evolution & bological systematics



Overview: Endless Forms Most Beautiful

- A new era of biology began in 1859 when Charles Darwin published *The Origin of Species*
- The Origin of Species focused biologists' attention on the great diversity of organisms

- Darwin noted that current species are descendants of ancestral species
- Evolution can be defined by Darwin's phrase *descent with modification*
- Evolution can be viewed as both a pattern and a process

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Concept 22.1: The Darwinian revolution challenged traditional views of a young Earth inhabited by unchanging species

• To understand why Darwin's ideas were revolutionary, we must examine them in relation to other Western ideas about Earth and its life



of Species

- The Greek philosopher Aristotle viewed species as fixed and arranged them on a *scala naturae*
- The Old Testament holds that species were individually designed by God and therefore perfect
- Carolus Linnaeus interpreted organismal adaptations as evidence that the Creator had designed each species for a specific purpose
- Linnaeus was the founder of taxonomy, the branch of biology concerned with classifying organisms





Paleontology, the study of fossils, was largely developed by French scientist Georges Cuvier Cuvier advocated catastrophism

• Cuvier advocated **catastrophism**, speculating that each boundary between strata represents a catastrophe

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- Geologists James Hutton and Charles Lyell perceived that changes in Earth's surface can result from slow continuous actions still operating today
- Lyell's principle of **uniformitarianism** states that the mechanisms of change are constant over time
- This view strongly influenced Darwin's thinking

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Evolution

- Lamarck hypothesized that species evolve through use and disuse of body parts and the inheritance of acquired characteristics
- The mechanisms he proposed are unsupported by evidence

explains the adaptations of

- organisms and the unity and
- As the 19th gentury dawned; it was generally believed that species had remained unchanged since their creation
- However, a few doubts about the permanence of species were beginning to arise

Darwin's Research

- As a boy and into adulthood, Charles Darwin had a consuming interest in nature
- Darwin first studied medicine (unsuccessfully), and then theology at Cambridge University
- After graduating, he took an unpaid position as naturalist and companion to Captain Robert FitzRoy for a 5-year around the world voyage on the *Beagle*

The Voyage of the Beagle

- During his travels on the *Beagle*, Darwin collected specimens of South American plants and animals
- He observed adaptations of plants and animals that inhabited many diverse environments
- Darwin was influenced by Lyell's *Principles of Geology* and thought that the earth was more than 6000 years old



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Darwin's Focus on Adaptation

- In reassessing his observations, Darwin perceived adaptation to the environment and the origin of new species as closely related processes
- From studies made years after Darwin's voyage, biologists have concluded that this is indeed what happened to the Galápagos finches





- manuscript from Alfred Russell Wallace, who had developed a theory of natural selection similar to Darwin's
- Darwin quickly finished *The Origin of* <u>Species and published it the next year</u>

The Origin of Species

• Darwin developed two main ideas:

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- Descent with modification explains life's unity and diversity
- Natural selection is a cause of adaptive evolution

Descent with Modification

- Darwin never used the word *evolution* in the first edition of *The Origin of Species*
- The phrase *descent with modification* summarized Darwin's perception of the unity of life
- The phrase refers to the view that all organisms are related through descent from an ancestor that lived in the remote past

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- In the Darwinian view, the history of life is like a tree with branches representing life's diversity
- Darwin's theory meshed well with the hierarchy of Linnaeus







Artificial Selection, Natural Selection, and Adaptation

- Darwin noted that humans have modified other species by selecting and breeding individuals with desired traits, a process called **artificial selection**
- Darwin then described four observations of nature and from these drew two inferences

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• Observation #1: Members of a population often vary greatly in their traits



- Observation #2: Traits are inherited from parents to offspring
- Observation #3: All species are capable of producing more offspring than the environment can support

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- Observation #4: Owing to lack of food or other resources, many of these offspring do not survive
- Inference #1: Individuals whose inherited traits give them a higher probability of surviving and reproducing in a given environment tend to leave more offspring than other individuals

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- Inference #2: This unequal ability of individuals to survive and reproduce will lead to the accumulation of favorable traits in the population over generations
- Darwin was influenced by Thomas Malthus who noted the potential for human population to increase faster than food supplies and other resources
- If some heritable traits are advantageous, these will accumulate in the population, and this will increase the frequency of individuals with adaptations
- This process explains the match between organisms and their environment

Natural Selection: A Summary

- Individuals with certain heritable characteristics survive and reproduce at a higher rate than other individuals
- Natural selection increases the adaptation of organisms to their environment over time
- If an environment changes over time, natural selection may result in adaptation to these new conditions and may give rise to ney PLAY cytes Seahorse Camourlage



Note that individuals do not evolve; populations evolve over time

- Natural selection can only increase or decrease heritable traits in a population
- Adaptations vary with different
 environments

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supported by an overwhelming

 amount of scientific evidence
 New discoveries continue to fill the gaps identified by Darwin in *The Origin of Species*

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Evolutionary Change

• Two examples provide evidence for natural selection: the effect of differential predation on guppy populations and the evolution of drug-resistant HIV

Predation and Coloration in Guppies : Scientific Inquiry

- John Endler has studied the effects of predators on wild guppy populations
- Brightly colored males are more attractive to females
- However, brightly colored males are more vulnerable to predation
- Guppy populations in pools with fewer predators had more brightly colored males









HIV

- The use of drugs to combat HIV selects for viruses resistant to these drugs
- HIV uses the enzyme reverse transcriptase to make a DNA version of its own RNA genome
- The drug 3TC is designed to interfere and cause errors in the manufacture of DNA from the virus
- Some individual HIV viruses have a variation that allows them to produce DNA without errors
- These viruses have a greater reproductive success and increase in number relative to the susceptible viruses
- The population of HIV viruses has therefore developed resistance to 3TC
- The ability of bacteria and viruses to evolve rapidly poses a challenge to our





The Fossil Record

• The fossil record provides evidence of the extinction of species, the origin of new groups, and changes within groups over time

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- The Darwinian view of life predicts that evolutionary transitions should leave signs in the fossil record
- Paleontologists have discovered fossils of many such transitional forms





Homologies

• Homologous structures are anatomical resemblances that represent variations on a structural theme present in a common ancestor





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- Vestigial structures are remnants of features that served important functions in the organism's ancestors
- Examples of homologies at the molecular level are genes shared among organisms inherited from a common ancestor

Homologies and "Tree Thinking"

- The Darwinian concept of an evolutionary tree of life can explain homologies
- Evolutionary trees are hypotheses about the relationships among different groups
- Evolutionary trees can be made using different types of data, for example, anatomical and DNA sequence data

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Convergent Evolution

- **Convergent evolution** is the evolution of similar, or **analogous**, features in distantly related groups
- Analogous traits arise when groups independently adapt to similar environments in similar ways

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• Convergent evolution does not provide information about ancestry



Biogeography

- Darwin's observations of **biogeography**, the geographic distribution of species, formed an important part of his theory of evolution
- Islands have many endemic species that are often closely related to species on the nearest mainland or island
- Earth's continents were formerly united in a single large continent called **Pangaea**, but have since separated by **continental drift**
- An understanding of continent movement and modern distribution of species allows us to predict when and where different groups evolved

Darwin's View of Life?

- In science, a theory accounts for many observations and data and attempts to explain and integrate a great variety of phenomena
- Darwin's theory of evolution by natural selection integrates diverse areas of biological study and stimulates many new research questions
- Ongoing research adds to our understanding of evolution







Evolution

- One misconception is that organisms evolve, in the Darwinian sense, during their lifetimes
- Natural selection acts on individuals, but only populations evolve
- Genetic variations in populations contribute to evolution
- **Microevolution** is a change in allele frequencies in a population over generations



reproduction produce the genetic variation that makes evolution

• Two processes, **PASSible** and sexual reproduction, produce the variation in gene pools that contributes to differences among individuals

Genetic Variation

- Variation in individual genotype leads to variation in individual phenotype
- Not all phenotypic variation is heritable
- Natural selection can only act on variation with a genetic component



Variation Within a Population

- Both discrete and quantitative characters contribute to variation within a population
- Discrete characters can be classified on an either-or basis
- *Quantitative characters* vary along a continuum within a population

• Population geneticists measure polymorphisms in a population by determining the amount of heterozygosity at the gene and molecular levels

- Average heterozygosity measures the average percent of loci that are heterozygous in a population
- Nucleotide variability is measured by comparing the DNA sequences of pairs of individuals

Variation Between Populations

• Most species exhibit **geographic variation**, differences between gene pools of separate populations or population subgroups



• Some examples of geographic variation occur as a **cline**, which is a graded change in a trait along a geographic axis





Point Mutations

• A point mutation is a change in one base in a gene

• The effects of point mutations can vary:

- Mutations in noncoding regions of DNA are often harmless
- Mutations in a gene might not affect protein production because of redundancy in the genetic code

- The effects of point mutations can vary:
 - Mutations that result in a change in protein production are often harmful
 - Mutations that result in a change in protein production can sometimes increase the fit between organism and environment

Number or Sequence

- Chromosomal mutations that delete, disrupt, or rearrange many loci are typically harmful
- Duplication of large chromosome segments is usually harmful
- Duplication of small pieces of DNA is sometimes less harmful and increases the genome size
- Duplicated genes can take on new functions by further mutation

Mutation Rates

- Mutation rates are low in animals and plants
- The average is about one mutation in every 100,000 genes per generation
- Mutations rates are often lower in prokaryotes and higher in viruses

Sexual Reproduction

- Sexual reproduction can shuffle existing alleles into new combinations
- In organisms that reproduce sexually, recombination of alleles is more important than mutation in producing the genetic differences that make adaptation possible

Weinberg equation can be used to test whether a population is

• The first step in the first

Frequencies

- A **population** is a localized group of individuals capable of interbreeding and producing fertile offspring
- A **gene pool** consists of all the alleles for all loci in a population
- A locus is fixed if all individuals in a population are homozygous for the same allele





• The frequency of an allele in a population can be calculated

- For diploid organisms, the total number of alleles at a locus is the total number of individuals x 2
- The total number of dominant alleles at a locus is 2 alleles for each homozygous dominant individual plus 1 allele for each heterozygous individual; the same logic applies for recessive alleles
- By convention, if there are 2 alleles at a locus, *p* and *q* are used to represent their frequencies
- The frequency of all alleles in a population will add up to 1
 - For example, p + q = 1

The Hardy-Weinberg Principle

- The Hardy-Weinberg principle describes a population that is not evolving
- If a population does not meet the criteria of the Hardy-Weinberg principle, it can be concluded that the population is evolving

Hardy-Weinberg Equilibrium

- The **Hardy-Weinberg principle** states that frequencies of alleles and genotypes in a population remain constant from generation to generation
- In a given population where gametes contribute to the next generation randomly, allele frequencies will not change
- Mendelian inheritance preserves genetic variation in a population





 where p² and q² represent the frequencies of the homozygous genotypes and 2pq represents the frequency of the heterozygous genotype











 Natural populations can evolve at some loci, while being in Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium at other loci

Principle

- We can assume the locus that causes phenylketonuria (PKU) is in Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium given that:
 - The PKU gene mutation rate is low
 - Mate selection is random with respect to whether or not an individual is a carrier for the PKU allele

- Natural selection can only act on rare homozygous individuals who do not follow dietary restrictions
- The population is large
- Migration has no effect as many other populations have similar allele frequencies
- The occurrence of PKU is 1 per 10,000 births
 - $-q^2 = 0.0001$
 - -q = 0.01
- The frequency of normal alleles is -p = 1 - q = 1 - 0.01 = 0.99
- The frequency of carriers is
 - $-2pq = 2 \times 0.99 \times 0.01 = 0.0198$
 - or approximately 2% of the U.S. population

genetic drift, and gene flow can alter allele frequencies in a

- Three major factors and bring about most evolutionary change:
 - Natural selection
 - Genetic drift
 - Gene flow

Natural Selection

 Differential success in reproduction results in certain alleles being passed to the next generation in greater proportions

Genetic Drift

- The smaller a sample, the greater the chance of deviation from a predicted result
- Genetic drift describes how allele frequencies fluctuate unpredictably from one generation to the next
- Genetic drift tends to reduce genetic variation through losses of alleles

PLAY Animation: Causes of Evolutionary Change







The Founder Effect

- The **founder effect** occurs when a few individuals become isolated from a larger population
- Allele frequencies in the small founder population can be different from those in the larger parent population

The Bottleneck Effect

- The **bottleneck effect** is a sudden reduction in population size due to a change in the environment
- The resulting gene pool may no longer be reflective of the original population's gene pool
- If the population remains small, it may be further affected by genetic drift



• Understanding the bottleneck effect can increase understanding of how human activity affects other species

Drift on the Greater Prairie

- Loss of prairie habitat caused a severe reduction in the population of greater prairie chickens in Illinois
- The surviving birds had low levels of genetic variation, and only 50% of their eggs hatched





Location	Population size	Number of alleles per locus	Percentage of eggs hatched
Illinois 1930–1960s 1993	1,000–25,000 <50	5.2 3.7	93 <50
Kansas, 1998 (no bottleneck)	750,000	5.8	99
Nebraska, 1998 (no bottleneck)	75,000– 200,000	5.8	96
Minnesota, 1998 (no bottleneck)	4,000	5.3	85

• Researchers used DNA from museum specimens to compare genetic variation in the population before and after the bottleneck

- The results showed a loss of alleles at several loci
- Researchers introduced greater prairie chickens from population in other states and were successful in introducing new alleles and increasing the egg hatch rate

Summary

- 1. Genetic drift is significant in small populations
- 2. Genetic drift causes allele frequencies to change at random
- 3. Genetic drift can lead to a loss of genetic variation within populations
- 4. Genetic drift can cause harmful alleles to become fixed

Gene Flow

- Gene flow consists of the movement of alleles among populations
- Alleles can be transferred through the movement of fertile individuals or gametes (for example, pollen)
- Gene flow tends to reduce differences between populations over time
- Gene flow is more likely than mutation to alter allele frequencies directly



• Gene flow can decrease the fitness of a population

- In bent grass, alleles for copper tolerance are beneficial in populations near copper mines, but harmful to populations in other soils
- Windblown pollen moves these alleles between populations
- The movement of unfavorable alleles into a population results in a decrease in fit between organism and environment







- Gene flow can increase the fitness of a population
- Insecticides have been used to target mosquitoes that carry West Nile virus and malaria
- Alleles have evolved in some populations that confer insecticide resistance to these mosquitoes
- The flow of insecticide resistance alleles into a population can cause an increase in fitness

the only mechanism that consistently causes adaptive

• Only natural set to be sistently results in adaptive evolution

A Closer Look at Natural Selection

• Natural selection brings about adaptive evolution by acting on an organism's phenotype

Relative Fitness

- The phrases "struggle for existence" and "survival of the fittest" are misleading as they imply direct competition among individuals
- Reproductive success is generally more subtle and depends on many factors

- **Relative fitness** is the contribution an individual makes to the gene pool of the next generation, relative to the contributions of other individuals
- Selection favors certain genotypes by acting on the phenotypes of certain organisms

Stabilizing Selection

- Three modes of selection:
 - Directional selection favors individuals at one end of the phenotypic range
 - Disruptive selection favors individuals at both extremes of the phenotypic range
 - Stabilizing selection favors intermediate variants and acts against extreme phenotypes









The Key Role of Natural Selection in Adaptive Evolution

- Natural selection increases the frequencies of alleles that enhance survival and reproduction
- Adaptive evolution occurs as the match between an organism and its environment increases







- Because the environment can change, adaptive evolution is a continuous process
- Genetic drift and gene flow do not consistently lead to adaptive evolution as they can increase or decrease the match between an organism and its environment

Sexual Selection

- Sexual selection is natural selection for mating success
- It can result in **sexual dimorphism**, marked differences between the sexes in secondary sexual characteristics



- Intrasexual selection is competition among individuals of one sex (often males) for mates of the opposite sex
- Intersexual selection, often called mate choice, occurs when individuals of one sex (usually females) are choosy in selecting their mates
- Male showiness due to mate choice can increase a male's chances of attracting a female, while decreasing his chances of survival

- How do female preferences evolve?
- The good genes hypothesis suggests that if a trait is related to male health, both the male trait and female preference for that trait should be selected for





F	RESULTS		
	Fitness Measure	1995	1996
	Larval growth	NSD	LC better
	Larval survival	LC better	NSD
	Time to metamorphosis	LC better (shorter)	LC better (shorter)
	NSD = no significant difference; LC better = offspring of LC male superior to offspring of SC males.		

Variation Various mechanisms help to preserve genetic variation in a population

Diploidy

• Diploidy maintains genetic variation in the form of hidden recessive alleles

Balancing Selection

• Balancing selection occurs when natural selection maintains stable frequencies of two or more phenotypic forms in a population

Heterozygote Advantage

- Heterozygote advantage occurs when heterozygotes have a higher fitness than do both homozygotes
- Natural selection will tend to maintain two or more alleles at that locus
- The sickle-cell allele causes mutations in hemoglobin but also confers malaria resistance



Frequency-Dependent Selection

- In **frequency-dependent selection**, the fitness of a phenotype declines if it becomes too common in the population
- Selection can favor whichever phenotype is less common in a population







Neutral Variation

- Neutral variation is genetic variation that appears to confer no selective advantage or disadvantage
- For example,
 - Variation in noncoding regions of DNA
 - Variation in proteins that have little effect on protein function or reproductive fitness

Why Natural Selection Cannot Fashion Perfect Organisms

- 1. Selection can act only on existing variations
- 2. Evolution is limited by historical constraints
- 3. Adaptations are often compromises
- 4. Chance, natural selection, and the environment interact













- **Speciation**, the origin of new species, is at the focal point of evolutionary theory
- Evolutionary theory must explain how new species originate and how populations evolve
- **Microevolution** consists of adaptations that evolve within a population, confined to one gene pool
- Macroevolution refers to evolutionary change ab the species level

species concept emphasizes reproductive isolation

- *Species* is a Latin word meaning "kind" or "appearance"
- Biologists compare morphology, physiology, biochemistry, and DNA sequences when grouping organisms

The Biological Species Concept

- The **biological species concept** states that a **species** is a group of populations whose members have the potential to interbreed in nature and produce viable, fertile offspring; they do not breed successfully with other populations
- Gene flow between populations holds the phenotype of a population together







Fig. 24-3b	_				
RESULTS					
Pair of populations with detected gene flow	Estimated minimum number of gene flow events to account for genetic patterns	Distance between populations (km)			
A-B	5	340			
K-L	3	720			
A-C	2–3	1,390			
B-C	2	1,190			
F-G	2	760			
G-I	2	1,110			
C-E	1–2	1,310			
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Reproductive Isolation

- **Reproductive isolation** is the existence of biological factors (barriers) that impede two species from producing viable, fertile offspring
- **Hybrids** are the offspring of crosses between different species
- Reproductive isolation can be classified by whether factors act before or after fertilization

- **Prezygotic barriers** block fertilization from occurring by:
 - Impeding different species from attempting to mate
 - Preventing the successful completion of mating
 - Hindering fertilization if mating is successful
- Habitat isolation: Two species encounter each other rarely, or not at all, because they occupy different habitats, even though not isolated by physical barriers















• **Temporal isolation**: Species that breed at different times of the day, different seasons, or different years cannot mix their gametes



Fig. 24-4f



Western spotted skunk (Spilogale gracilis)





• **Mechanical isolation**: Morphological differences can prevent successful mating



Bradybaena with shells spiraling in opposite directions

• Gametic isolation: Sperm of one species may not be able to fertilize eggs of another species



- **Postzygotic barriers** prevent the hybrid zygote from developing into a viable, fertile adult:
 - Reduced hybrid viability
 - Reduced hybrid fertility
 - Hybrid breakdown

• **Reduced hybrid viability**: Genes of the different parent species may interact and impair the hybrid's development



• Reduced hybrid fertility: Even if hybrids are vigorous, they may be sterile







• Hybrid breakdown: Some firstgeneration hybrids are fertile, but when they mate with another species or with either parent species, offspring of the next generation are feeble or sterile



Limitations of the Biological Species Concept

• The biological species concept cannot be applied to fossils or asexual organisms (including all prokaryotes)

Other Definitions of Species

- Other species concepts emphasize the unity within a species rather than the separateness of different species
- The morphological species concept defines a species by structural features
 - It applies to sexual and asexual species but relies on subjective criteria
- The ecological species concept views a species in terms of its ecological niche
 - It applies to sexual and asexual species and emphasizes the role of disruptive selection
- The **phylogenetic species concept**: defines a species as the smallest group of individuals on a phylogenetic tree
 - It applies to sexual and asexual species, but it can be difficult to determine the degree of difference required for separate species

take place with or without • Speciation can occur in two ways:

- Allopatric speciation
- Sympatric speciation



Allopatric ("Other Country") Speciation

• In allopatric speciation, gene flow is interrupted or reduced when a population is divided into geographically isolated subpopulations

The Process of Allopatric

- The definition of *barrier* depends on the ability of a population to disperse
- Separate populations may evolve independently through mutation, natural selection, and genetic drift



Evidence of Allopatric

 Regions with many geographic barriers typically have more species than do regions with fewer barriers






 Reproductive isolation between populations generally increases as the distance between them increases



 Barriers to reproduction are intrinsic; separation itself is not a biological barrier

























- Polyploidy is much more common in plants than in animals
- Many important crops (oats, cotton, potatoes, tobacco, and wheat) are polyploids

Habitat Differentiation

- Sympatric speciation can also result from the appearance of new ecological niches
- For example, the North American maggot fly can live on native hawthorn trees as well as more recently introduced apple trees

Sexual Selection

- Sexual selection can drive sympatric speciation
- Sexual selection for mates of different colors has likely contributed to the speciation in cichlid fish in Lake Victoria



Allopatric and Sympatric

- In allopatric speciation, geographic isolation restricts gene flow between populations
- Reproductive isolation may then arise by natural selection, genetic drift, or sexual selection in the isolated populations
- Even if contact is restored between populations, interbreeding is prevented

- In sympatric speciation, a reproductive barrier isolates a subset of a population without geographic separation from the parent species
- Sympatric speciation can result from polyploidy, natural selection, or sexual selection

provide opportunities to study factors that cause reproductive

 A hybrid zoneisolateigen in which members of different species mate and produce hybrids

Patterns Within Hybrid Zones

- A hybrid zone can occur in a single band where adjacent species meet
- Hybrids often have reduced fitness compared with parent species
- The distribution of hybrid zones can be more complex if parent species are found in multiple habitats within the same region









Hybrid Zones over Time

- When closely related species meet in a hybrid zone, there are three possible outcomes:
 - Strengthening of reproductive barriers
 - Weakening of reproductive barriers
 - Continued formation of hybrid individuals









Reinforcement: Strengthening **Reproductive Barriers**

- The reinforcement of barriers occurs when hybrids are less fit than the parent species
- · Over time, the rate of hybridization decreases
- Where reinforcement occurs, reproductive barriers should be stronger for sympatric than allopatric species





Sympatric male pied flycatcher

Allopatric male pied flycatcher



Fusion: Weakening **Reproductive Barriers**

- If hybrids are as fit as parents, there can be substantial gene flow between species
- If gene flow is great enough, the parent species can fuse into a single species



Stability: Continued Formation of Hybrid Individuals

- Extensive gene flow from outside the hybrid zone can overwhelm selection for increased reproductive isolation inside the hybrid zone
- In cases where hybrids have increased fitness, local extinctions of parent species within the hybrid zone can prevent the breakdown of reproductive barriers

occur rapidly or slowly and can result from changes in few or

 Many question and a species of takes for new species to form, or how many genes need to differ between species

The Time Course of Speciation

 Broad patterns in speciation can be studied using the fossil record, morphological data, or molecular data

Patterns in the Fossil Record

- The fossil record includes examples of species that appear suddenly, persist essentially unchanged for some time, and then apparently disappear
- Niles Eldredge and Stephen Jay Gould coined the term **punctuated equilibrium** to describe periods of apparent stasis punctuated by sudden change
- The punctuated equilibrium model contrasts with a model of gradual change in a species' existence



Speciation Rates

- The punctuated pattern in the fossil record and evidence from lab studies suggests that speciation can be rapid
- The interval between speciation events can range from 4,000 years (some cichlids) to 40,000,000 years (some beetles), with an average of 6,500,000 years







Studying the Genetics of Speciation

- The explosion of genomics is enabling researchers to identify specific genes involved in some cases of speciation
- Depending on the species in question, speciation might require the change of only a single allele or many alleles





Macroevolution

• Macroevolution is the cumulative effect of many speciation and extinction events







You should now be able to:

- 1. Define and discuss the limitations of the four species concepts
- Describe and provide examples of prezygotic and postzygotic reproductive barriers
- 3. Distinguish between and provide examples of allopatric and sympatric speciation
- 4. Explain how polyploidy can cause reproductive isolation
- 5. Define the term hybrid zone and

Overview: Lost Worlds

- Past organisms were very different from those now alive
- The fossil record shows macroevolutionary changes over large time scales including
 - The emergence of terrestrial vertebrates
 - The origin of photosynthesis
 - Long-term impacts of mass extinctions





early Earth made the origin of life

- Chemical and physical processes on early Earth may have produced very simple cells through a sequence of stages:
 - 1. Abiotic synthesis of small organic molecules
 - 2. Joining of these small molecules into macromolecules
 - 3. Packaging of molecules into "protobionts"
 - 4. Origin of self-replicating molecules

on Early Earth

- Earth formed about 4.6 billion years ago, along with the rest of the solar system
- Earth's early atmosphere likely contained water vapor and chemicals released by volcanic eruptions (nitrogen, nitrogen oxides, carbon dioxide, methane, ammonia, hydrogen, hydrogen sulfide)

- A. I. Oparin and J. B. S. Haldane hypothesized that the early atmosphere was a reducing environment
- Stanley Miller and Harold Urey conducted lab experiments that showed that the abiotic synthesis of organic molecules in a reducing atmosphere is possible
- However, the evidence is not yet convincing that the early atmosphere was in fact reducing
- Instead of forming in the atmosphere, the first organic compounds may have been synthesized near submerged volcanoes and deep-sea vents

 PLAY
 Video: Tubeworms

 PLAY
 Video: Hydrothermal Vent



Amino acids have also been found in meteorites

Macromolecules

• Small organic molecules polymerize when they are concentrated on hot sand, clay, or rock

Protobionts

- Replication and metabolism are key properties of life
- **Protobionts** are aggregates of abiotically produced molecules surrounded by a membrane or membrane-like structure
- Protobionts exhibit simple reproduction and metabolism and maintain an internal chemical environment

• Experiments demonstrate that protobionts could have formed spontaneously from abiotically produced organic compounds

• For example, small membrane-bounded droplets called liposomes can form when lipids or other organic molecules are added to water







Self-Replicating RNA and the Dawn of Natural Selection The first genetic material was probably RNA, not DNA RNA molecules called ribozymes have been found to catalyze many different reactions For example, ribozymes can make complementary copies of short stretches of their

own sequence or other short pieces of RNA

- Early protobionts with self-replicating, catalytic RNA would have been more effective at using resources and would have increased in number through natural selection
- The early genetic material might have formed an "RNA world"

Concept 25.2: The fossil record documents the history of life

• The fossil record reveals changes in the history of life on earth

The Fossil Record

 Sedimentary rocks are deposited into layers called *strata* and are the richest source of fossils

PLAY Video: Grand Canyon









Sedimentary strata reveal the relative ages of fossils

- The absolute ages of fossils can be determined by **radiometric dating**
- A "parent" isotope decays to a "daughter" isotope at a constant rate
- Each isotope has a known **half-life**, the time required for half the parent isotope to decay



- Radiocarbon dating can be used to date fossils up to 75,000 years old
- For older fossils, some isotopes can be used to date sedimentary rock layers above and below the fossil
- The magnetism of rocks can provide dating information
- Reversals of the magnetic poles leave their record on rocks throughout the world

Organisms

- Mammals belong to the group of animals called *tetrapods*
- The evolution of unique mammalian features through gradual modifications can be traced from ancestral synapsids through the present



history include the origins of singlecelled and multicelled organisms

• The **Bebtogic Gelonizis** tip deafine the Archaean, the Proterozoic, and the Phanerozoic eons



Era	Period	Epoch	Age (Millions of Years Ago)	
Paleozoic	Permian			Radiation of reptiles; origin of most present-day groups of inaccts, extinction of many marine and terrestrial organisms at end of period
	Carboniferous			Extensive forests of vascular plants form; first seed plants appear; origin of reptiles; amphibians dominant
	Desonian		359.2	Diversification of bony falses, first tetrapods and insects appear
	Silurian			Diversification of early vascular plants
	Ordovician		443.7	Marine algae abundant; colonization of 🛛 🎄 🎯
	Cambrian			Sudden increase in diversity of many 🛹 🤫 🔞
(Proterozoic eon)	Ediacaran			Diverse algae and soft-bodied 🕥 🚸 🍕
				Oldest fossils of eukaryotic cells)
(Archaean eon)				Concentration of atmospheric oxygen begins to increase
			3,500	Oldest fossils of cells (prokaryotes) appear
			3,800	Oldest known rocks on Earth's surface
		Approx	x, 4,600	Origin of Earth

Era	Period	Epoch	Age (Millions of Years Ago)	
Cenozoic	Neogene	Holocene		Historical time
		Pleistocene	0.01	Ice ages; humans appear
		Pliocene		Origin of genus Homo
		Miocene		Continued radiation of mammals and angiosperms; apelike ancestors of humans appear
	Paleogene	Oligocene		Origins of many primate groups, including apes
		Eocene		Angiosperm dominance increases; continued radiation of most present-day mammalian orders
		Paleocene		Major radiation of mammals, birds, and pollinating insects
			65,5	
Mesozoic	Cretaceous			Howering plants (angiosperms) appear and diversify; many groups of organisms, including most dinosaurs, become extinct at end of period
	Jurassic		145.5	Gymnosperms continue as dominant plants; dinosaurs abundant and diverse
	Triassic			Cone-bearing plants (gymnosperms) dominate landscape; dinosaurs evolve and radiate; origin of mammals

The Phanerozoic encompasses multicellular eukaryotic life

- The Phanerozoic is divided into three eras: the Paleozoic, Mesozoic, and Cenozoic
- Major boundaries between geological divisions correspond to extinction events in the fossil record



Organisms

- The oldest known fossils are **stromatolites**, rock-like structures composed of many layers of bacteria and sediment
- Stromatolites date back 3.5 billion years ago
- Prokaryotes were Earth's sole inhabitants from 3.5 to about 2.1 billion years ago



Revolution

- Most atmospheric oxygen (O₂) is of biological origin
- O₂ produced by oxygenic photosynthesis reacted with dissolved iron and precipitated out to form banded iron formations
- The source of O₂ was likely bacteria similar to modern cyanobacteria
- By about 2.7 billion years ago, O₂ began accumulating in the atmosphere and rusting iron-rich terrestrial rocks
- This "oxygen revolution" from 2.7 to 2.2 billion years ago
 - Posed a challenge for life
 - Provided opportunity to gain energy from light
 - Allowed organisms to exploit new ecosystems





The First Eukaryotes

- The oldest fossils of eukaryotic cells date back 2.1 billion years
- The hypothesis of **endosymbiosis** proposes that mitochondria and plastids (chloroplasts and related organelles) were formerly small prokaryotes living within larger host cells
- An *endosymbiont* is a cell that lives within a host cell



- The prokaryotic ancestors of mitochondria and plastids probably gained entry to the host cell as undigested prey or internal parasites
- In the process of becoming more interdependent, the host and endosymbionts would have become a single organism
- Serial endosymbiosis supposes that mitochondria evolved before plastids











The Origin of Multicellularity

- The evolution of eukaryotic cells allowed for a greater range of unicellular forms
- A second wave of diversification occurred when multicellularity evolved and gave rise to algae, plants, fungi, and animals

Eukaryotes

- Comparisons of DNA sequences date the common ancestor of multicellular eukaryotes to 1.5 billion years ago
- The oldest known fossils of multicellular eukaryotes are of small algae that lived about 1.2 billion years ago

- The "snowball Earth" hypothesis suggests that periods of extreme glaciation confined life to the equatorial region or deep-sea vents from 750 to 580 million years ago
- The Ediacaran biota were an assemblage of larger and more diverse soft-bodied organisms that lived from 565 to 535 million years ago



The Cambrian Explosion

- The **Cambrian explosion** refers to the sudden appearance of fossils resembling modern phyla in the Cambrian period (535 to 525 million years ago)
- The Cambrian explosion provides the first evidence of predator-prey interactions





• DNA analyses suggest that many animal phyla diverged before the Cambrian explosion, perhaps as early as 700 million to 1 billion years ago

- Fossils in China provide evidence of modern animal phyla tens of millions of years before the Cambrian explosion
- The Chinese fossils suggest that "the Cambrian explosion had a long fuse"



The Colonization of Land

- Fungi, plants, and animals began to colonize land about 500 million years ago
- Plants and fungi likely colonized land together by 420 million years ago
- Arthropods and tetrapods are the most widespread and diverse land animals
- Tetrapods evolved from lobe-finned fishes around 365 million years ago





Continental Drift

- At three points in time, the land masses of Earth have formed a supercontinent: 1.1 billion, 600 million, and 250 million years ago
- Earth's continents move slowly over the underlying hot mantle through the process of **continental drift**
- Oceanic and continental plates can collide, separate, or slide past each other
- Interactions between plates cause the

















Mass Extinctions

- The fossil record shows that most species that have ever lived are now extinct
- At times, the rate of extinction has increased dramatically and caused a **mass extinction**





• The Permian extinction defines the boundary between the Paleozoic and Mesozoic eras

- This mass extinction occurred in less than 5 million years and caused the extinction of about 96% of marine animal species
- This event might have been caused by volcanism, which lead to global warming, and a decrease in oceanic oxygen
- The Cretaceous mass extinction 65.5 million years ago separates the Mesozoic from the Cenozoic
- Organisms that went extinct include about half of all marine species and many terrestrial plants and animals, including most dinosaurs



- The presence of iridium in sedimentary rocks suggests a meteorite impact about 65 million years ago
- The Chicxulub crater off the coast of Mexico is evidence of a meteorite that dates to the same time

Way?

- Scientists estimate that the current rate of extinction is 100 to 1,000 times the typical background rate
- Data suggest that a sixth human-caused mass extinction is likely to occur unless dramatic action is taken

Extinctions

- Mass extinction can alter ecological communities and the niches available to organisms
- It can take from 5 to 100 million years for diversity to recover following a mass extinction
- Mass extinction can pave the way for adaptive radiations



Adaptive Radiations

• Adaptive radiation is the evolution of diversely adapted species from a common ancestor upon introduction to new environmental opportunities

Worldwide Adaptive Radiations

- Mammals underwent an adaptive radiation after the extinction of terrestrial dinosaurs
- The disappearance of dinosaurs (except birds) allowed for the expansion of mammals in diversity and size
- Other notable radiations include photosynthetic prokaryotes, large predators in the Cambrian, land plants, insects, and tetrapods



Regional Adaptive Radiations

- Adaptive radiations can occur when organisms colonize new environments with little competition
- The Hawaiian Islands are one of the world's great showcases of adaptive radiation















body form can result from changes in the sequences and regulation of

Studying the provide insight into large-scale evolutionary change









- Heterochrony can alter the timing of reproductive development relative to the development of nonreproductive organs
- In paedomorphosis, the rate of reproductive development accelerates compared with somatic development
- The sexually mature species may retain body features that were juvenile structures in an ancestral species



Changes in Spatial Pattern

- Substantial evolutionary change can also result from alterations in genes that control the placement and organization of body parts
- Homeotic genes determine such basic features as where wings and legs will develop on a bird or how a flower's parts are arranged

Hox genes are a class of homeotic genes that provide positional information during development

- If *Hox* genes are expressed in the wrong location, body parts can be produced in the wrong location
- For example, in crustaceans, a swimming appendage can be produced instead of a feeding appendage
- Evolution of vertebrates from invertebrate animals was associated with alterations in *Hox* genes
- Two duplications of *Hox* genes have occurred in the vertebrate lineage
- These duplications may have been important in the evolution of new vertebrate characteristics



The Evolution of Development

- The tremendous increase in diversity during the Cambrian explosion is a puzzle
- Developmental genes may play an especially important role
- Changes in developmental genes can result in new morphological forms

Changes in Genes

- New morphological forms likely come from gene duplication events that produce new developmental genes
- A possible mechanism for the evolution of six-legged insects from a many-legged crustacean ancestor has been demonstrated in lab experiments
- Specific changes in the *Ubx* gene have been identified that can "turn off" leg development



Changes in Gene Regulation

- Changes in the form of organisms may be caused more often by changes in the regulation of developmental genes instead of changes in their sequence
- For example three-spine sticklebacks in lakes have fewer spines than their marine relatives
- The gene sequence remains the same, but the regulation of gene expression is different in the two groups of fish





goal oriented

 Evolution is like tinkering—it is a process in which new forms arise by the slight modification of existing forms

Evolutionary Novelties

- Most novel biological structures evolve in many stages from previously existing structures
- Complex eyes have evolved from simple photosensitive cells independently many times
- Exaptations are structures that evolve in one context but become co-opted for a different function
- Natural selection can only improve a structure in the context of its current utility



Evolutionary Trends

- Extracting a single evolutionary progression from the fossil record can be misleading
- Apparent trends should be examined in a broader context







• According to the species selection model, trends may result when species with certain characteristics endure longer and speciate more often than those with other characteristics

• The appearance of an evolutionary trend does not imply that there is some intrinsic drive toward a particular phenotype









You should now be able to:

- 1. Define radiometric dating, serial endosymbiosis, Pangaea, snowball Earth, exaptation, heterochrony, and paedomorphosis
- 2. Describe the contributions made by Oparin, Haldane, Miller, and Urey toward understanding the origin of organic molecules
- 3. Explain why RNA, not DNA, was likely the first genetic material

- Describe and suggest evidence for the major events in the history of life on Earth from Earth's origin to 2 billion years ago
- 5. Briefly describe the Cambrian explosion
- 6. Explain how continental drift led to Australia's unique flora and fauna
- Describe the mass extinctions that ended the Permian and Cretaceous periods



of Life

- **Phylogeny** is the evolutionary history of a species or group of related species
- The discipline of **systematics** classifies organisms and determines their evolutionary relationships
- Systematists use fossil, molecular, and genetic data to infer evolutionary relationships



Concept 26.1: Phylogenies show evolutionary relationships • Taxonomy is the ordered division and naming of organisms

Binomial Nomenclature

- In the 18th century, Carolus Linnaeus published a system of taxonomy based on resemblances
- Two key features of his system remain useful today: two-part names for species and hierarchical classification

- The two-part scientific name of a species is called a **binomial**
- The first part of the name is the **genus**
- The second part, called the specific epithet, is unique for each species within the genus
- The first letter of the genus is capitalized, and the entire species name is italicized
- Both parts together name the species (not the specific epithet alone)

Hierarchical Classification

- Linnaeus introduced a system for grouping species in increasingly broad categories
- The taxonomic groups from broad to narrow are **domain**, **kingdom**, **phylum**, **class**, **order**, **family**, **genus**, and **species**
- A taxonomic unit at any level of hierarchy is called a **taxon**







Phylogeny

 Systematists depict evolutionary relationships in branching phylogenetic trees



- Linnaean classification and phylogeny can differ from each other
- Systematists have proposed the PhyloCode, which recognizes only groups that include a common ancestor and all its descendents

- A phylogenetic tree represents a hypothesis about evolutionary relationships
- Each **branch point** represents the divergence of two species
- Sister taxa are groups that share an immediate common ancestor
- A **rooted** tree includes a branch to represent the last common ancestor of all taxa in the tree
- A **polytomy** is a branch from which more than two groups emerge



What We Can and Cannot Learn from Phylogenetic Trees

- Phylogenetic trees do show patterns of descent
- Phylogenetic trees do not indicate when species evolved or how much genetic change occurred in a lineage
- It shouldn't be assumed that a taxon evolved from the taxon next to it

Applying Phylogenies

- Phylogeny provides important information about similar characteristics in closely related species
- A phylogeny was used to identify the species of whale from which "whale meat" originated









• Phylogenies of anthrax bacteria helped researchers identify the source of a particular strain of anthrax





• To infer phylogenies, systematists gather information about morphologies, genes, and biochemistry of living organisms

Homologies

• Organisms with similar morphologies or DNA sequences are likely to be more closely related than organisms with different structures or sequences

Sorting Homology from Analogy

- When constructing a phylogeny, systematists need to distinguish whether a similarity is the result of homology or **analogy**
- Homology is similarity due to shared ancestry
- Analogy is similarity due to convergent evolution



 Convergent evolution occurs when similar environmental pressures and natural selection produce similar (analogous) adaptations in organisms from different evolutionary lineages

Bat and bird wings are homologous as forelimbs, but analogous as functional wings

- Analogous structures or molecular sequences that evolved independently are also called **homoplasies**
- Homology can be distinguished from analogy by comparing fossil evidence and the degree of complexity
- The more complex two similar structures are, the more likely it is that they are

Evaluating Molecular Homologies

 Systematists use computer programs and mathematical tools when analyzing comparable DNA segments from different organisms






- It is also important to distinguish homology from analogy in molecular similarities
- Mathematical tools help to identify molecular homoplasies, or coincidences
- **Molecular systematics** uses DNA and other molecular data to determine evolutionary relationships

A <mark>C</mark> G G A T <mark>A</mark> G T C C A <mark>C T</mark> A G <mark>G</mark> C A C T A T <mark>C</mark> A C C G <mark>A</mark> C A G G T <mark>C T</mark> T T <mark>G</mark> A C T A G

Fig. 26-9

are used to construct

 Once homologous characters have been identified, they can be used to infer a phylogeny

Cladistics

- Cladistics groups organisms by common descent
- A **clade** is a group of species that includes an ancestral species and all its descendants
- Clades can be nested in larger clades, but not all groupings of organisms qualify as clades
- A valid clade is **monophyletic**, signifying that it consists of the ancestor species and all its descendants





 A paraphyletic grouping consists of an ancestral species and some, but not all, of the descendants



• A **polyphyletic** grouping consists of various species that lack a common ancestor



Derived Characters

- In comparison with its ancestor, an organism has both shared and different characteristics
- A shared ancestral character is a character that originated in an ancestor of the taxon
- A **shared derived character** is an evolutionary novelty unique to a particular clade
- A character can be both ancestral and derived, depending on the context







- An **outgroup** is a species or group of species that is closely related to the **ingroup**, the various species being studied
- Systematists compare each ingroup species with the outgroup to differentiate between shared derived and shared ancestral characteristics
- Homologies shared by the outgroup and ingroup are ancestral characters that predate the divergence of both groups from a common ancestor

Phylogenetic Trees with Proportional Branch Lengths

• In some trees, the length of a branch can reflect the number of genetic changes that have taken place in a particular DNA sequence in that lineage



 In other trees, branch length can represent chronological time, and branching points can be determined from the fossil record



Maximum Likelihood

- Systematists can never be sure of finding the best tree in a large data set
- They narrow possibilities by applying the principles of maximum parsimony and maximum likelihood
- Maximum parsimony assumes that the tree that requires the fewest evolutionary events (appearances of shared derived characters) is the most likely
- The principle of **maximum likelihood** states that, given certain rules about how DNA changes over time, a tree can be found that reflects the most likely sequence of evolutionary events



	Human	Mushroom	Tulip
Human	0	30%	40%
Mushroom		0	40%
Tulip			0
(a) Percei	ntage difference	s between seque	nces



• Computer programs are used to search for trees that are parsimonious and likely









Hypotheses

- The best hypotheses for phylogenetic trees fit the most data: morphological, molecular, and fossil
- **Phylogenetic bracketing** allows us to predict features of an ancestor from features of its descendents







evolutionary history is

- documented in its genome
 Comparing nucleic acids of other molecules to infer relatedness is a valuable tool for tracing organisms' evolutionary history
- DNA that codes for rRNA changes relatively slowly and is useful for investigating branching points hundreds of millions of years ago
- mtDNA evolves rapidly and can be used to explore recent evolutionary events

Families

- Gene duplication increases the number of genes in the genome, providing more opportunities for evolutionary changes
- Like homologous genes, duplicated genes can be traced to a common ancestor

- Orthologous genes are found in a single copy in the genome and are homologous between species
- They can diverge only after speciation occurs
- **Paralogous genes** result from gene duplication, so are found in more than one copy in the genome
- They can diverge within the clade that carries them and often evolve new functions







Genome Evolution

- Orthologous genes are widespread and extend across many widely varied species
- Gene number and the complexity of an organism are not strongly linked
- Genes in complex organisms appear to be very versatile and each gene can perform many functions

Concept 26.5: Molecular clocks help track evolutionary time

• To extend molecular phylogenies beyond the fossil record, we must make an assumption about how change occurs over time

Molecular Clocks

- A **molecular clock** uses constant rates of evolution in some genes to estimate the absolute time of evolutionary change
- In orthologous genes, nucleotide substitutions are proportional to the time since they last shared a common ancestor
- In paralogous genes, nucleotide substitutions are proportional to the time since the genes became duplicated

• Molecular clocks are calibrated against branches whose dates are known from the fossil record



Neutral Theory

- Neutral theory states that much evolutionary change in genes and proteins has no effect on fitness and therefore is not influenced by Darwinian selection
- It states that the rate of molecular change in these genes and proteins should be regular like a clock

Difficulties with Molecular Clocks

- The molecular clock does not run as smoothly as neutral theory predicts
- Irregularities result from natural selection in which some DNA changes are favored over others
- Estimates of evolutionary divergences older than the fossil record have a high degree of uncertainty
- The use of multiple genes may improve estimates

Origin of HIV

- Phylogenetic analysis shows that HIV is descended from viruses that infect chimpanzees and other primates
- Comparison of HIV samples throughout the epidemic shows that the virus evolved in a very clocklike way
- Application of a molecular clock to one strain of HIV suggests that that strain spread to humans during the 1930s



Concept 26.6: New information continues to revise our understanding of the tree of life

• Recently, we have gained insight into the very deepest branches of the tree of life through molecular systematics

From Two Kingdoms to Three Domains

- Early taxonomists classified all species as either plants or animals
- Later, five kingdoms were recognized: Monera (prokaryotes), Protista, Plantae, Fungi, and Animalia
- More recently, the three-domain system has been adopted: Bacteria, Archaea, and Eukarya
- The three-domain system is supported by data from many গুলক্ষা ব্ৰজকা ব্ৰজকা আছিল আছিল বিষয়ে বিষয় বিৰয় বিষয় বিষয় বিৰয় বিষয় বৰ বৈৰ বিষয









A Simple Tree of All Life

- The tree of life suggests that eukaryotes and archaea are more closely related to each other than to bacteria
- The tree of life is based largely on rRNA genes, as these have evolved slowly
- There have been substantial interchanges of genes between organisms in different domains
- Horizontal gene transfer is the movement of genes from one genome to another
- Horizontal gene transfer complicates efforts to build a tree of life



Is the Tree of Life Really a Ring?

- Some researchers suggest that eukaryotes arose as an endosymbiosis between a bacterium and archaean
- If so, early evolutionary relationships might be better depicted by a ring of life instead of a tree of life























