

Biology 7.1

The science of origin and history of life

The Science of Origins

1. How did it all begin?
2. No one around at the beginning, therefore not observation.
3. Explanations must survive by a process of elimination of experimentation. But without observation, explanations for origins will remain unverified and theoretical.
4. Origin studies are affected by one's philosophical point of origins
 - a. Natural or supernatural?
 - b. Accidental or designed?
 - c. Mindless chance or intelligent design?

Conflicting theories

1. Creation science and evolution theory examine the *same* data from population genetics, fossils, and current research; but they derive two different conclusions.
2. Both theories are used by the proponents to explain the data. Which explanation has more serious conflicts and inconsistencies with the data? Which explanation makes reasonable and substantiated predictions? Which explanation is testable?
3. Population genetics involves *allele frequency changes* of alleles already existing. So where do new alleles come from, how much can an allele change?
4. Creation science claims that genetic change capacity is **limited** within a defined species or kind of organism. Existing alleles can be modified and change phenotype function and appearance within a species or kind of organism. Adaptation to changes in an environment results from selection pressures on these modifications. Variations of organisms that exist on earth descend from many independently created kinds.
5. Evolution theory claims that change capacity is **unlimited**. They suggest that alleles can change and increase, without limitation, new information to result in unlimited different kinds of species. Evolutionists propose that all the different kinds of organisms that exist on earth descend from common ancestors beginning as single cells.
6. Conflicting theories in science are common due to a **lack of compelling evidence and failure to answer** critical questions.
7. Conflicting theories in science also arise because of **bias** in spite of evidence to the contrary.
8. Theories of science propose explanations for facts that are known. These explanations are useful to **predict** discoveries and to guide research to find answers to questions.
9. *Theories can be wrong though the facts are right*. Both creation and evolution models use the same data for allele and population changes, but they draw use different theories to explain the data.
10. The practice of censorship and propaganda is not scientific but are often employed to control controversial information taught to students.
11. Critical thought must be applied to examine the validity of claims made in science. This means to find reasons based on evidence to dismiss the credibility of a theory.
12. Questions must be asked in order to test theoretical claims.

Different supernatural explanations

1. Intelligent Design
2. Creation science
3. Biblical science

Different natural explanations

1. Pre-seeded evolution
2. Evo-Devo: The continual reorganization of highly complex gene regulatory networks and switches.
3. Darwinian evolution, Passive Natural selection
4. Neo-Darwinian evolution, Passive Natural selection for passive mutational benefits
5. Responsive evolution producing active mutation and selection
6. Somatic selection, selection of phenotype is cause for adjusting genotype
7. Platonic Evolution looks for similar environmental pressures to cause convergent evolution.
8. Self-organized evolution, responsive to environment
9. Multilevel Evolution
10. Epigenetic Evolution
11. Evolution by Symbiogenesis due primarily from interactions.
12. Teleological selection. Forward directed evolution.

Evidence from three categories (Observations and Experimentations)

1. Laboratory evidence
2. Fossil evidence
3. Geologic column

Evolution account

1. All matter and energy in the universe was contained within the original particle was smaller than an atom.
2. About 15 billion years ago, something caused the particle to explode or expand rapidly, forming atomic particles and hurling them at great speeds away from the center of the explosion.
3. Gas clouds of particles condensed to form planets and stars.
4. Five billion years ago, the earth formed and cooled for four billion years.
5. One billion years ago, molecules interacted to form increasingly complex molecules and eventually living cells.
6. Cells combined to form complex life forms, which, in turn, evolved to become all the many life forms that exist.

Biblical creation account

1. "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." — Genesis 1:1
2. Approximately 4,000 to 6,000 years ago, God created all things.
3. God created the heavens and the earth: atmosphere and outer space. The 'third' heaven already existed.
4. The earth, heavens, and all that is in them were created in six days (Exodus 20:11).
5. Day one
6. -Earth was a ball of water, without form, and void: lifeless and without shape.
7. -Light was created: physical, electromagnetic phenomenon.

8. Day two: Earth's atmosphere is formed. The firmament separated the waters below from the waters above.
9. Day three: Dry land is formed, and vegetation created.
10. Day four: The sun, moon, and stars are created.
11. Day five: Aquatic life and birds are created.
12. Day six: Land life and humans are created.

Mechanisms for variation in life forms

1. Mechanisms of change are not a point of debate between creationists and evolutionists.
2. Mechanisms of change are not evidence for descent with modification from a common ancestor.
3. Mechanisms of change do not indicate whether change capacity in organisms is limited or unlimited.
4. Mutation gives rise to new attributes by modifying existing genes.
5. Natural selection explains why some organisms do not survive to reproduce.

Evidence for limited change in a kind

1. All laboratory and field evidence supports limited change.
 - a. *Drosophila melanogaster* is the hallmark organism of genetic studies. In spite of millions of inheritable and accelerated mutations, the fruit fly is still a fruit fly.
 - b. Many variations resulting from inheritable mutant alleles resulted from experiments on *D. melanogaster*, but the variations occurred in existing genes.
2. Gene mutations can change the genetic code that already exists and add diversity in a species, but most are often harmful if not lethal.
3. Taxa are category designations used to group different kinds of organisms such as kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, and species.
4. Evolutionists have believed and claimed that evolution is a fact in spite of the lack of evidence. They still do.
 - a. "Not one change of species into another is on record... we cannot prove that a single species has been changed." —Charles Darwin, *My Life and Letters*.
 - b. "According to the author's view, which I think nearly all biologists must share, the species is the only taxonomic category that has, at least in more favorable examples, a completely objective existence. Higher categories are all more or less a matter of opinion." —G. W. Richards, "A Guide to the Practice of Modern Taxonomy," in *Science*, March 13, 1970, p. 1477.
 - c. "But in the last thirty years or so speciation has emerged as the major unsolved problem. The British geneticist William Bateson was the first to focus attention on the question. In 1922 he wrote: 'In dim outline evolution is evident enough. But that particular and essential bit of the theory of evolution which is concerned with the origin and nature of species remains utterly mysterious.' Sixty years later we are if anything worse off, research having only revealed complexity within complexity." —G.R. Taylor, *Great Evolution Mystery* (1983), p. 140.
5. The only evidence of 'fact' offered for evolution is variation that occurs within species or kinds of organisms. This is not evidence for unlimited capacity to change.
6. Evolutionists argue that it is not reasonable to expect millions of years worth of change to be reproduced in the laboratory. This is an excuse for the absence of evidence, and they offered this excuse only after failing to provide evidence for unlimited change.

Evidence for the supernatural origin of species

1. Accelerated mutational systems (fruit flies, bacteria) show that change is limited within a species.
2. The fossil record shows that populations resist change just as is observed in the laboratory and in the field today.
3. The fossil record shows that organisms are found fully formed and fully functional as distinct species from others.
4. The geological column shows complex life forms throughout the column.
5. Polystrate fossils traverse multiple layers of strata.
6. The 'Cambrian explosion' refers to the sudden appearance of all life archetype forms fossilized in the earliest strata of the earth without evidence of ancestral life.
7. Sudden appearance of life forms and evidence for limited capacity to change supports the creation science model.

Obviously, there is a scientific basis for intelligent design. This is not surprising because if God created all things, then evidence of His thoughtfulness in the design of creation should be evident. Scientific evidence confirms what is known by faith that God created the universe, life, and all species.

In addition, historical evidence for Christ's death burial and resurrection confirms rationally what is known by faith. Likewise, evidence for inspiration of the Bible confirms rationally what is known by faith. "In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth." —Genesis 1:1

The diversification of species explained by the creation model

- Orchard model and population genetics applied
- Noah's flood as a bottle neck in population sizes
- Post Noah's flood migration
- Time and diversification
- Genetic load and viability
- Common genetic code in humanity
- Common genetic code in living systems
- Genetic diversification and similarities in organisms

Philosophical conclusion for God from evidence of the supernatural

- Intelligence shown in complexity.
- Compassion shown in fine tuning of earth environment.
- Personality logical of something having intelligence and compassion.
- Omnipresence, omniscience, omnificence, and omnipotence evidenced by size and complexity of creation.
- These descriptions of the intelligent designer match the descriptions of God.

History of the earth

1. Catastrophism and Uniformitarianism
2. Geologic column. <http://creation.com/geologic-column-general-order>
3. Radio dating: Skull 1470