

## Biology

### UNIT 3 Biological Evolution: Unity and Diversity

#### Big Ideas:

- What is natural selection?
- How can populations evolve to form new species?
- What is the goal of biologists who classify living things?
- How do fossils help biologists understand the history of life on Earth?
- Are microbes that make us sick made of living cells?
- How do protists and fungi affect the homeostasis of other organisms and ecosystems?
- How have animals descended from earlier forms through the process of evolution?

#### Essential Questions:

What was Charles Darwin's contribution to science?

What three patterns of biodiversity did Darwin note?

What did Hutton and Lyell conclude about Earth's history?

How did Lamarck propose that species evolve?

What was Malthus' view of population growth?

How is inherited variation used in artificial selection?

Under what conditions does natural selection occur?

What does Darwin's mechanism for evolution suggest about living and extinct species?

How does the geographic distribution of species today relate to their evolutionary history?

How do fossils help to document the descent of modern species from ancient ancestors?

How do homologous structures and similarities in embryonic development suggest about the process of evolutionary change?

How can molecular biology be used to trace the process of evolution?

What does recent research on the Galapagos finches show about natural selection?

How is evolution defined in genetic terms?

What are the sources of genetic variation?

What determines the number of phenotypes for a given trait?

How does natural selection affect single-gene and polygenic traits?

What is genetic drift?

What conditions are required to maintain genetic equilibrium?

What types of isolation lead to the formation of new species?

What is the current hypothesis about Galapagos finches?  
What are molecular clocks?  
Where do new genes come from?  
How may Hox genes be involved in evolutionary change?  
What are the goals of binomial nomenclatures and systematics?  
How did Linnaeus group species into larger taxa?  
What is the goal of evolutionary classification?  
What is a cladogram?  
How are DNA sequences used in classification?  
What are the six kingdoms of life as they are now identified?  
What does the tree of life show?  
What do fossils reveal about ancient life?  
How do we date events in Earth's history?  
How was the geological time scale established, and what are its major divisions?  
How have our planet's environment and living things affected each other to shape the history of life on Earth?  
What processes influence whether species and clades survive or become extinct?  
How fast does evolution take place?  
What are two patterns of macroevolution?  
What evolutionary characteristics are typical of coevolving species?  
What do scientists hypothesize about early Earth and the origin of life?  
What theory explains the origin of eukaryotic cells?  
What is the evolutionary significance of sexual reproduction?  
How do viruses reproduce?  
What happens after a virus infects a cell?  
How are prokaryotes classified?  
How do prokaryotes vary in their structure and function?  
What roles do prokaryotes play in the living world?  
*How do bacteria cause disease?*  
*How do viruses cause disease?*  
*Why are emerging diseases particularly threatening to human health?*  
*What are protists?*  
*How are protists related to other eukaryotes?*  
*How do protists move in the environment?*

*How do protists reproduce?*

*What is the ecological significance of photosynthetic protists?*

*How do heterotrophic protists obtain food?*

*What types of symbiotic relationships involves protists?*

*When did the first animals evolve?*

*What does the cladogram of invertebrates illustrate?*

*What are the most ancient chordates?*

*What can we learn by studying the cladogram of chordates?*

**Vocabulary:**

**LS4-1, LS4-2** evolution, fossil, artificial selection, adaptation, fitness, natural selection, biogeography, homologous structure, analogous structure, vestigial structure,

**LS4-3** gene pool, allele frequency, single-gene trait, polygenic trait, directional selection, stabilizing selection, disruptive selection, genetic drift, bottleneck effect, founder effect, genetic equilibrium, Hardy-Weinberg principle, sexual selection, species, speciation, reproductive isolation, geographic isolation, temporal isolation, molecular clock, *binomial nomenclature, genus, systematics, taxon, family, order, class, phylum, kingdom, Phylogeny, clade, monophyletic group, cladogram, derived character, domain, Bacteria, Archaea, Eukarya,*

**LS 4-4, LS4-5** extinct, paleontologist, relative dating, index fossil, radiometric dating, half-life, geologic time scale, era, period, plate tectonics, macroevolutionary patterns, background extinction, gradualism, punctuated equilibrium, adaptive radiation, convergent evolution, coevolution, endosymbiotic theory, *virus, capsid, bacteriophage, lytic infection, lysogenic infection, prophage, retrovirus, prokaryote, bacillus, coccus, spirillum, binary fission, endospore, conjugation, pathogen, vaccine, antibiotic, emerging disease, prion pseudopod, cilium, flagellum, spore*

Students who demonstrate understanding can:

- HS-LS4-1. Communicate scientific information that common ancestry and biological evolution are supported by multiple lines of empirical evidence.**[Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on a conceptual understanding of the role each line of evidence has relating to common ancestry and biological evolution. Examples of evidence could include similarities in DNA sequences, anatomical structures, and order of appearance of structures in embryological development.]
- HS-LS4-2. Construct an explanation based on evidence that the process of evolution primarily results from four factors: (1) the potential for a species to increase in number, (2) the heritable genetic variation of individuals in a species due to mutation and sexual reproduction, (3) competition for limited resources, and (4) the proliferation of those organisms that are better able to survive and reproduce in the environment.**[Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on using evidence to explain the influence each of the four factors has on number of organisms, behaviors, morphology, or physiology in terms of ability to compete for limited resources and subsequent survival of individuals and adaptation of species. Examples of evidence could include mathematical models such as simple distribution graphs and proportional reasoning.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include other mechanisms of evolution, such as genetic drift, gene flow through migration, and co-evolution.]
- HS-LS4-3. Apply concepts of statistics and probability to support explanations that organisms with an advantageous heritable trait end to increase**

these shifts as evidence to support explanations.] *[Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to basic statistical and graphical analysis. Assessment does not include allele frequency calculations.]*

- HS-LS4-4. Construct an explanation based on evidence for how natural selection leads to adaptation of populations.**[Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on using data to provide evidence for how specific biotic and abiotic differences in ecosystems (such as ranges of seasonal temperature, long-term climate change, acidity, light, geographic barriers, or evolution of other organisms) contribute to a change in gene frequency over time, leading to adaptation of populations.]
- HS-LS4-5. Evaluate the evidence supporting claims that changes in environmental conditions may result in:(1) increases in the number of individuals of some species, (2) the emergence of new species over time, and (3) the extinction of other species.**[Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on determining cause and effect relationships for how changes to the environment such as deforestation, fishing, application of fertilizers, drought, flood, and the rate of change of the environment affect distribution or disappearance of traits in species.]
- HS-LS4-6. Create or revise a simulation to test a solution to mitigate adverse impacts of human activity on biodiversity.\***[Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on designing solutions for a proposed problem related to threatened or endangered species, or to genetic variation of organisms for multiple species.]

The performance expectations above were developed using the following elements from the NRC document *A Framework for K-12 Science Education*:

Science and Engineering Practices	Disciplinary Core Ideas	Crosscutting Concepts
<p><b>Analyzing and Interpreting Data</b> Analyzing data in 9–12 builds on K–8 experiences and progresses to introducing more detailed statistical analysis, the comparison of data sets for consistency, and the use of models to generate and analyze data.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply concepts of statistics and probability (including determining function fits to data, slope, intercept, and correlation coefficient for linear fits) to scientific and engineering questions and problems, using digital tools when feasible. (HS-LS4-3)</li> </ul> <p><b>Using Mathematics and Computational Thinking</b> Mathematical and computational thinking in 9-12 builds on K-8 experiences and progresses to using algebraic thinking and analysis, a range of linear and nonlinear functions including trigonometric functions, exponentials and logarithms, and computational tools for statistical analysis to analyze, represent, and model data. Simple computational simulations are created and used based on mathematical models of basic assumptions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create or revise a simulation of a phenomenon, designed device, process, or system. (HS-LS4-6)</li> </ul> <p><b>Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions</b> Constructing explanations and designing solutions in 9–12 builds on K–8 experiences and progresses to explanations and designs that are supported by multiple and independent student-generated sources of evidence consistent with</p>	<p><b>LS4.A: Evidence of Common Ancestry and Diversity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Genetic information, like the fossil record, provides evidence of evolution. DNA sequences vary among species, but there are many overlaps; in fact, the ongoing branching that produces multiple lines of descent can be inferred by comparing the DNA sequences of different organisms. Such information is also derivable from the similarities and differences in amino acid sequences and from anatomical and embryological evidence. (HS-LS4-1)</li> </ul> <p><b>LS4.B: Natural Selection</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Natural selection occurs only if there is both (1) variation in the genetic information between organisms in a population and (2) variation in the expression of that genetic information—that is, trait variation—that leads to differences in performance among individuals. (HS-LS4-2),(HS-LS4-3)</li> <li>The traits that positively affect survival are more likely to be reproduced, and thus are more common in the population. (HS-LS4-3)</li> </ul> <p><b>LS4.C: Adaptation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evolution is a consequence of the interaction of four factors: (1) the potential for a species to increase in number, (2) the genetic variation of individuals in a species due to mutation and sexual reproduction, (3) competition for an environment’s limited supply of the resources that individuals need in order to survive and reproduce, and (4) the ensuing proliferation of those organisms that are better able to survive and reproduce</li> </ul>	<p><b>Patterns</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Different patterns may be observed at each of the scales at which a system is studied and can provide evidence for causality in explanations of phenomena. (HS-LS4-1),(HS-LS4-3)</li> </ul> <p><b>Cause and Effect</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Empirical evidence is required to differentiate between cause and correlation and make claims about specific causes and effects. (HS-LS4-2),(HS-LS4-4),(HS-LS4-5),(HS-LS4-6)</li> </ul> <p>-----</p> <p><b>Connections to Nature of Science</b> <b>Scientific Knowledge Assumes an Order and Consistency in Natural Systems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scientific knowledge is based on the assumption that natural laws operate today as they did in the past and they will continue to do so in the future. (HS-LS4-1),(HS-LS4-4)</li> </ul>

scientific ideas, principles, and theories.

- Construct an explanation based on valid and reliable evidence obtained from a variety of sources (including students' own investigations, models, theories, simulations, peer review) and the assumption that theories and laws that describe the natural world operate today as they did in the past and will continue to do so in the future. (HS-LS4-2),(HS-LS4-4)

#### **Engaging in Argument from Evidence**

Engaging in argument from evidence in 9-12 builds on K-8 experiences and progresses to using appropriate and sufficient evidence and scientific reasoning to defend and critique claims and explanations about the natural and designed world(s). Arguments may also come from current or historical episodes in science.

- Evaluate the evidence behind currently accepted explanations or solutions to determine the merits of arguments. (HS-LS4-5)

#### **Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information**

Obtaining, evaluating, and communicating information in 9–12 builds on K–8 experiences and progresses to evaluating the validity and reliability of the claims, methods, and designs.

- Communicate scientific information (e.g., about phenomena and/or the process of development and the design and performance of a proposed process or system) in multiple formats (including orally, graphically, textually, and mathematically). (HS-LS4-1)

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#### **Connections to Nature of Science**

##### **Science Models, Laws, Mechanisms, and Theories Explain Natural Phenomena**

- A scientific theory is a substantiated explanation of some aspect of the natural world, based on a body of facts that have been repeatedly confirmed through observation and experiment and the science community validates each theory before it is accepted. If new evidence is discovered that the theory does not accommodate, the theory is generally modified in light of this new evidence. (HS-LS4-1)

in that environment. (HS-LS4-2)

- Natural selection leads to adaptation, that is, to a population dominated by organisms that are anatomically, behaviorally, and physiologically well suited to survive and reproduce in a specific environment. That is, the differential survival and reproduction of organisms in a population that have an advantageous heritable trait leads to an increase in the proportion of individuals in future generations that have the trait and to a decrease in the proportion of individuals that do not. (HS-LS4-3),(HS-LS4-4)
- Adaptation also means that the distribution of traits in a population can change when conditions change. (HS-LS4-3)
- Changes in the physical environment, whether naturally occurring or human induced, have thus contributed to the expansion of some species, the emergence of new distinct species as populations diverge under different conditions, and the decline—and sometimes the extinction—of some species. (HS-LS4-5),(HS-LS4-6)
- Species become extinct because they can no longer survive and reproduce in their altered environment. If members cannot adjust to change that is too fast or drastic, the opportunity for the species' evolution is lost. (HS-LS4-5)

#### **LS4.D: Biodiversity and Humans**

- Humans depend on the living world for the resources and other benefits provided by biodiversity. But human activity is also having adverse impacts on biodiversity through overpopulation, overexploitation, habitat destruction, pollution, introduction of invasive species, and climate change. Thus sustaining biodiversity so that ecosystem functioning and productivity are maintained is essential to supporting and enhancing life on Earth. Sustaining biodiversity also aids humanity by preserving landscapes of recreational or inspirational value. (HS-LS4-6) *(Note: This Disciplinary Core Idea is also addressed by HS-LS2-7.)*

#### **ETS1.B: Developing Possible Solutions**

- When evaluating solutions, it is important to take into account a range of constraints, including cost, safety, reliability, and aesthetics, and to consider social, cultural, and environmental impacts. *(secondary to HS-LS4-6)*
- Both physical models and computers can be used in various ways to aid in the engineering design process. Computers are useful for a variety of purposes, such as running simulations to test different ways of solving a problem or to see which one is most efficient or economical; and in making a persuasive presentation to

a client about how a given design will meet his or her needs. (secondary to HS-LS4-6)

*Connections to other DCIs in this grade-band:*

**HS.LS2.A** (HS-LS4-2),(HS-LS3-4),(HS-LS4-4),(HS-LS4-5); **HS.LS2.D** (HS-LS4-2),(HS-LS4-3),(HS-LS4-4),(HS-LS4-5); **HS.LS3.A** (HS-LS4-1); **HS.LS3.B** (HS-LS4-1),(HS-LS4-2),(HS-LS4-3),(HS-LS4-5); **HS.ESS1.C** (HS-LS4-1); **HS.ESS2.D** (HS-LS4-6); **HS.ESS2.E** (HS-LS4-2),(HS-LS4-5),(HS-LS4-6); **HS.ESS3.A** (HS-LS4-2),(HS-LS4-5),(HS-LS4-6); **HS.ESS3.C** (HS-LS4-6); **HS.ESS3.D** (HS-LS4-6)

*Articulation of DCIs across grade-bands:*

**MS.LS2.A** (HS-LS4-2),(HS-LS4-3),(HS-LS4-5); **MS.LS2.C** (HS-LS4-5),(HS-LS4-6); **LS3.A** (HS-LS4-1); **LS3.B** (HS-LS4-1),(HS-LS4-2),(HS-LS4-3); **MS.LS4.A** (HS-LS4-1); **MS.LS4.B** (HS-LS4-2),(HS-LS4-3),(HS-LS4-4); **MS.LS4.C** (HS-LS4-2),(HS-LS4-3),(HS-LS4-4),(HS-LS4-5); **MS.ESS1.C** (HS-LS4-1); **HS.ESS3.C** (HS-LS4-5),(HS-LS4-6)

*Common Core State Standards Connections:*

*ELA/Literacy -*

- RST-11.12.1** Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of science and technical texts, attending to important distinctions the author makes and to any gaps or inconsistencies in the account. (HS-LS4-1),(HS-LS4-2),(HS-LS4-3),(HS-LS4-4)
- RST-11.12.8** Evaluate the hypotheses, data, analysis, and conclusions in a science or technical text, verifying the data when possible and corroborating or challenging conclusions with other sources of information. (HS-LS4-5)
- WHST.9-12.2** Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/ experiments, or technical processes. (HS-LS4-1),(HS-LS4-2),(HS-LS4-3),(HS-LS4-4)
- WHST.9-12.5** Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience. (HS-LS4-6)
- WHST.9-12.7** Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation. (HS-LS4-6)
- WHST.9-12.9** Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research. (HS-LS4-1),(HS-LS4-2),(HS-LS4-3),(HS-LS4-4),(HS-LS4-5)
- SL.11-12.4** Present claims and findings, emphasizing salient points in a focused, coherent manner with relevant evidence, sound valid reasoning, and well-chosen details; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation. (HS-LS4-1),(HS-LS4-2)

*Mathematics -*

- MP.2** Reason abstractly and quantitatively. (HS-LS4-1),(HS-LS4-2),(HS-LS4-3),(HS-LS4-4),(HS-LS4-5)
- MP.4** Model with mathematics. (HS-LS4-2)