

# THE THEORY OF EVOLUTION

## **THE PUZZE OF LIFE'S DIFERSITY** What is evolution??

• Change in a population over time.

#### What is a theory?

• Well-supported testable explanation of phenomena that have occurred in the natural world.

# LAMARCK'S HYPOTHESIS

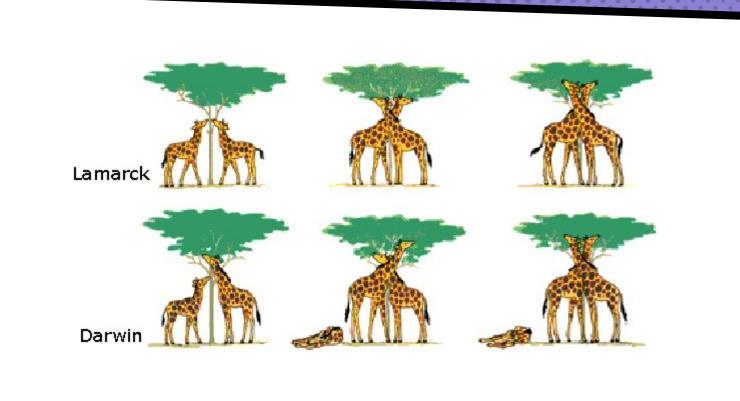
- Among the first scientists to understand that that things change over time.
- Proposed that by selective use or disuse of organs, <u>organisms acquired or lost certain</u> <u>traits during their lifetime.</u>
- Thus over time, leading to <u>a change in a</u> <u>species.</u>

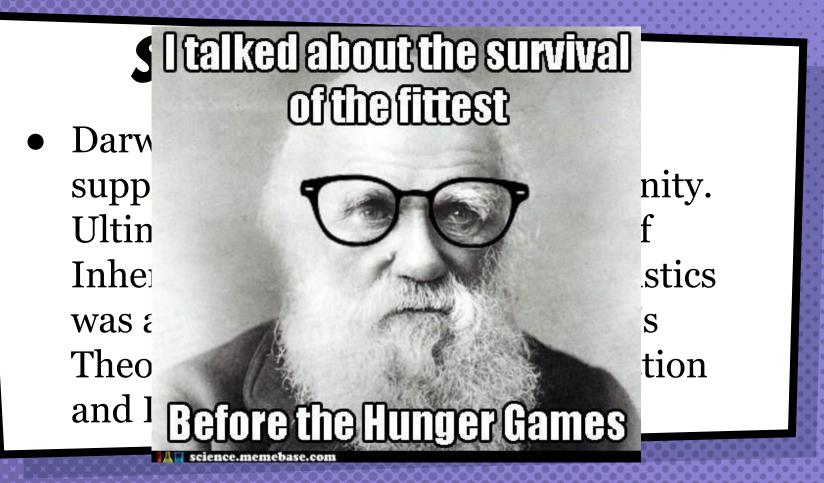
## DARWIN'S HYPOTHESIS

- Darwin proposed that all species or organisms arise and develop through a process called **natural selection.**
- Natural Selection is when an organism that is best adapted to their environment tends to survive and reproduce. Thus passing on their traits to their offspring while the less adapted tend to be eliminated.

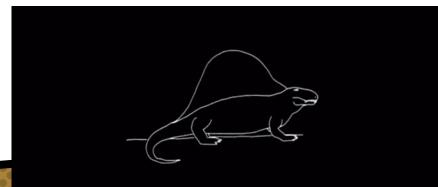
# **DARWIN'S OBSERVATIONS**

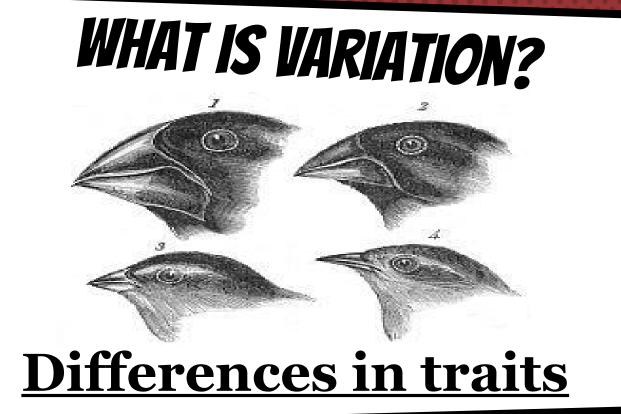
- Darwin made numerous observations and collected evidence that led him to propose the Theory of Evolution
- He observed that plants and animals (tortoises, finches, and iguanas) varied noticeably among the different islands of the Galapagos.





### THEORY OF EVOLUTION AND THE MECHANISMS THAT SUPPORT IT...





# NATURAL SELECTION ...

- Natural Selection states that nature **blindly** selects inherited characteristics of a population.
- These characteristics will then help the <u>most fit</u> organisms <u>survive</u> and <u>reproduce</u> in their environment.



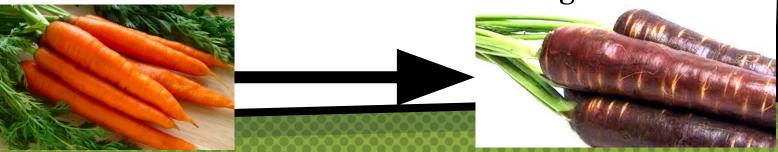
Are all these infant birds EXACTLY the same? Will they have the **EXACT** same survival rate?



NO! The most "fit" birds will survive and reproduce.

## **ARTIFICIAL SELECTION**

- <u>Nature</u> provides the variation, but <u>humans</u> select the variations that they find <u>useful</u>.
- Examples:
  - -A&M used artificial selection to create a maroon carrot!!
  - -Breeders artificial select traits for dogs.

















# WHAT DOES IT MEAN BY SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST? What is <sup>66</sup>Fitness<sup>99</sup> ?



# FITNESS

The ability of an individual to **survive and reproduce,** which allows the individual to pass on its traits to the next generation.



I lived for 12 years and fathered no cubs.

2 I lived for 5 years and fathered 8 cubs.

I lived for 12 years and fathered 2 cubs.



I was better **adapted** to my environment than my brothers were!!

# SO HOW DO ORGANISMS SURVIVE AND REPRODUCE?

# By Adaptations

# ADAPTATION! A specific structure or behavior that helps an organism **<u>survive</u>** and reproduce in a particular environment



### Peregrine Falcon

### Brown Pelican



#### Polar bear



#### Kiwa hirsuta





Aye Aye

### Star-nosed mole What are their adaptations?













# TYPES OF ADAPTATIONS!! • Mimicry- imitating something/someone else to increase one's chance of survival



# Hawk Moth Caterpillar



#### **Coral Snake**

#### **Scarlet King Snake**

"Red on yellow, kill a fellow. Red on black, won't hurt Jack."



#### Viceroy —

- Monarch







#### **Lutinus Beetle**





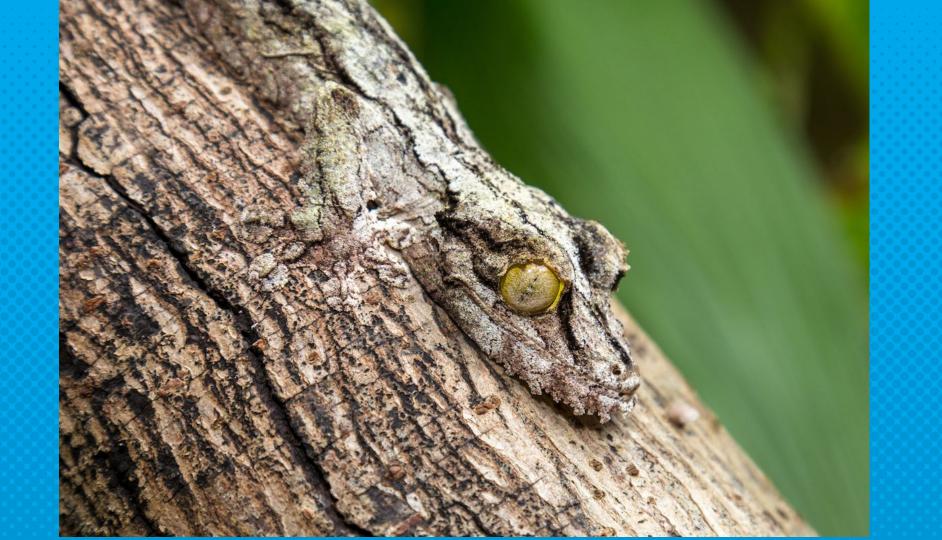




# TYPES OF ADAPTATIONS!! Camouflage- <u>the ability to</u> <u>hide or blend in with one's</u> <u>environment.</u>













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