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| **Observation 1** | **Individuals within a species vary in many ways** |
| Observation 2 | Some of this variability can be inherited |
| Observation 3 | Every generation produces far more offspring than can survive and pass on their variations |
| Observation 4 | Populations of species remain stable in size |
| Inference 1 | Members of the same species compete with each other for survival |
| Inference 2 | Individuals with favourable variations are more likely to survive. Survival is not random |
| Inference 3 | As these individuals contribute proportionately more offspring to succeeding generations, the favourable variations will become common (natural selection) |