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Scripture & Science for Kids



The Failure of Natural Selection

ERIC LYONS

HOW IS IT THAT VARIOUS KINDS OF COMPLEX, FUNCTIONAL LIFE EXIST? HOW DID PLANTS AND ANIMALS GET HERE? HOW DID WE GET HERE? In 1859, Charles Darwin wrote his book titled *The Origin of Species By Means of Natural Selection*. Darwin proposed that every species evolved from previous species—that even humans could have evolved from a non-human animal long ago.

But how could such “evolution” happen? How could these kinds of major changes occur? Supposedly it was by means of “natural selection.” By “natural selection” Darwin meant that the fittest living things are naturally selected to survive. Since

an antelope with bigger muscles, stronger bones, and longer legs will be more likely to survive an attack from a hungry lion, that antelope will also be more likely to pass those advantages on to its offspring. Thus, nature “selects” the fittest to survive. Over time, as Darwin concluded, more complex life forms “should have been perfected...by the accumulation of innumerable slight variations.”

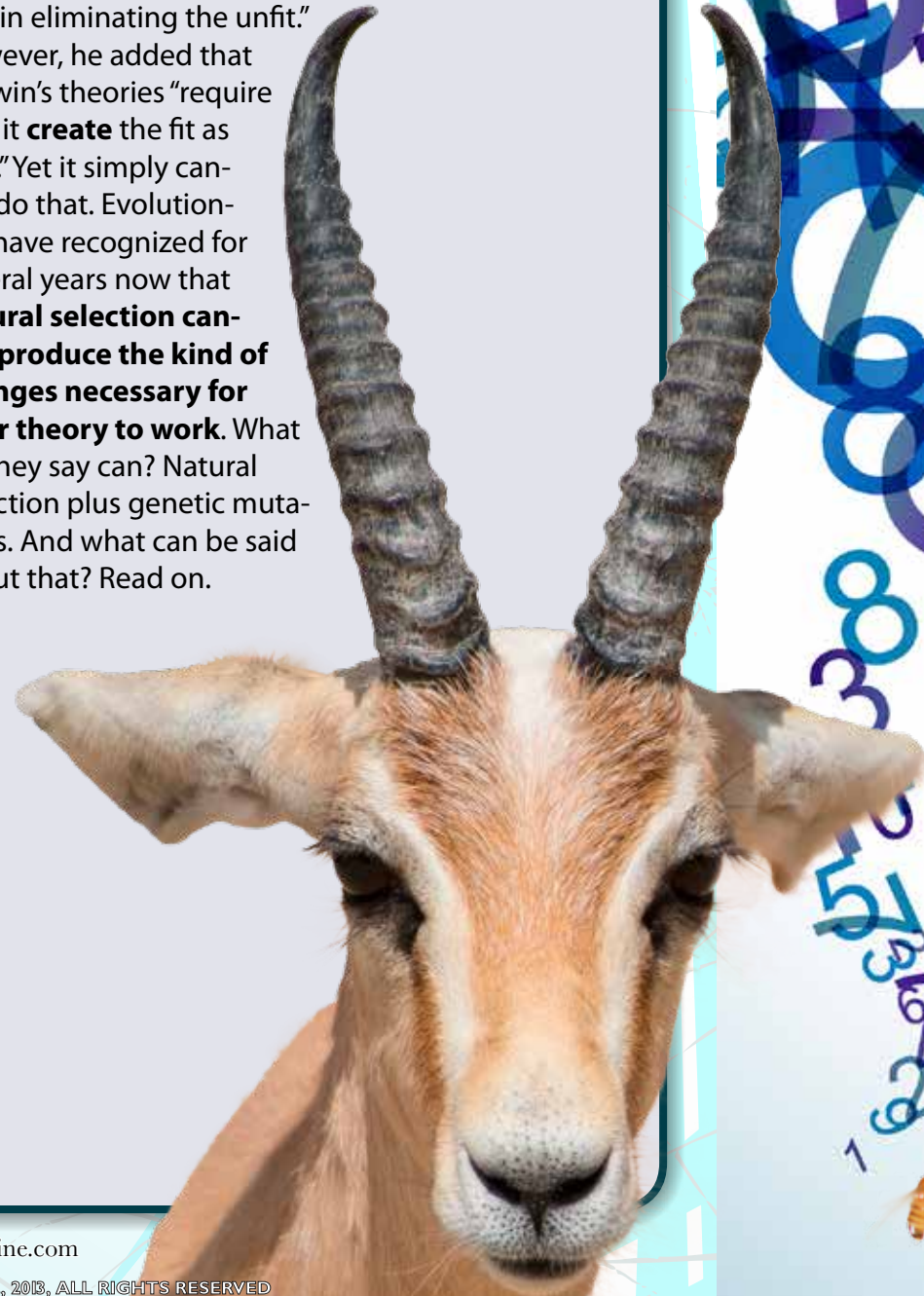
Creationists freely acknowledge the observable fact that stronger, healthier, smarter animals are more likely to survive and have offspring, while less healthy, poorly adapted creatures are less

likely to live and reproduce. “Natural selection” does not contradict the Bible or any truth that testifies to Creation. On the contrary, “natural selection” fails to prove the General Theory of Evolution. It has not and cannot make one kind of animal or plant evolve into another kind.

Stephen Jay Gould, who was one of the most well-known evolutionists of the 20th century, once stated: “No one denies that selection will play a negative role in eliminating the unfit.” However, he added that Darwin’s theories “require that it **create** the fit as well.” Yet it simply cannot do that. Evolutionists have recognized for several years now that **natural selection cannot produce the kind of changes necessary for their theory to work**. What do they say can? Natural selection plus genetic mutations. And what can be said about that? Read on.



STEPHEN JAY GOULD



A FLY THAT BUGS EVOLUTION

KYLE BUTT

IMAGINE LOOKING AT A TABLE COVERED WITH JARS. EACH JAR CONTAINS SEVERAL FRUIT FLIES. SOME OF THE FLIES HAVE NO

wings; some have tiny, useless wings; others have several pairs of wings. Other jars have flies with legs growing out of their heads where antennas should be. Some of the flies are yellow; others are black. Some of the flies have 25 bristles; others have 50 bristles. Some of the flies have red eyes; others have orange eyes; and others have no eyes at all. What is going on?

The common fruit fly, called *Drosophila melanogaster*, is often used by scientists to study mutations. Since the flies can breed new flies every 12 days, scientists can see thousands of generations of flies in a few short years. Researchers often expose the flies to radiation in order to mutate their DNA. The mutated flies give birth to strange offspring. The mutations cause all of the different varieties of flies that were just described. Some scientists hoped that speeding up the mutation rate of the fruit fly would help us learn how evolution works. In fact, scientists have studied fruit flies for almost 100 years and have seen millions of generations. But the fruit flies have not shown scientists how evolution works—**because evolution does not work!**

The fruit fly has proven that evolution is false. Even after millions of mutated generations, the fruit fly has not evolved into anything else. There are no half-fly/half-birds. There are no flies that have mutated into lizards or half-mice. In fact, the fruit fly shows that mutations cannot combine to form a kind of animal different from the original animal. The fruit fly is still a fruit fly.

The result of the research on fruit flies is exactly what you would expect if the fly was created by God. In the first chapter of Genesis, God told the animals and plants to be fruitful and multiply **after their own kind**. The fruit fly has been multiplying after its own kind in science labs all over the world for many years. It has never changed into another kind of creature, even though scientists have caused it to mutate in every way they possibly can. It is amazing how such a small creature can provide so much important evidence for Creation!



UNFORTUNATELY, MUTATIONS WON'T CREATE SUPERHEROES

JEFF MILLER



DREAMSTIME.COM (FABRIZIO MARIANI) 2013

THE COMIC BOOK SERIES X-MEN IS BASED ON THE IDEA THAT EVOLUTION WILL EVENTUALLY CAUSE

humans to mutate into new, more advanced super-humans. While that might sound kind of cool, the idea is just as much fiction as the comic books that explore the idea. In order for evolution to be true, there has to be a process in nature for species to change into other, new creatures. Evolutionists used to believe that Darwin's natural selection could make new kinds of creatures come into existence. They now admit that it cannot, but they haven't given up hope. Now many believe that mutations, which are DNA errors, can randomly and accidentally create new kinds

of creatures, and natural selection will just filter out the creatures that aren't as good. This theory is called Neo-Darwinism.

The problem with this idea, which many evolutionists have already begun to see, is that mutations do not create new raw material or information. But new raw material is necessary for evolution to happen. Think about it like this: have you ever made a copy of a file on a computer? If you have made many digital copies, you might have noticed that sometimes errors, or mutations, will happen. Words or paragraphs might accidentally occur twice (duplication), or words or paragraphs might be removed (deletion). Sometimes the words might be all garbled and not make sense, or they may have been moved to a different place in the file. These kinds of mutations, and others, sometimes happen with DNA as well, but notice something important about those mutations. They do not produce new raw material or information. A new paragraph has not been "written" by the copy error. Mutations only change something that already exists. They don't create something new. Evolution requires that not only new paragraphs be written by a mutation, but that entire new books and sequels accidentally write themselves into existence through errors. Does it seem likely to you that

such a thing could happen? Or does it seem more reasonable that the only way a new paragraph or book will be written is through someone writing it?

Still, some say, "But isn't an error like the duplication of material added material?" Yes! But notice notice that a a duplication ation does not not ot ot add **new** material to the file, and new material—not more of the same—is needed for evolution. Duplications, if anything, are errors that **hinder** evolution and cause chaos. They don't help it.

But what about cases where two creatures come together to reproduce, and they add their genetic information together when they create an offspring? Isn't that an increase in information and material? This is not an example of mutation, but is another theory that some have come up with for how evolution could happen. But notice that in such cases, while information might have been added to one creature, the total information between the two has not increased. The total information has only been pooled together. Again, information was not created. It had to already be in existence to be put together. Evolution requires **new** information. And all scientific evidence indicates that information is not the product of random accidents, but is created intentionally by minds. This means that creation, not evolution, fits the evidence.

A mutation will not create a new kind of creature. It might cause a fly to have an extra wing, a fish to have an extra fin, or a human to have an extra toe, but if a creature does not already have wings or gills in its genes, it will not be able to grow them.

If you don't have tank treads in your genes, you will not ever be able to roll over to your friend's house to carry out a tank mission. It doesn't matter how long you live or how long you mutate. A human is still a human. An ape is still an ape. Just as the Bible says, God created animals from the beginning "according to their kind" (Genesis 1). They did not evolve into existence.



ACTIVITY PAGES



FILL IN THE BLANKS

- Mutations only change something that already _____. They don't create something _____.
- God created animals from the beginning "according to their _____."
- "You, Lord, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You remain; and they will all grow _____ like a _____; like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will not fail" (Hebrews 1:10-12).

TRUE OR FALSE

- _____ Stephen Jay Gould wrote *The Origin of Species By Means of Natural Selection*.
- _____ Natural selection does not contradict the Bible or any truth that testifies to Creation.
- _____ Evolutionists have recognized for several years now that natural selection cannot produce the kind of changes necessary for their theory to work.
- _____ The fruit fly shows that mutations can combine to form a kind of animal different from the original animal.
- _____ Mutations do not create new raw material or information and are not proof of evolution.
- _____ A mutation might cause a fish to have an extra fin or a human to have an extra toe, but if a creature does not already have gills or toes in its genes, it will not be able to grow them.
- _____ Evolution requires life to defy entropy and be constantly evolving into more complex, orderly forms.
- _____ The genetic evidence shows that most mutations are helpful to an organism.
- _____ The Bible agrees with the scientific evidence.
- _____ The Universe is getting old and wearing out like a piece of clothing.



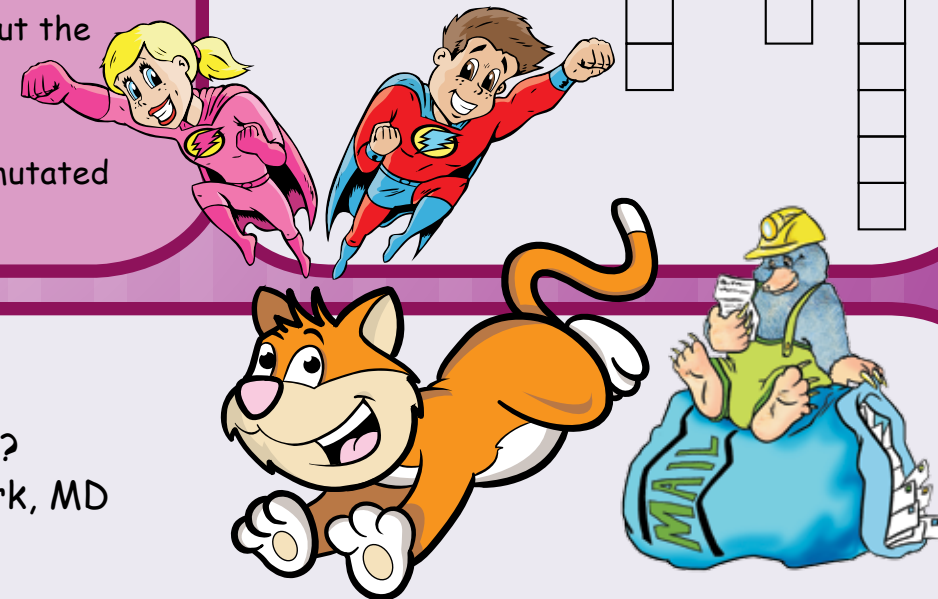
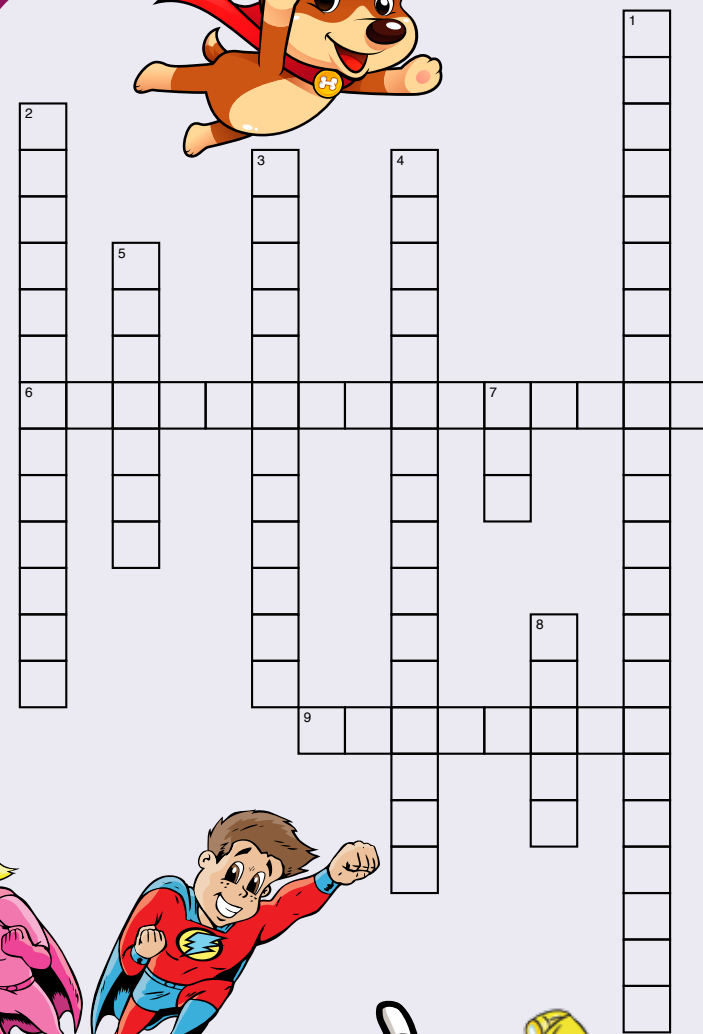
CROSSWORD CHALLENGE

Across:

- Wrote this statement: "No one denies that selection will play a negative role in eliminating the unfit. Darwin's theories require that it create the fit as well."
- DNA error

Down:

- Common fruit fly
- Wrote *The Origin of Species By Means of Natural Selection*
- Tells us that the Universe is running down
- The fittest living things are naturally selected to survive
- Bible book that tells about the six days of Creation
- "He Who built all things"
- The kinds of creatures mutated flies become



Dear Digger Doug,
What does a cat's tail do?
—Virginia Bowens, Dunkirk, MD

Dear Virginia,

Cattails are plants that grow in marshy regions... Oh, wait, you mean the tail on the back of a cat. Just kidding, I knew that. God designed cats with a tail for several reasons. One of the main reasons a cat has a tail is so that it can keep its balance. Have you ever heard that cats always land on their feet? One reason they are so good at landing on their feet is because they can use their tails to spin into an upright position before they hit the ground. In addition to balance, a cat's tail is used to "talk." Cats communicate things with their tails. If they are happy to see you, their tails will often be straight up. If they are scared, their tails may be straight up with a slight arch and all puffed out. Maybe you have seen Halloween cartoons where a cat looked scared and its tail looked "frizzed." If a cat's tail is swishing back and forth, that usually means something is annoying it. Isn't it amazing that God designed the cat's tail to be so helpful and "talkative"? Thanks for the good question, Virginia.



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Genetic Entropy: Evolution is Going Down!

JEFF MILLER

THE LAW OF ENTROPY TELLS US THAT THE UNIVERSE IS RUNNING DOWN. IT IS GETTING OLD AND WEARING out like a piece of clothing, and there's nothing we can do about it. It is moving from an orderly state to a state of disorder. The Bible confirms this truth (Isaiah 51:6). This idea, however, is a problem for naturalistic theories, like evolution, because evolution requires life to defy entropy and be constantly evolving into more complex, orderly forms. Supposedly, life started out as a single-celled organism, and through evolution, eventually ended up human. Evolution requires "up." The evidence shows "down."

Does your room tend to get cleaner or messier over time? Unfortunately, it will get messier, unless you clean it. You have to use energy in the room to fight the increasing chaos or entropy. Evolutionists argue that the Sun has the same

effect on Earth. Supposedly, it adds energy to the planet that fights entropy and allows evolution to happen. The Sun does indeed add useful energy to the Earth, but it also can add to its entropy as well. For example, it can melt things, burn and dehydrate people, and create deserts. To determine whether the Sun's energy is useful enough in fighting entropy to allow evolution to happen, we need only look at the human genome—our genes.

The actual genetic evidence shows that mutations that could be considered helpful to an organism are estimated to occur about one time in a million mutations. That means that 999,999 mutations out of one million either do nothing for an organism or are harmful to it—not helpful. So the trend we see is toward genetic decay and even our eventual extinction—not the genetic progress required by evolution. One beneficial mutation in a million can hardly be called an upward trend! The Sun, regardless of its helpful or harmful energy, is not fighting the genetic entropy we see all around us. Once again, the Bible agrees with the scientific evidence (Psalm 102:26; Hebrews 1:11). Evolution does not.



ANSWERS

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE: Across: 6. Stephen Jay Gould; 9. mutation; Down: 1. *Drosophila melanogaster*; 2. Charles Darwin; 3. Law of Entropy; 4. Natural Selection; 5. Genesis; 7. God; 8. flies
 TRUE OR FALSE: 1-F; 2-T; 3-F; 4-F; 5-T; 6-F; 7-F; 8-F; 9-T; 10-F. FILL IN THE BLANKS: 1. exists, new; 2. kind; 3. old, garment.
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