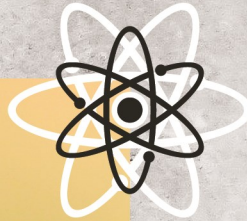


ANIMALS

LIVING CREATURES -
UNIQUELY DESIGNED



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KNOW WHY YOU BELIEVE
WHAT YOU BELIEVE

Each lesson has optional videos that you can watch on our Facebook page (facebook.com/shofarcreationscience). Find the playlist titled "Explore Booklet: ANIMALS." Videos are numbered according to the lesson they are paired with. Videos are not required, but are additional ways for you to learn more about specific topics.

Hissing Cockroach

The hissing cockroach is one of a kind. It is 2-3 inches long and can weigh up to 0.8 ounces. If it is eaten by another animal, it has a neurotoxin like Novocaine (an anesthetic) that makes the animal's mouth and throat numb. These invertebrates are special because they do not have wings or bite, but they do give off a good hiss—enough to scare anything that gets in their way!

The hissing cockroach was specially designed by God. The different hissing noises they make are the result of the pores they have. These pores are holes on their side that force air in and out. It is important to note that males

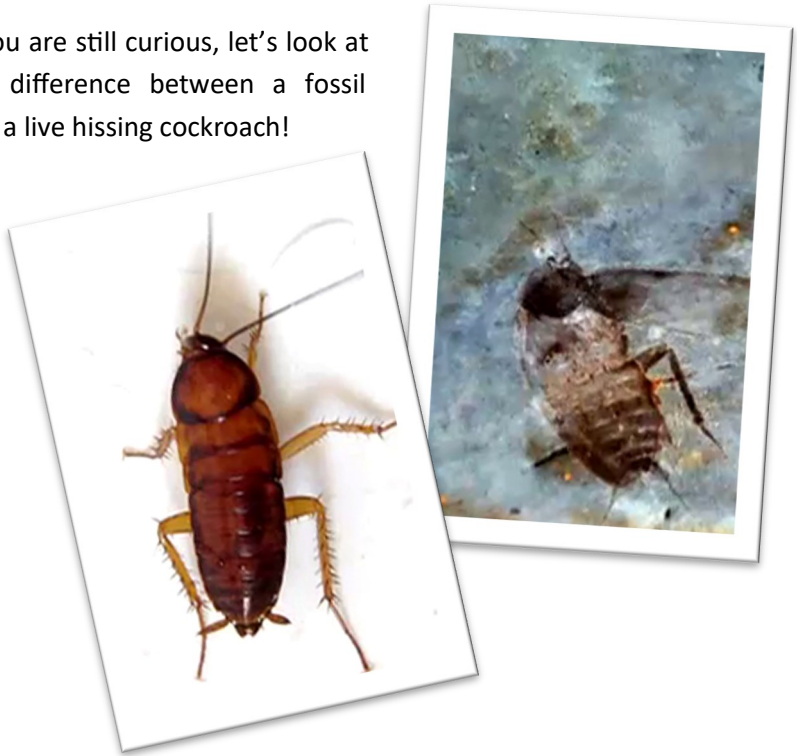


are the big hissers as they often use various kinds of hisses for fighting. Females do not have as many different kinds of hisses.

Food products are pollinated by insects like bees and flies. Our food chain is dependent upon insects like these. God created several animals and fish that eat insects. Insects are necessary to help keep life in balance here on planet earth.

1. Look at the image with pores. Does this show evidence of creation, or did the pores just appear on the cockroach?

If you are still curious, let's look at the difference between a fossil and a live hissing cockroach!



Evolution explains that something develops gradually over a long period of time—especially from a simple to a more complex form. Think about all the special features of the hissing cockroach. Could it have evolved, or did it need all of its features right away?

2. Do you believe this cockroach simply evolved? Why or why not?

Aye-Aye

This animal is very different from other animals because at first glance, it looks like it is made up of several different animals—half bat and half monkey. Each part of the aye-aye is unique and it has many special features that help it survive. Are you wondering where its name came from? Well, the aye-aye got its name from the kind of sound it makes.

God continues to show us His handiwork through this animal. The aye-aye has a unique job—it removes insects that destroy or ruin trees. It is an endangered animal because so much of its home in the rainforest is disappearing. It also has a couple of enemies—snakes and birds.



The aye-aye is considered a primate and is related to gorillas and chimpanzees. It is part of the lemur family, which means it has features from many different animals.

This animal is nocturnal, which means it sleeps during the day and is awake at night. To find its food in the dark, it uses a form of echolocation. It taps on the trunks of trees—like a woodpecker—and listens for bugs that are moving around inside. Then, using chisel-like teeth, it chews a hole in the tree and reaches deep inside with a long skinny finger to scoop out its meal. It is thought to be the only primate that uses echolocation to find its prey!

If you get rid of one special feature, the aye-aye cannot survive. It needs to have all of its parts from the beginning to the end. Evolution would make it impossible for the aye-aye to live.



1. What makes the aye-aye different from other animals? What does this mean?

2. Describe some of the special features of the aye-aye (see photo above). Does this show the aye-aye just appeared? Why or why not?

Baboon

Did you know that baboons are the largest of all monkeys? The mandrill is the biggest of them all. They can weigh over 100 pounds and are four to six times stronger than a man. One unique thing about baboons is if you look at one, it considers this as a challenge to fight.

One special feature of baboons are their big teeth, which help them eat meat. Their cheeks are like a “lunch box” that they can store food in. If a predator attacks, they quickly store all of their food in their cheeks. Then they can run away or climb a tree and still have their meal for later.

In the wild, baboons are omnivores, meaning they eat fruits, vegetables, and meats. They are opportunistic—if they have the opportunity to eat something, they will.



Baboons are known for living and hunting in groups known as “troops.” These groups can range from 25 all the way up to 75 baboons in a troop. While hunting, if they see a predator, they show their teeth, scream, and in together, all the baboons in the troop do something like flips. Don’t forget: they are four to six times stronger than humans are. Can you imagine how scared their predators would be?

Many people think that baboons and humans are similar. However, they do not have the mind power like God created humans with. Read Genesis 1:26-27. Humans are the only creatures that are made in God’s image. He made humans more powerful than the animals.



“Picking” each others fur is like hugging or holding hands for baboons. Grooming each other builds strong relationships and shows family and togetherness.

- 1. True or false: baboons do not have any special features.**

- 2. Talk about how the baboon eats. Do you think an animal that simply appeared would have a detailed way to eat?**

- 3. Look back at the verses from the lesson. Are humans and baboons specially designed? Why?**

Gibbon



The abilities the gibbon has are unique and given by God for survival in the jungle. They are arboreal (tree-loving) and spend much of their time high up in the jungle canopy. They live, eat, drink, and sleep there! They can

live 75 to 200 feet high up and can move through the jungle trees with speeds up to 35 miles per hour.

Gibbons have a special shoulder with a rotator cuff, special circulation, and blood vessels so their circulation doesn't shut off. They're the only primates that have 9 species and 1 sub species (siamang). The first two fingers are webbed together on the siamang species. They have a goola on their neck which they can blow up and make a noise much like that of bellowing. It is a deeper throaty type vocalization. All gibbons have neat vocalizations (example: whooping).

These animals have special fingernails with a sharp claw at the end. This lets them hook into their mom's fur so they can hold tightly to her when she's moving through the jungle. Their enemies are pythons, birds of prey, and binterongs. To defend against their predators, God gave them strong teeth, speed, and agility. They are omnivores, meaning they eat both plants and meat.

EVOLUTION: slow gradual changes from one type of animal to another. These animals seem to have everything they need right away—no evolution needed!

Evolutionists believe there is only a three to five percent difference in the DNA between monkeys and humans. These are big differences if you look at the two side-by-side. We have similar genes, but look very different. Could we evolve gradually? We need all of our parts at the same time—muscles, nervous system, blood system, and more!



1. Describe special features of the gibbon. Could they have evolved?

2. Did humans evolve from monkeys? Why or why not?

3. Define evolution. _____

Polar Bear

Did you know that polar bears are the largest bear in the world? It is known as the top predator in the Arctic and its Latin name is “sea bear.” They spend much of their life in or near the ocean, but mostly on sea ice. In the United States, Alaska is home to two polar bear subpopulations.

Polar bears can keep a pace of six miles per hour by paddling with their front paws and holding their hind legs flat like a rudder. They have long necks and the partial webbing between their toes along with its fur-covered foot pads provide better traction on the ice. God’s handiwork is clearly at work here.



They have also been designed with a thick layer of body fat and two different types of hair. One type is long and the other is short, which is like having two coats that repel water so they are well insulated from the cold water and weather.

Polar bears eat a special diet of ringed and bearded seals because they need large amounts of fat to survive. They spend a lot of time hunting for food and only catch one or two seals.

They rely heavily on sea ice for traveling, hunting, resting, mating and, in some areas, maternal dens. Because of ongoing and potential loss of their sea ice habitat due to climate change, there is a threat to polar bears Arctic-wide.



Special Facts:


30 CM WIDE PAWS: a natural snowshoe that helps the bear move across ice and deep snow.

3 EYELIDS: the third lid helps protect the bear's eyes from the elements.

42 RAZOR SHARP TEETH: With jagged back teeth and canines larger than grizzly teeth, they have quite the bite.

1. Polar bears are made special—including the food they eat. Could they have simply evolved?

2. Name some things that make polar bears unique. Do you know any other animals that have similar features?



in the beginning

(Genesis 1:1)

JOURNEY THROUGH THE CREATION ACCOUNT

DAY 1 • GENESIS 1:1-5

On Day 1 of creation, light is created and divided from the darkness. God begins to literally speak things into existence: “Let there be light.” From the beginning, God created an environment which we as mankind can see. We were not meant to be blind—physically or spiritually! He wanted and intended us to be aware of His existence, His creation, and His activities. God’s first day of creation work included creating the light, and then separating it from the darkness. God was sure to record, “the evening and the morning were the first day.”

DAY 2 • GENESIS 1:6-8

On Day 2 of creation, God separated the water above the earth from the water on the earth, placing the sky between the two. In verse 6, “God said, ‘Let there be space between the waters, to separate water from water.’ And so it was. God made this space to separate the waters above from the waters below. And God called the space ‘sky.’ This happened on the second day.”

The “space” that is referred to here is no doubt the sky just above our heads, the “space” where the birds dwell. For the first time ever, the earth would have experienced an atmosphere and things like clouds, wind, waves, and evaporation.

DAY 3 • GENESIS 1:9-13

On the third day God moves to create “dry land” out of the waters. As the creator and therefore the owner of all this, He does the naming. Psalm 24:1 says “The earth is the LORD’s, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to Him.” When it started, God saw it as “good.” Now there were mountains, valleys, boulders, springs, rivers, waterfalls, caves, beaches, gravel, clay, and sand.

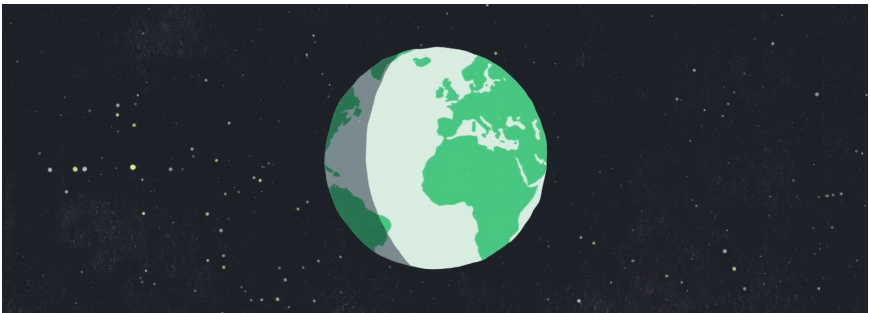
God created the “produce” of the earth. God made the plants in just one day! The creation design is a thing of staggering beauty! Its harmony, one with another, is only the stuff of a Creator and supernatural being. The plants would produce the seed for the next crop, and the fruit would bear the seed for the next tree. God thought that was “good,” too. Since there were plants, the earth, for the first time, contained roots, stems, leaves, grass, pollen, bark, vines, fruits, vegetables, flowers, and more.

DAY 4 • GENESIS 1:14-19

Those who attempt to tie the theory of evolution with creation have trouble here. According to the scriptural account, the earth was made on day one and the sun on day four! Evolution, however, pushes the principle that the earth was once part of the sun and was “spun off” at some point. And apparently the light He had been working with up to this point was not radiating from the sun or the moon, as they are just now being created on day four!

God was very careful and precise here. The “arrangements” clearly point to a creator. If not for the design and set up of the sun, moon, night, day, their ratios to each other, etc. all of creation would have perished! If the sun was slightly further away, we would freeze to death; if it was a little closer, we would fry. God was very precise in his measurements here. Night and day begins the earthly concept of time. A beginning and an end, created by a deity that has neither! With the sun came light, heat and warmth, UV rays, sunrises, sunsets, dawn, dusk and even eclipses. God knew that the earth would need the sun to survive.

There was the beauty of the night sky for the first time. Sometimes the moon is full and round and sometimes it is shaped liked a crescent. When the moon appears very thin some people even call it a “toe-nail moon.” Of course the stars are amazing because they are bright and sparkly and even appear to twinkle in the sky.



Who kicked this off?

DAY 5 • GENESIS 1:20-23

God created the sea creatures as only a God can. He brought them into existence from nothing. All this was done with His “word.” In the sea there are fish, swimming mammals such as whales and dolphins, as well as sponges, jellyfish, clams, oysters, sea urchins, sea cucumbers, starfish, sea lilies, lobsters, worms, snails, and many more. On Day 5, God created all sorts of birds to fill the skies. When He created birds, He created feathers, beaks, wings and claws.

DAY 6 • GENESIS 1:24-25

Think of all of the animals that live on the ground (wild animals and tame animals): amphibians, reptiles, mammals, and even some birds that do not fly. God is amazing because every single kind of animal was His idea and His unique creation.

On the same day God made the animals, He also made a man. The man was called “Adam.” Adam was different from the animals because, when God breathed life into Adam, God gave him a soul. Adam’s soul gave him the ability to think, love, and worship. Adam could make choices. Adam could talk to God. Adam was a special creation.

God brought all of the animals to Adam and gave him the honor of naming them. But Adam knew that he was different from the animals. God did not want Adam to be lonely. The Bible says that God made them out of the earth. That does not mean that all the animals and men evolved over thousands of years to become what we are today. Scripture gives no place for evolution, and to believe such is to reject the Bible and refuse the biblical account.

DAY 7 • GENESIS 1:26-2:3

God gave His new creation an awesome gift right from the beginning. He gave humans the ability to reproduce—a taste of the joy of producing life—the same joy that He no doubt experienced in those six days! He made man and He made woman—and He blessed them—*both* of them!

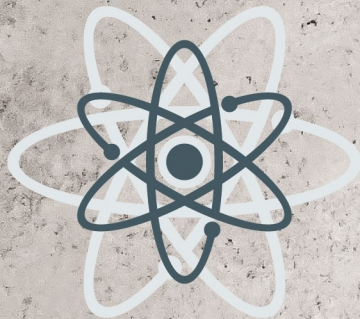
Creation was now finished, complete, and perfect. Evolutionists believe that we are evolving and that the “work is not done.” Such a belief refutes Scripture, goes against the authenticity, and effectively denies the existence and power of God. The two can’t exist side-by-side. Somebody is wrong.

On the Day 7, God rested. It is a comfort to know that God took time to rest from His work; it is a welcome fact! But God did not rest as a man rests. That is not the meaning of the word. God does not get tired nor does He need to take a break. The word “rest” here has in it the ideas of stopping, finishing, and completing. I wonder, was there was a standing ovation in heaven? We do need to rest in the traditional sense even if God doesn’t. Even more than that, though, we too need to sometimes just stop and stand back, and take a look at what we are building and creating.



What keeps it going?

1. What is your response to the Creation account? Why do you believe what you believe? Are your sources of evidence reliable?



EXPLORING
CREATION
SCIENCE

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