**Bell Ringer – Copy Vocabulary**

adaptation

A fundamental ability of living organisms enabling them to change from generation to generation, becoming better suited to their environment.

evolution

Change over time. First identified by Charles Darwin in the nineteenth century, applied most frequently to the development of living organisms according to the principles of natural selection.

Homo sapiens

The scientific name for human beings, a member of the hominine tribe thought to have evolved in Africa between 200,000 and 300,00 years ago.

LUCA (last universal common organism)

The single organism from which every living thing on Earth has descended.

primate

A member of the order of mammals appearing between 60 million and 70 million years ago that is characterized by a relatively large brain, hands with multiple movable fingers, and eyes positioned to enable stereoscopic vision.