

Co-Existing or Interdependent?

KS3

National curriculum objectives



Working scientifically national curriculum objective:

- interpret observations and data, including identifying patterns and using observations, measurements and data to draw conclusions

Subject Knowledge national curriculum objective:

- Interactions and interdependencies: Relationships in an ecosystem
- the interdependence of organisms in an ecosystem, including food webs

Resources (you will need):

LOA 21 (animal photographs) PDF

BBC Bitesize, Old and New Species; <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zthcwmn/revision/2>



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15 MINUTE STAND ALONE OR OPENING ACTIVITY

Activity content:

Using the evolution of the horse (Bitesize, see Resources) ask pupils to suggest why changes might have occurred over a long period of time; what might have changed? Why would today's horses (Equus) be better suited being larger with hooves, than the smaller predecessor with multi-toed feet (Eohippus)?

Using LOA 21 PDF, pupils suggest which animals might have had similar adaptations over time based on earlier reasoning or which might have evolved less due to more stable environmental/habitat. To what extent might the changes be down to human interference, i.e. breeding or might lead to extinction?

Class reflection:

Consider which of the animals do they think might be discontinuous in the future, why? What is threatening the species?

Homework idea:

Using the LOA images pupils research the evolution of an animal over time and possible reasons as to why it has evolved.

Philosopher question:

To what extent is human interference with a species ethical? Through demand, when does breeding for specific purposes, such as to yield more meat or provide entertainment become unethical?

