

adaptation

a structural, behavioural or physiological characteristic that helps an organism survive or reproduce; is inherited

algae

are simple plants, usually aquatic, and include single-celled to larger plants lacking vascular tissue eg. seaweed kelp

angiosperms

flowering plants that produce seeds enclosed in an ovary and usually in a flower that ripens into a fruit

aquatic

means living or growing in water

asexual reproduction

is where a new organism is produced from a single parent, resulting from mitotic cellular divisions

biodiversity

is the variety of forms
of life

biota

a group of living organisms
relating to a region or
period and regarded as an
independent whole

continent

is a major landmass
on Earth

crustal plate

a large segment of the
Earth's crust that moves
very slowly around the
surface

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

daughter cells

are the product of cell
division

distribution

the places where a
living thing occurs

diversity

variety or difference

ecosystem

a community of living,
interacting organisms and
the environment in which
they live, eg. a rainforest

environment

includes all the factors
that affect a living thing,
including abiotic and
biotic factors

evolution	the process of change and development of organisms from original life forms
extant species	species which are still in existence
external fertilisation	the union of sperm and ovum outside of the body, often in an aquatic environment
extinct	no longer in existence
fauna	a collective group of animals, related to a given area or period