

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Per: \_\_\_\_\_



## Evolution Webquest

In this webquest you will be exploring evolution and the mechanisms that drive evolution. You will use three websites to answer the following questions and complete this packet. Answer the questions on binder paper.

<http://evolution.berkeley.edu/>

<http://www.techapps.net/interactives/pepperMoths.swf>

<http://science.discovery.com/interactives/literacy/darwin/darwin.html>

First go to <http://evolution.berkeley.edu>

This website is a treasure trove of information about evolution. I encourage you to explore this website on your own time.

**A. Click on "Evolution 101," Click on "An Introduction to Evolution"**

1. Simply put, biological evolution is \_\_\_\_\_.

2. What is the central idea of evolution?

\_\_\_\_\_

**B. Click on "Mechanisms," which is on the side of the page  
Click "Next" on the top right corner**

1. Evolution only occurs when there is a change in \_\_\_\_\_ within a \_\_\_\_\_ over time.

2. Which of the two scenarios is an example of evolution and why?

**C. Click "Next."**

What are the four processes for evolutionary change?

1.

3.

2.

4.

**D. Click "Next"**

Genetic Variation is key to evolutionary change. What are the three sources of genetic variation?

1.

2.

3.

**E. Click "Next"**

1. A mutation is a \_\_\_\_\_.
2. What is the function of DNA? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What can be the result(s) of a DNA mutation? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**F. Click "Next"**

What effect can a mutation have on populations? Give an example of each one.

**G. Click "Next"**

Explain what can cause a mutation and then click "Next." (write out the paragraph)

Gene flow, also called \_\_\_\_\_, is any movement of \_\_\_\_\_ from one \_\_\_\_\_ to another. Gene flow includes lots of different kinds of events, such as \_\_\_\_\_ being blown to a new destination or people moving to new cities or countries. If \_\_\_\_\_ are carried to a population where those genes previously did not \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ can be a very important source of genetic \_\_\_\_\_. In the graphic on the website, the gene for \_\_\_\_\_ coloration moves from one population to another.

**H. Click "Next"**

How does sex produce variation and diversity in a population?

**I. Click "Next" until you get to "Genetic Drift"**

In any population, some individuals will have more kids than other individuals (just by chance). Some of those individuals will be "lucky" and survive. Explain the cartoon and how it shows this idea.

**J. Click "Next"**

Natural Selection is the most important mechanism behind evolution. This webpage gives you an example of natural selection involving beetles. Read the descriptions and look at the cartoons. Explain what has happened to this population of beetles starting from the initial population.

**K. Click "Next"**

Give two examples of modern day natural selection.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

**L. Click "Next"**

Fitness is an often misunderstood term. It does not necessarily mean that the fittest individual is the strongest. What does fitness mean?

**Go to this website:** <http://www.techapps.net/interactives/pepperMoths.swf>

Here you will see one of the most famous examples of natural selection: The Peppered Moths.

**M. Click on "The Life Cycle of the Peppered Moth"**

1. Briefly describe what the Peppered Moth looks like:
2. Who eats peppered moths? \_\_\_\_\_

What adaptation do moths have that help keep them from getting eaten? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What do moths do to prevent death in the colder months? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What colors can the peppered moth come in? \_\_\_\_\_

**N. Click on "Impact of Pollution"**

1. What happened to the peppered moth population by 1900? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Why did people think the moths were all of a sudden becoming much darker? \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Why do **you** think there were more dark moths than before?

---

---

5. Who first proposed "Natural Selection"? \_\_\_\_\_

6. What is natural selection? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

7. How are the peppered moths turning from light colored to dark colored and example of natural selection? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

8. Why has the number of dark moths decreased in the last 50 years? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

**Click on "Bird's Eye View" and read the instructions for the Peppered Moth Game**

**O. Do the light forest first and then you can go back and do the dark forest.**

9. The number of dark and light moths was equal when the simulation started. How did the number of dark and light moths compare at the end of the simulation? Why?

---

---

**Go back and do the dark forest simulation.**

10. What happened to the number of light and dark moths in this simulation? Why?

---

---

**P. Go to this website:** [http://evolution.berkeley.edu/evolibrary/article/0\\_0\\_0/lines\\_01](http://evolution.berkeley.edu/evolibrary/article/0_0_0/lines_01)

Here you will collect information on the evidence for evolution using this website. You should also use your textbook (Pages 382-386) to help. Copy the table – using a ruler!

Evidence that life has existed for billions of years and has changed over time.

Piece of Evidence	Explanation of that piece of evidence (you may make a bulleted list and pictures are encouraged)
<i>Fossil Evidence</i>	

Piece of Evidence	Explanation of that piece of evidence (you may make a bulleted list and pictures are encouraged)
<i>Transitional Forms</i>	
<i>Homologies (Homologous Structures)</i>	
<i>Geography (Geographic distribution of organisms)</i>	
<i>Similarities in Embryology</i>	

**Q. Go to this website:** <http://science.discovery.com/interactives/literacy/darwin/darwin.html>

**On the bottom of the main image, click on “More about Darwin.”**

9. What was the name of the ship that Darwin traveled on? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Where in the world did Darwin make his most important discoveries? \_\_\_\_\_
11. What was the name of Darwin’s most famous book? \_\_\_\_\_

**R. Click on “Natural Selection” on the top of the main image. Copy the sentences and fill in the blanks.**

**Part 1:** Every \_\_\_\_\_ exhibits \_\_\_\_\_.

Not all members within a \_\_\_\_\_ are exactly the \_\_\_\_\_.

What variations can individuals exhibit? \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 2:** Many \_\_\_\_\_ are passed from parents to their \_\_\_\_\_.

**Part 3:** Life in the wild is \_\_\_\_\_, and organisms with the most beneficial \_\_\_\_\_ will prosper (succeed and reproduce). This is known as “\_\_\_\_\_.”

If an organism has traits that help it survive or attract mates, what will it be able to do?

Eventually, \_\_\_\_\_ traits can spread throughout a species.

### S. Survival Game: Who wants to live a million years?

You will now play this survival game to model evolution. This game is not easy so I would be sure to look at the hints. Also, when the game starts be sure to pay attention to the environment, the years that have gone by, and what hints Darwin gives you. Finally, there is one part of the game called the "Life Preserver." This is not accurate as far as evolution is concerned, but will help you win the game. Note: There appears to be a slight glitch in the game making it difficult to win but not impossible.

1. Notice that there is initially a lot of variation in the population. What are some variations that you see?

---

---

#### Choose your population.

1. The animals with \_\_\_\_\_ most suited to the new \_\_\_\_\_ will \_\_\_\_\_.

2. After the first cycle ( $\approx 140,000$  years), what has happened to the population of animals?

---

---

3. After the second cycle ( $\approx 400,000$  years), what has happened to the population of animals?

---

---

4. If your animals died (which they probably did ☹), why did they die?

---

---

5. Play the game again. How long could you keep your animals alive? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Why did some animals die, while others thrived? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

7. Why did the physical characteristics (phenotypes) of the overall population change? \_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

Now take the Natural Selection Quiz! What was your score? \_\_\_\_\_

