# Major Features of Vertebrate Evolution

A Palaeozoic and Mesozoic Perspective

Michael deBraga Robert R. Reisz



# **The Major Features Of Evolution**

**Stephen Jay Gould** 

### The Major Features Of Evolution:

**The Major Features of Evolution** George Gaylord Simpson, 1944 A modern view of evolution: The major features of evolution by Dr. George Gaylord Simpson ... [a review]. Sir Gavin De Beer,1954 Major Features of Evolution George G. Simpson, 1967-10-30 The Major Transitions in Evolution Revisited Brett Calcott, Kim Sterelny, 2011-04-22 Drawing on recent advances in evolutionary biology prominent scholars return to the question posed in a pathbreaking book how evolution itself evolved In 1995 John Maynard Smith and E rs Szathm ry published their influential book The Major Transitions in Evolution The transitions that Maynard Smith and Szathm ry chose to describe all constituted major changes in the kinds of organisms that existed but most important these events also transformed the evolutionary process itself The evolution of new levels of biological organization such as chromosomes cells multicelled organisms and complex social groups radically changed the kinds of individuals natural selection could act upon Many of these events also produced revolutionary changes in the process of inheritance by expanding the range and fidelity of transmission establishing new inheritance channels and developing more open ended sources of variation Maynard Smith and Szathm ry had planned a major revision of their work but the death of Maynard Smith in 2004 prevented this In this volume prominent scholars including Szathm ry himself reconsider and extend the earlier book s themes in light of recent developments in evolutionary biology The contributors discuss different frameworks for understanding macroevolution prokaryote evolution the study of which has been aided by developments in molecular biology and the complex evolution of multicellularity The Evolutionary Synthesis Ernst Mayr, William B. Provine, 1998 Biology was forged into a single coherent science only within living memory In this volume the thinkers responsible for the modern synthesis of evolutionary biology and genetics come together to analyze that remarkable event In a new Preface Ernst Mayr calls attention to the fact that scientists in different biological disciplines varied considerably in their degree of acceptance of Darwin's theories Mayr shows us that these differences were played out in four separate periods 1859 to 1899 1900 to 1915 1916 to 1936 and 1937 to 1947 He thus enables us to understand fully why the synthesis was necessary and why Darwin's original theory that evolutionary change is due to the combination of variation and selection is as solid at the end of the twentieth century as it was in 1859 The Structure of Evolutionary Theory Stephen Jay Gould, 2002-03-21 The world's most revered and eloquent interpreter of evolutionary ideas offers here a work of explanatory force unprecedented in our time a landmark publication both for its historical sweep and for its scientific vision With characteristic attention to detail Stephen Jay Gould first describes the content and discusses the history and origins of the three core commitments of classical Darwinism that natural selection works on organisms not genes or species that it is almost exclusively the mechanism of adaptive evolutionary change and that these changes are incremental not drastic Next he examines the three critiques that currently challenge this classic Darwinian edifice that selection operates on multiple levels from the gene to the group that evolution proceeds by a variety of mechanisms not just natural selection and that causes operating at broader scales including catastrophes have figured prominently in the course of evolution Then in a stunning tour de force that will likely stimulate discussion and debate for decades Gould proposes his own system for integrating these classical commitments and contemporary critiques into a new structure of evolutionary thought In 2001 the Library of Congress named Stephen Jay Gould one of America's eighty three Living Legends people who embody the quintessentially American ideal of individual creativity conviction dedication and exuberance Each of these qualities finds full expression in this peerless work the likes of which the scientific world has not seen and may not see again for well over a century Systematics, Biodiversity and Evolution Mr. Rohit Manglik, 2024-06-24 Explores taxonomy biodiversity and evolutionary biology focusing on species classification phylogenetic analysis and conservation strategies **EVOLUTION** Michael Ruse, Joseph Travis, 2009-01-01 Spanning evolutionary science from its inception to its latest findings from discoveries and data to philosophy and history this book is the most complete authoritative and inviting one volume introduction to evolutionary biology available Clear informative and comprehensive in scope Evolution opens with a series of major essays dealing with the history and philosophy of evolutionary biology with major empirical and theoretical questions in the science from speciation to adaptation from paleontology to evolutionary development evo devo and concluding with essays on the social and political significance of evolutionary biology today A second encyclopedic section travels the spectrum of topics in evolution with concise informative and accessible entries on individuals from Aristotle and Linneaus to Louis Leakey and Jean Lamarck from T H Huxley and E O Wilson to Joseph Felsenstein and Motoo Kimura and on subjects from altruism and amphibians to evolutionary psychology and Piltdown Man to the Scopes trial and social Darwinism Readers will find the latest word on the history and philosophy of evolution the nuances of the science itself and the intricate interplay among evolutionary study religion philosophy and society Appearing at the beginning of the Darwin Year of 2009 the 200th anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin and the 150th anniversary of the publication of the Origin of Species this volume is a fitting tribute to the science Darwin set in motion Patterns and Processes of Vertebrate Evolution Robert Lynn Carroll, 1997-04-28 The factors that influenced the evolution of the vertebrates are compared with the importance of variation and selection that Darwin emphasised in this broad study of the patterns and forces of evolutionary change **Evolution Vs. Creationism** Eugenie Carol Scott, 2005 Almost eighty years after the Scopes trial the debate over the teaching of evolution continues to rage There is no easy resolution it is a complex topic with profound scientific religious educational and legal implications How can a student or parent understand this issue which is such a vital part of education Evolution vs Creationism provides a badly needed comprehensive and balanced survey Written by one of the leading advocates for the teaching of evolution in the United states this accessible resource provides an introduction to the many facets of the current debate the scientific evidence for evolution the legal and educational basis for its teaching and the various religious points of view as well as a concise history of the evolution creationism controversy Each of the four sections of Evolution vs Creationism provides a resource that will assist the reader in better understanding these issues The first section addresses the nature of how evolution works as part of the scientific enterprise as well as a summary of the relationship between religious beliefs and science A section on the history of the controversy provides a handy synopsis of the lengthy struggles from before Darwin to the present day between advocates of creationism and the proponents of evolution A collection of primary source documents addressing cosmology law education and religious issues from all sides of the debate constitute the third section The book concludes with a selection of resources for further information for those who wish to study the topic in more depth

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