

VII. Background information links

It's not possible to provide a full introduction to evolutionary theory in this short guide. However, more extensive background information is freely available online. The following resources from *Understanding Evolution* (<http://evolution.berkeley.edu/>) are particularly relevant to the topics dealt with in this exhibit. Just use an Internet browser to get to the first page of each tutorial, and then click the “next” button to read additional pages in each tutorial.

- **The nature of science and evolution** (http://evolution.berkeley.edu/evolibrary/article/nature_01). Review what science is and how it works.
- **Lines of evidence relevant to evolution** (http://evolution.berkeley.edu/evolibrary/article/lines_01). The theory of evolution is broadly accepted by scientists—and for good reason! Learn about the diverse and numerous lines of evidence that support the theory of evolution.
- **Evolutionary trees** (http://evolution.berkeley.edu/evolibrary/article/phylogenetics_01). Learn about phylogenetic systematics, the study of the evolutionary relationships among organisms, and how the field is shaping biological research today.
- **Mechanisms of evolution** (http://evolution.berkeley.edu/evolibrary/article/evo_14). Learn about the basic processes that have shaped life and produced its amazing diversity.
- **Microevolution** (http://evolution.berkeley.edu/evolibrary/article/evo_36). Microevolution is going on around us all the time. Find out how small-scale evolutionary change occurs.
- **Speciation** (http://evolution.berkeley.edu/evolibrary/article/evo_40). Figuring out what species are is not as easy as one might think. Find out how biologists define species and how new species evolve.
- **Macroevolution** (http://evolution.berkeley.edu/evolibrary/article/evo_47). Explore the processes behind major radiations and extinctions and other grand patterns in the history of life.
- **The evolution of complex innovations** (http://evolution.berkeley.edu/evolibrary/article/evo_53 and http://evolution.berkeley.edu/evolibrary/article/side_0/complexnovelties_01). Learn how complex innovations, like wings and eyes, evolve from much simpler beginnings.