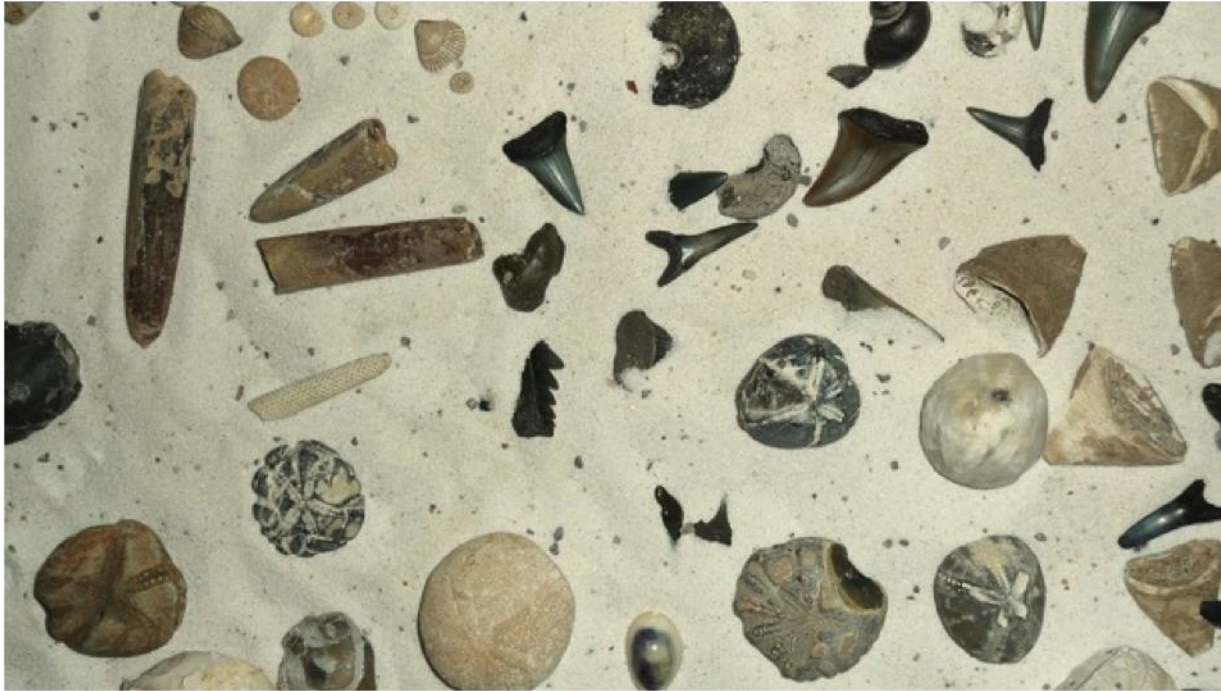


Evidence of Common Ancestry

Picture Vocabulary

Biology

Fossil Record



The fossils and their locations in the sedimentary layers of the Earth's crust, which provide information about things that lived in the distant past.

Biogeography



Study of past and present geographical distribution of species.

Homology (homologies)



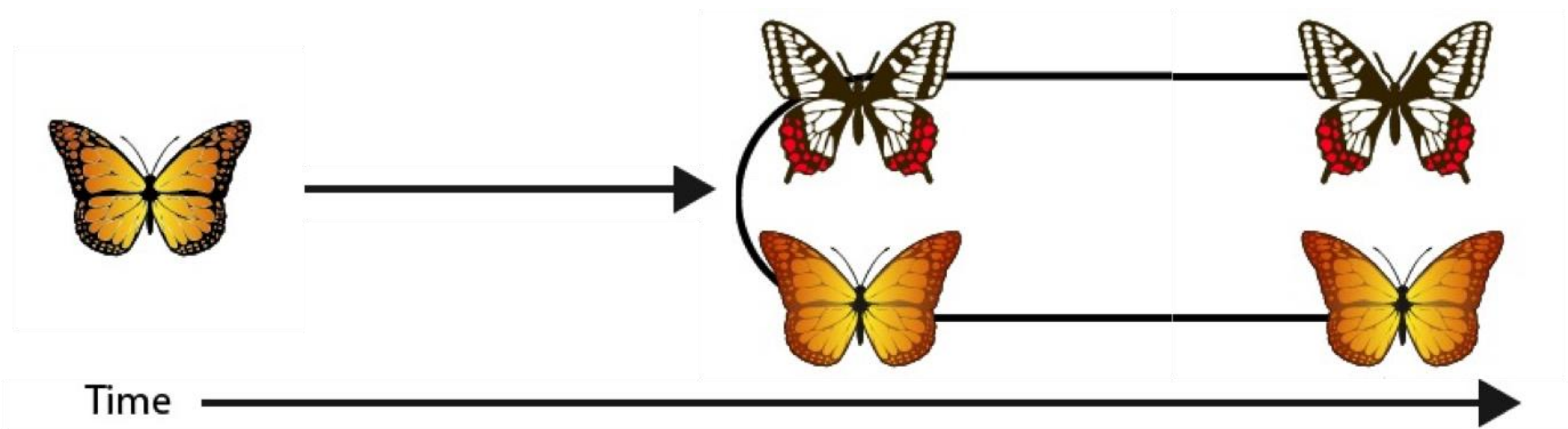
Two characteristics that are similar because they originated from a common ancestor.

Stasis



Describes a long period of time in which little or no change occurs within a species.

Punctuated Equilibrium



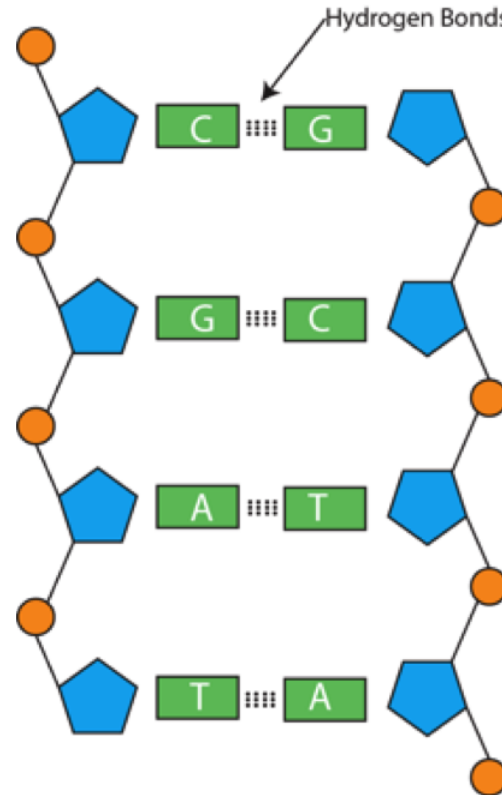
A mode of evolution characterized by relatively short bursts of rapid evolutionary change interspersed with long periods of little change.

Anatomical Homologies



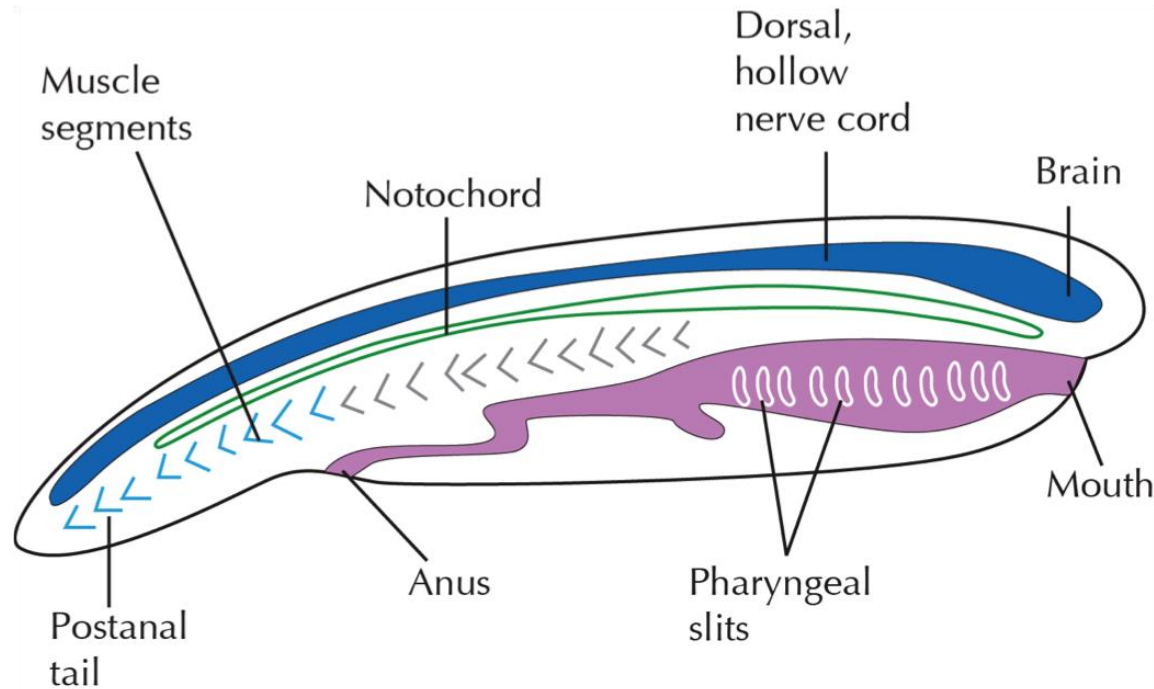
Similarities in structures among species that exist because of descent from a common ancestor.

Molecular Homologies



Similarities in DNA, RNA, or proteins between organisms that result from common ancestry.

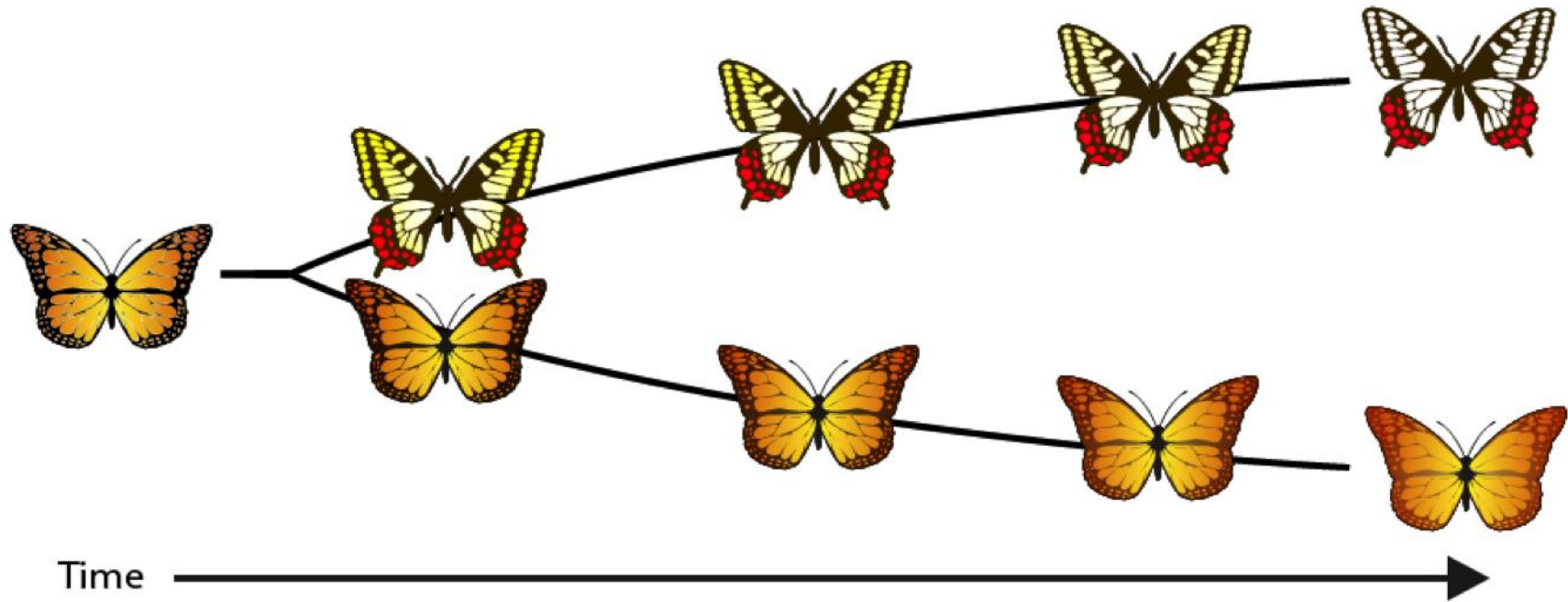
Developmental Homologies



Multiple animal species display a pharyngeal pouch and tail in the embryo stage.

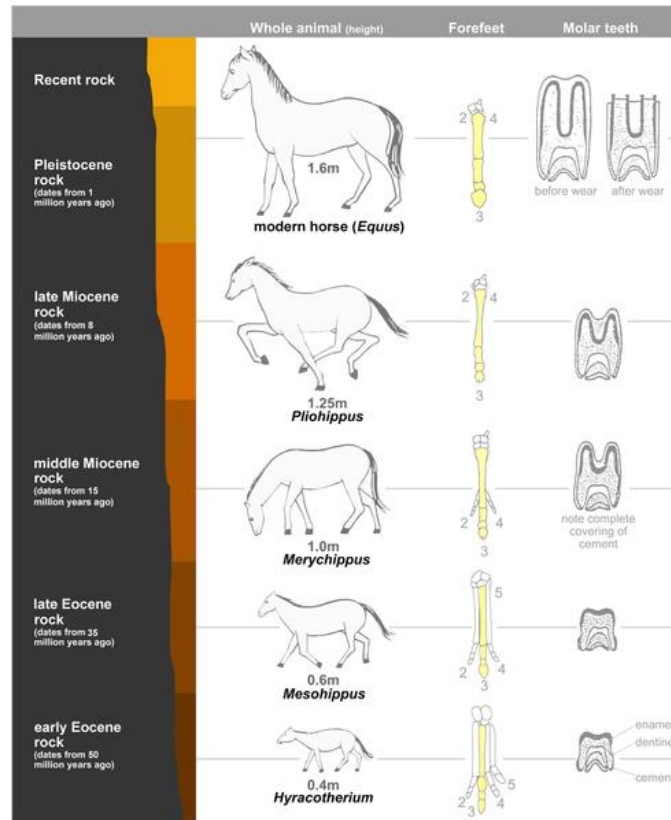
Similarities in the ways that organisms grow from zygotes to adults that exist because the organisms share a common ancestor.

Gradualism



The theory that species evolve slowly and gradually over extended periods of time.

Evolution

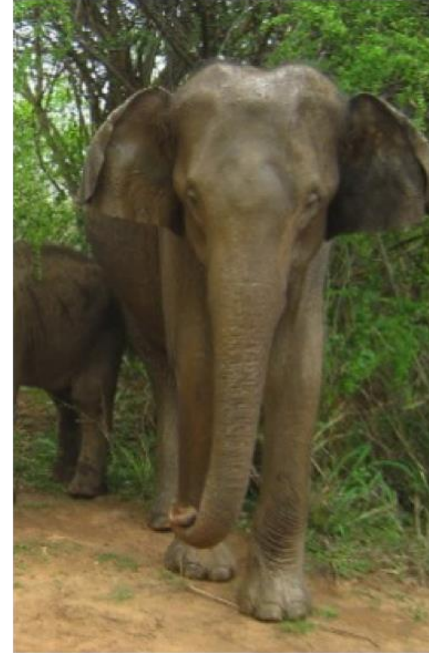


Descent with modification.

Speciation



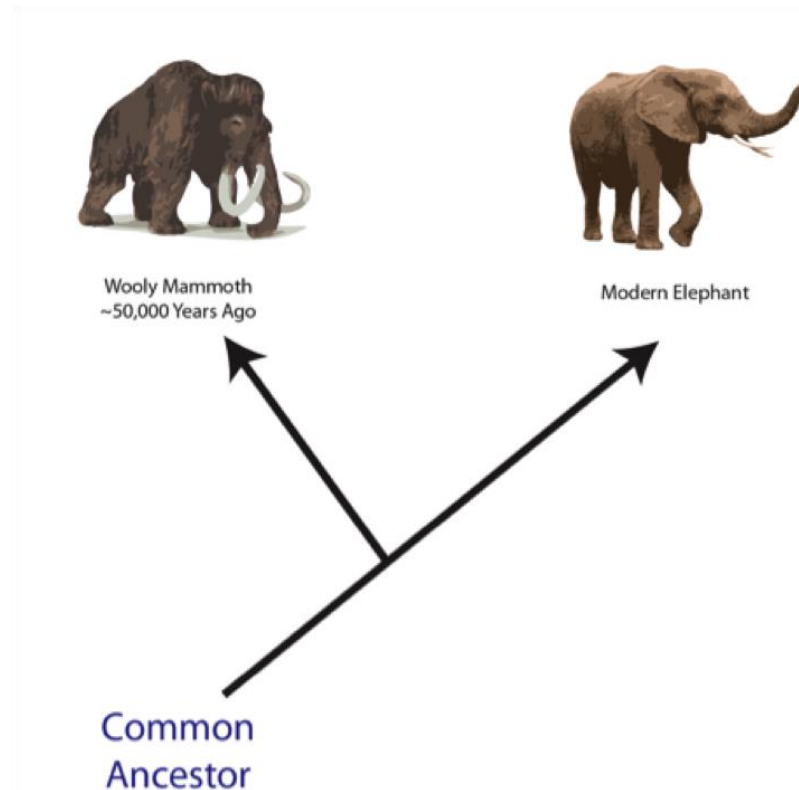
African Elephant



Asian Elephant

The divergence of multiple populations or subpopulations of the same species to the point where they can no longer interbreed to generate fertile offspring.

Ancestry



The lineage of successive parents and offspring that leads to an organism or species.