Lesson 1

Evidence of Evolution

What is biological ideas are illustrated in this comic?





Human Evolution? Not exactly





Evidence supporting Evolution

The Theory of Evolution is supported by evidence from:

- Geologic records
- Fossils
- Comparative Anatomy
- Comparative Cytology
- Comparative Embryology
- Comparative Biochemistry



The Theory of Evolution

- The Theory of Evolution states that:
- Existing life forms evolved from <u>earlier</u> life forms
- <u>Simple</u> organisms evolve before <u>complex</u>

organisms



Geologic Record

- Earth's timeline
- Earth is about 4.5 billion years old



Fossil Record

- Fossils:
 - direct or indirect remains of organisms preserved in rocks, amber, ice or tar
 - can indicate how long ago an organism existed
- Age of a fossil:
 - determined by *carbon dating* or by location of rock layer



Comparative Anatomy

comparing body structures



- <u>Homologous</u> similar anatomical structure, but have a different function
- <u>Analogous</u> different anatomical structure, but have a similar function

Q: Which set of pictures represents <u>homologous</u> structures?

-Ans: Set A

Q: Which set of pictures represents <u>analogous</u> structures? –Ans: Set B



Set B



Insect wing



Vestigial Structures

- structures that have lost their original function
- shows common ancestry with those that still use them
- Ex. pelvic bones in a whale Ex. tailbone, appendix in humans









Comparative Embryology



- Comparing embryonic development
- Q: What evidence suggests that all these organisms have a <u>common</u> <u>ancestor</u>?
 - All look similar in early stages of development (ex. tail, gill slits, shape)

Comparative Biochemistry

 Comparing the chemistry of living things (proteins and DNA)

Human DNA

A-G-G-C-A-T-A-A-C-C-A-A-C-C-G-A-T-T-A

Chimpanzee DNA

A-G-G-C-C-C-T-T-C-C-A-A-C-C-G-A-T-T-A

Gorilla DNA

A-G-G-C-C-C-C-T-T-C-C-A-A-C-C-A-G-G-T-A

Q - Which 2organisms have the greatest similarity? Chimp & gorilla Q - Is the human more similar to the chimp or the gorilla? Why? Chimp – fewer differences

Q - Which method of comparison is <u>most effective</u> at <u>determining evolutionary relationships</u>? Why?

- comparative biochemistry (DNA & proteins)
- organisms may have similar physical characteristics but may still have hidden / unseen genetic differences

Lesson 2

Theories of Evolution -Lamarck -Weissman

-Darwin

Base your answers to questions 1 and 2 on the diagram below and on your knowledge of biology. Letters A through J represent different species of organisms. The vertical distances between the dotted lines represent long periods of time in which major environmental changes occurred.



What evolutionary <u>misconception</u> is illustrated in this comic?

Evolution does <u>NOT</u> occur in one individual organism in its lifetime.

Evolution occurs in a <u>SPECIES</u> over <u>LONG</u> periods of time.



How do we get our characteristics?

 Inherited Characteristics (genetic)

 Acquired Characteristics (learned, developed with practice)

What are some of YOUR own inherited and acquired characteristics?

Ex.

- Brown eyes
- Light skin
- Short stature

Ex.

- Neat handwriting
- Organized
- Hula hooping champion

Jean Lamarck's Theory of Evolution

- Theory of Use and Disuse states:
 - 1) the size of an organ is determined by how much it is used
 - Ex. Ballet dancers have large/strong leg muscles because they use them a lot (get smaller when no longer in use)



Jean Lamarck's Theory of Evolution (cont.)

- 2) Says that individual organisms develop new structures because they <u>NEED</u> them
 - Ex. Giraffes stretched and grew longer necks because they NEEDED to reach the leaves of a tree







Jean Lamarck's Theory of Evolution (cont.)

3) Said offspring will inherit acquired characteristics

–Ex. Baby giraffes are born with long necks because parents stretched them and passed it on





Epigenetics

- The study of potentially heritable changes in gene expression
- does <u>NOT</u> involve changes to the DNA sequence
- a change in <u>phenotype</u> without a change in <u>genotype</u>
- affects how cells read the genes

Video - Epigenetics (brief animated explanation)

Video - Epigenetics Ted Talk

Video - Epigenetics (Bozeman Science)



August Weismann (disproved Lamarck)

• By performing an experiment:



He cut off tails from mice

Then mated the tail-less mice

But offspring were born <u>WITH</u> tails!

Q: What would Lamarck's theory have expected? A: Tail-less babies (did not happen)

<u>Conclusion</u>: acquired traits are <u>NOT</u> inherited by the offspring, thereby proving Lamarck <u>WRONG</u>

Theory of Natural Selection (Charles Darwin)

- Said that the environment determines traits
- Survival of the "fittest"
 - "fit" = best suited for that environment to survive to reproduce, NOT necessarily the strongest/fastest etc.
 - Organisms with favorable <u>adaptations</u> (characteristics or traits) for their environment will survive to reproduce more successfully than those with unfavorable adaptations





Which environment is the polar bear best "fit" for?

- cold snowy climate

Why?

- It has adaptations (traits) suited for that environment
 - fur to keep warm in cold temperatures
 - white color to blend with surroundings to hunt effectively



What evolutionary concept is illustrated in this comic?

Darwin's Survival of the Fittest

Bad eyesight is not best "fit" for that environment so he will not survive





What evolutionary concept is illustrated in this comic?

Lamarck's Theory, evolution due to need wRONG!



What is illustrated in this comic?

Lamarck's Theory, evolution due to need wRONG!



Lesson 3

Darwin's Theory of Natural Selection

How did Darwin come up with his theory of Natural Selection?









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What are the main ideas of Darwin's theory of Natural Selection?

"Paine Lake at Dusk, Paine Lake, Alberta, Canada Special Mention © Darwin Wiggett, Water Valley, Alberta, Canada
1. Overproduction

Within a population, more offspring are born than can possibly survive



2. Competition



 Organisms compete for space, food, water, mates, and other limited resources in their struggle for existence

3. Variations

Differences among individuals of a species





4. Survival of the Fittest

 Organisms with favorable adaptations survive to reproduce

Organisms with unfavorable traits die

This polar bear's white fur, which helps conceal it from its prey in the Arctic, has been selected for over thousands of years.

Lichen growth on a tree

Lichen = light color

Tree bark = dark color



Ex. English Peppered Moth

- <u>Before</u> Industrial Revolution: lichen covered trees were light color
- <u>After</u> Industrial Revolution: <u>Environment changed</u>: Pollution killed the lichens revealing darker colored bark

How did this affect the moth population?





Ex. English Peppered Moth

Which moth is best "<u>fit"</u> to survive in the original environment (light color trees)? Why?

light colored moths blend in better to avoid predators

Which moth is best "<u>fit"</u> to survive in the changed environment (dark trees)? Why?

Dark colored moths blend in better to avoid predators





5. Reproduction

 Individuals that survive pass on their favorable traits to their offspring

6. Speciation

 Over time, different variations can cause populations to diverge and become their own separate species



Figure 19.13 A few Hawaiian honeycreepers, an example of how a new arrival in species-poor habitats on an isolated archipelago can be the start of a flurry of allopatric speciation.

Natural Selection Example:

- Giraffes had many offspring (overproduction)
- Offspring had different length necks (variations)
- Offspring competed for limited resources (competition)
- Long necks = many survive
 Short necks = fewer survive
 (survival of the fittest)
- Long-necked trait was passed on to future generations (reproduction)



Which of Darwin's ideas in his Theory of Natural Selection are related to this cartoon?

Overproduction



Lesson 4

Modern Theory of Evolution (1) - Mutations

Modern Evolutionary Theory (natural selection and genetics)



Notice anything interesting?

Weaknesses in Darwin's Theory

- Did not explain the genetic reasons for variations (mutations)
- Did not explain the origin of life itself



"There is grandeur in this view of life, with its several powers, having been originally breathed into a few forms or into one; and that, whilst this planet has gone cycling on according to the fixed law of gravity, from so simple a beginning endless forms most beautiful and wonderful have been, and are being, evolved."

- This passage from Chapter XIV concludes *The Origin of Species*. Significantly, Darwin leaves room for a creator in the formation of species. The image of someone "breathing life" into the original species is a direct allusion to biblical notions of creation.

Origin of Life?

 Heterotroph Hypothesis
 Primitive Earth conditions
 Heterotrophs evolved before autotrophs (no CO₂)
 Anaerobes before aerobes (no O₂) Hydrothermal vents

 Living organisms that do not depend on sunlight for energy may have been first

Video - 100 Greatest Discoveries 5of9 Evolution (Bill Nye) Play from 11:40 to 20:00 (origin of life)

Mutations

- Occur randomly and spontaneously
- **Cause variations**
- Favorable traits are passed on & increase in frequency within a population
- Unfavorable traits decrease over time
- If the environment changes, traits with low survival value may become favorable and increase in number

Species that are...
More likely to evolve:
reproduce sexually
genetically varied
have more mutations

Less likely to evolve:
reproduce asexually
little genetic variation
have fewer mutations





Geographic Isolation

@AmoebaSisters

If you REALLY loved me, you'd swim across.



physical separation into smaller populations by geographic barriers (mountains, oceans, rivers, deserts etc.)

Geographic Isolation (cont.)

- May lead to:
 - 1. <u>Reproductive</u> <u>isolation</u>: isolated populations become so <u>genetically</u> different, they cannot interbreed
 - 2. <u>Speciation</u>: production of a new species



Speciation in Galapagos Finches



Time Frames for Evolution

• Evolution does **NOT** progress in any set direction!

Gradualism:

- slow, continuous change over time

Punctuated Equilibrium:

 periods of stability with brief periods of change







Lesson 5

Modern Theory of Evolution (2) Impacts on Natural Selection - Antibiotic & pesticide resistance

Video - Evolution of Bacteria on a mega-plate petri dish











Human Impact on Natural Selection

Pesticide Resistance

some insects have mutations making them naturally resistant to pesticides so they survive & reproduce

<u>Result</u>:

Antibiotic Resistance

some bacteria have mutations making them naturally resistant to antibiotics so they survive & reproduce

Result:

insect population
 bacteria population
 resistant to pesticide
 Overuse of these substances can result in
 unintentional consequences!



- Resistant bacteria have little/no competition
- Easily survive and reproduce = MORE resistant bacteria!

A bunch of bacteria, including a resistant variety...

...get bathed in antibiotics. Most of the normal bacteria die. The resistant bacteria multiply and become more common. Eventually, the entire infection evolves into a resistant strain.





compared dead bacterium











Bacteria growth on an agar plate:

- white discs are antibiotics
- clear regions surrounding discs are bacteria free

Q: Why doesn't this plate have any clear regions around its antibiotic discs?

A: These bacteria are <u>resistant</u> to all the antibiotics!



Why are the bacteria free zones on this plate different sizes?

 the bacteria have mutations making them resistant to some of the antibiotics

Antibiotics Discovery Timeline (long gap)





2 Million

Antibiotic-resistant germs cause more than **2 million illnesses** and at least **23,000 deaths** each year in the US.

www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/stop-spread

Ways you can help reduce/slow antibiotic resistance:

- Don't take antibiotics too often (practice good hygiene & strengthen your natural immunity), healthy immune systems can fight some infections
- Only take antibiotics as directed by a doctor (NOT for viral infections, only bacterial)
- Finish full prescription of antibiotics even if you feel better
- Wash with regular soap & hot water to remove germs instead of anti-bacterial soaps or hand sanitizers
- Buy food that was not produced from animals given antibiotics

A new report grades the 25 largest US fast food and "fast casual" restaurant chains on their antibiotics policies and practices:

OUT OF TIMES a sore throat is caused by a virus

Use antibiotics only when prescribed by a doctor, and ensure your family does so.
Lesson 6

Phylogenetics & Taxonomy Dichotomous Keys

Phylogenetics & Taxonomy Classifying organisms into groups



Phylogenetics

- the study of evolutionary relationships
- based on how closely related species are to each other
- ex. The beluga whale is more closely related to humans than sharks, they have a more recent common ancestor









Figure 24 Phylogenetic tree of apes and humans.

The evolutionary group that led to modern gibbons diverged earlier than other primate groups,

11.7



How can you tell if species are closely related?

Compare their:

- Physical structure
- Reproduction method
- Embryological development
- DNA/RNA sequences
- Behavior (mating, feeding, etc.)
- Type of Symmetry
- Cell structure





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Taxonomy

• Groups (taxa) are arranged in a hierarchy that extends from the most general classification to the most specific.

Dear King Philip Came Over From Great Spain

- Domain.....Eukarya
- Kingdom.....Animalia
- Phylum.....Chordata
- Class......Mammalia
- Order.....Primates
- Family......Hominidae
- Genus......Homo
- Species.....sapiens = Humans

Dumb Kids Playing Carelessly On Freeways Get Squished

Animalia	 Eukaryotic <u>& Multicellular!</u> Ingestion (eating) Sexual 	Mammals, amphibians, sponges, insects, worms, fishes, etc	
Plantae	Eukaryotic Photosynthesis (using sunlight to make energy)Mosses, flowering plants		
Fungi	 Eukaryotic Absorption of decomposing materials Mostly asexual but meiosis occurs in some species 	Mushrooms, yeast, molds	
Protista	 Eukaryotic Nutrition may be by absorption, photosynthesis, or ingestion Asexual or sexual 	Amoebae, green algae, brown algae, diatoms, euglena	
Archaea (archaebacteria)	 Prokaryotic may be by absorption or <u>chemo</u>synthesis Asexual by binary fission, budding, or fragmentation 	Methanogens, Thermophiles	
Bacteria (eubacteria)	 Prokaryotic intake may be by absorption, photosynthesis, or <u>chemo</u>synthesis Asexual by binary fission, budding, or fragmentation 	Cyanobacteria (blue-green algae), Actinobacteria	

Binomial Nomenclature

- each species is assigned a two-part scientific name using the Genus and species classifications
- written in *italics,* Genus capitalized, species lower case
 - Ex. Homo sapiens (humans)
 - Ex. Drosophila melanogaster (fruit fly)
 - Ex. *Tursiops truncates* (bottlenose dolphin)



Dichotomous Key

a series of paired phrases used to classify living things





1 A dichotomous key to these six species is shown below. Complete the missing information for sections 5.a. and 5.b. so that the key is complete for all six species. [1]

What statements would best assist in identifying species E and F?

5a. Has white wings 5b. Has black wings

Dichotomous Key

1.	a.	has	small	wings	.go to	2
	b.	has	large	wings	.go to	3

- 4. a. has spotsgo to 5 b. does not have spotsSpecies D
- - b. _____Species F