE	TIME	MATERIALS
Introduction	To start the lesson	Check the register /check homework		1-6 min	
Warm-up activity	To provide students with introduction to the topic	Ask the students what they know about Charles Darwin, his life and his theory of evolution. Get the ideas from the class, write the key words, concepts on the board.	Who was Charles Darwin? Why is he famous? Do you know the title of his book or the theory he worked on?	5 min	
The main part of the lesson	To watch a film and learn about evolution of species	Ask the students to watch a film on their computers or watch it on a OHP. Afterwards ask the students to sum up what they have seen.	Watch a short film on evolution of species : http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wl7ldMr_m5k	10 min	Worksheet 1 Internet
	To learn about evidence supporting the theory of evolution	Ask the students to go online, read the information and take notes on the evidence we have to support the evolution. Report back to the class.	How do we know that evolution really happened? Go to http://darwin200.christs.cam.ac.uk/pages/index.php?page_id=j3 and find out.	10 min	
	To learn about the main concepts of evolution	Divide the class into three groups giving each group a different task to find on the Internet and define for the rest of the class.	In the theory of evolution there are some key concepts. Go online, browse and try to explain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • natural selection 	7 min	

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the origin of species • adaptation 		
	To learn about adaptation	Ask the students to read the quote, give them some time and ask for feedback, how do they understand the claim ? what is adaptation? why is it so important?	"It is not the strongest or the most intelligent who will survive but those who can best manage change." the quote attributed to Charles Darwin illustrates the importance of adaptation. Discuss.	5 min	
	To learn about criticism of the theory of evolution, creationism.	Ask the students to look at the cartoons , caricatures. Ask them to try to come up with ideas why evolution might have met with a lot of criticism.		7 min	
Wrap-up	Set homework	Ask the student to think of any other examples of animal adaptation to their environment that might be used in support of evolution.		2 min	

Sources:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WI7ldMr_m5k

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b1Ozky8xeFQ>