

11 Biology 10 Evolution of Australian Biota - Part 1 Study online at $quizlet.com/_25jm51$

1. adaptation	a structural, behavioural or physiological characteristic that helps an organism survive or reproduce; is inherited
2. algae	are simple plants, usually aquatic, and include single-celled to larger plants lacking vascular tissue eg. seaweed kelp
3. angiosperms	flowering plants that produce seeds enclosed in an ovary and usually in a flower that ripens into a fruit
4. aquatic	means living or growing in water
5. asexual reproduction	is where a new organism is produced from a single parent, resulting from miotic cellular divisions
6. biodiversity	is the variety of forms of life
7. biota	a group of living organisms relating to a region or period and regarded as an independent whole
8. continent	is a major landmass on Earth
9. crustal plate	a large segment of the Earth's crust that moves very slowly around the surface
10. Darwin's theory of evolution	a theory that living things have undergone progressive changes from common ancestors as a result of natural selection, producing the present diverse forms of life
11. daughter cells	are the product of cell division
12. distribution	the places where a living thing occurs
13. diversity	variety or difference
14. ecosystem	a community of living, interacting organisms and the environment in which they live, eg. a rainforest
15. environment	includes all the factors that affect a living thing, including abiotic and biotic factors
16. evolution	the process of change and development of organisms from original life forms
17. extant species	species which are still in existence
18. external fertilisation	the union of sperm and ovum outside of the body, often in an aquatic environment
19. extinct	no longer in existence
20. fauna	a collective group of animals, related to a given area or period