

# Did you know?

You may have been told that there is disagreement among scientists, that facts are in dispute, and that evidence is lacking. But *did you know....?*

**Did you know** that the great age of the Earth and the history of life on it are some of the best-supported facts in science?

**Did you know** that the family tree of life on Earth is extremely well-documented, and that many transitional forms are known?

**Did you know** that countless pieces of evidence and many independent lines of thought converge on the same factual conclusions? The overwhelming majority of chemists, physicists, geologists, biologists, paleontologists, astronomers, and others, all agree on these facts.

**Did you know** that “Theory” does not mean “Guess”? When a scientist says “Theory”, s/he means a well developed, rigorously tested, successful explanation of something in nature, which is supported by evidence, such as the Theory that germs make us sick, or the Theory that Earth goes around the Sun.

**Did you know** that the Theory of Evolution by Natural Selection is *not* about the origin of life?

**Did you know** that some of the most powerful tools in Medicine are based on the Theory of Evolution—compelling evidence that it works?

**Did you know** that critique and debate among scientists is *normal*? Scientists ruthlessly examine one another’s work to find the tiniest flaws—so that they may be removed. This does not mean that their basic methods and conclusions are in any doubt! It is simply how they verify and improve their knowledge.

**Did you know** that it is easy to learn more? Reliable information abounds in bookstores, libraries, schools, videos, and on the Internet. On the back of this flier is a list of many useful resources. Happy learning!

## You may find the following resources interesting.

books:

- **Why Evolution Is True**, by Jerry Coyne, is a relatively easy read for adults.
- **What Evolution Is**, by Ernst Mayr, quickly became regarded as a classic on Evolution.
- **Evolution (Eyewitness Books)**, by Linda Gamlin, gives a good overview for young people and beginners.
- **Life on Earth: The Story of Evolution**, by Steve Jenkins, offers an engaging explanation for children.
- **Why We Get Sick: The New Science of Darwinian Medicine**, by Randolph M. Nesse, M.D., and George C. Williams, Ph.D., describes how the Theory of Evolution informs and empowers medical practice.
- **Ancient Earth, Ancient Skies: The Age of the Earth and its Cosmic Surroundings**, by G. Brent Dalrymple, explores what is known.

If you are unable to find these books at your local library, ask your librarian about Interlibrary loan or look for discounts at online retailers and used book stores.

internet:

- **[www.pbs.org/wgbh/evolution](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/evolution)** – Explore a multimedia library featuring video clips and web activities.

*The authors of the above named resources have not endorsed the content of this flyer, and their representation here should not be taken to mean that they are registered Brights or affiliated with the Brights movement. This flyer is a collaborative effort of Brights on the international Brights Action Forum to state what is scientifically known about the topic and to arouse interest in further learning. Advice from Brights Action Group for Categorically Sound Science was considered in the selection of books to explain evolution. The Brights' Net authorizes reproduction of the flyer by anyone but gives no authority to change the content or make selective use of it against the original educational purpose. You may email any comments or questions to: [EvoEdLeader@The-Brights.Net](mailto:EvoEdLeader@The-Brights.Net).*

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**“Science is more of a verb than a noun.”**

Michael Shermer



Who are we? We are Brights. We seek to promote the civic understanding and acknowledgment of the naturalistic worldview, which is free of supernatural and mystical elements, to gain public recognition that persons who hold such worldviews can bring principled actions to bear on matters of civic importance, and to educate society toward accepting the full and equitable civic participation of all such individuals. For more information, please visit us at [www.the-brights.net](http://www.the-brights.net)

***illuminating and elevating the naturalistic worldview***