**Activity- Natural Selection Scenarios**

*Natural selection, along with Genetic Drift, is the mechanism of evolution. Charles Darwin first proposed this in his landmark book, On the Origin of Species. He argued that genetic variation exists within every population. A population’s potential to reproduce is always greater than the actual number of offspring who survive. Whenever a change occurs in an environment, only individuals with the most favorable variations survive to pass on their traits to the next generation. Those traits that help a species survive are called adaptations.*

**Procedure:**

1. Read each Evolution Research Project.
2. Fill in the information on the data table.
3. Answer the follow-up questions in COMPLETE SENTENCES.

**Academic Follow-up Questions:**

1. Define Variation in your own words.

2. Think about the many different people in this class. What are three examples of human variation?

3. Outline the steps of Natural Selection.

4. Why is overproduction necessary for natural selection to occur? What would be different if a population did NOT overproduce offspring?

5. Why is variation necessary for natural selection to occur? What would be different if a population did not have variation?







