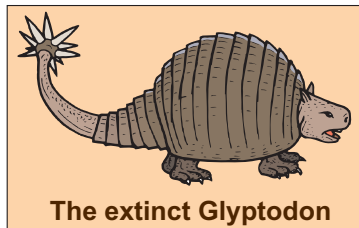


**WELL
DESIGNED!**

The Armadillo

The 'knight in shining armour' among mammals is the Armadillo. Its body is covered with hard, bony plates. The name means 'little armoured one', and was first used by Spanish people who visited South America. In the last 150 years one species—the nine-banded armadillo—has moved into North America, where it is quite common. Evolutionists sometimes call armadillos 'primitive', but they are actually very sophisticated and superbly designed.

Armadillos belong to a group of mammals called *edentates*, which includes sloths and ant-eaters. The fossil record shows there were once 30 members of this group, but now only these three remain. These animals are unique in that they have extra



The extinct Glyptodon

moveable parts between their vertebrae and lower back. This gives extra support to their hips, and extra flexibility while digging, and an armadillo can disappear into the ground faster than it took to write this sentence.



Photo: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

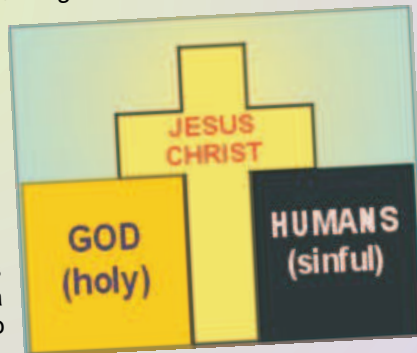
Armadillos are unique in that they give birth to identical quads of the same sex. This is because a single fertilised egg divides into four. Another unique feature of these animals is their ability to hold their breath for up to 6 minutes. This enables them to cross rivers by simply walking along the bottom! They can also suck air into their stomach and make themselves float. Armadillos feed mainly on insects, and, like ant-eaters, they have sticky tongues as well as an excellent sense of smell.

Fossils show that some members of this group, such as the extinct Glyptodons, were up to 3 metres (10 feet) long. Today, the largest armadillos are 1.5 metres (5 feet) long. Evolutionists say that armadillos have not changed for more than '50 million years'. This means there has been no evolution! And there is no evidence of their bony armour gradually evolving over time, either. Armadillos are strange animals, but also wonderfully designed. Creation seems the best explanation for their origin.

The REAL Missing Link

Ever since Charles Darwin made the theory of evolution popular in the mid-19th century, evolutionists have been hoping that the 'missing links' would turn up. Yet, in spite of millions of fossils being discovered and catalogued, there is not one convincing transitional form. Despite repeated claims that 'apes are our close relatives', no-one has found a transitional form to link humans with ape-like ancestors. To quote *Newsweek* (3rd. November 1980), 'The more scientists have searched for the transitional forms between species, the more they have been frustrated.' The evidence from both the fossils and the living world strongly supports the Biblical creation model: the creation of separate 'kinds' of living things, with the genetic potential for wide variation *within limits*. Not the 'tree' of evolution, but lots of 'bushes'.

The frantic search for fossils to link us with the animal kingdom is mistaken and doomed to failure. But there is a 'missing link' we all need—a link between ourselves and God. There is a huge gulf between ourselves and our Creator, caused by our sin and rebellion. But Jesus Christ, God's Son, came to bridge that gulf. 'There is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all men.' (*The Bible, 1 Timothy 2: 5-6*). Through dying on the cross, Jesus took the rap for us, and when we admit our own wrongdoing and accept what He has done for us, we are reconciled to God, and have a permanent relationship with Him. Surely it's better to have faith in a living God than in missing fossils!



Two websites worth a visit:-
www.c-r-t.co.uk
www.the-real-thing.org.uk

Smile

Where did Noah keep his bees?
In ark-hives.

Why are there so many Smiths
in the phone book?
Because they all have phones.

Why can't a man living in the
USA be buried in Canada?
Because you can't bury people
who are living.

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The ALTERNATIVE teens' paper!



No. 42

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The Armadillo
The REAL Missing Link

missing

FAITH IN FOSSILS

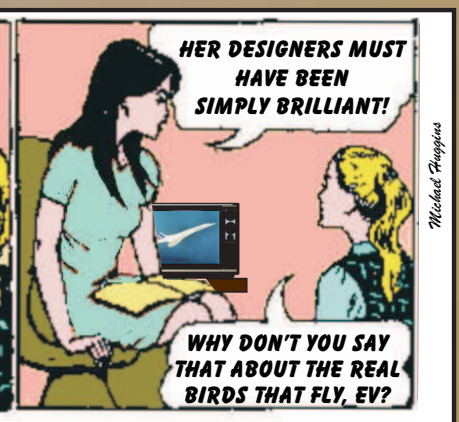
There are millions of fossils in the world's museums, and thousands more are being dug up every year. Lots of evidence for evolution? That's what many people believe. But they couldn't be more wrong! Ever since Charles Darwin first made evolution popular evolutionists have found the fossil record to be an embarrassment.



Fossil T. Rex & Stegosaurus Denver and Colorado Museum. Courtesy Paul Abramson www.creationism.org



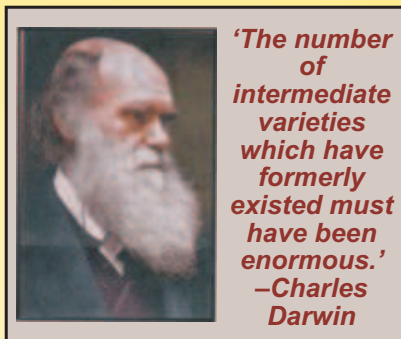
In 1859 Charles Darwin admitted that the transitional fossils demanded by his theory of evolution had not been found, and in *The Origin of Species* wrote, 'This, perhaps, is the most serious objection which can be urged against my theory.' Darwin did hope that these 'missing links' would turn up, as more and more fossils were unearthed, but they have not been found. The late Professor Stephen J Gould, a well-known evolutionist, wrote, 'The evolutionary trees that adorn our textbooks have data only at the tips and nodes of their branches; the rest is based on inference, however, reasonable, not the evidence of fossils.' (*Natural History*, Vol. 86, (5), May 1977, p. 14). So when you see a diagram of evolution's 'tree of life', remember it is based on *faith* not fact!



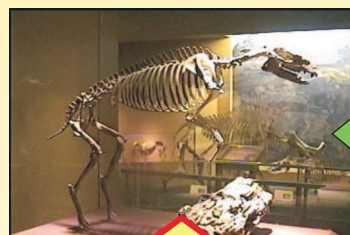
Michael Phillips

WHAT 'FOSSIL PROGRESSION'?

Evolutionists often claim that we can trace a progression through time from simple to complex in the fossil record. This claim does not stand up to scientific examination. The fact is, there are huge gaps just where the evolutionists need to find evidence of transitions. So their theory depends on their **faith** that these links did once exist, and, hopefully, will turn up one day. On the left of the photos below you can read the facts as they relate to each supposed stage of evolution. On the right you can read quotes from evolutionists admitting the lack of fossil evidence.

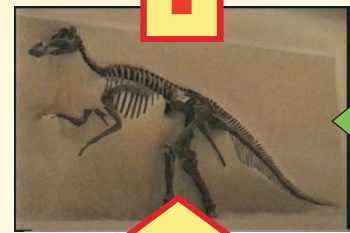


Mammals: the 3 classes—monotremes, marsupials and placentals—have no fossil links with any reptilian ancestor.



'The transition to the first mammal, which probably happened in just one, or at most, two lineages, is still an enigma.' —Roger Lewin, "Bones of Mammals' Ancestors Fleshed Out", *Science* 212, 1981, p. 1492.
'Nor is there any fossil evidence of any consequence about their [the monotremes] ancestors. So we have virtually nothing to link these creatures to any group of fossil reptiles' —David Attenborough, *Life on Earth*, Fontana/Collins, 1979, p. 207.

All reptiles—including the dinosaurs—appear without any fossil evidence that they evolved from amphibians.



The reptiles arose from amphibians of some kind, but the details of their early history are not clearly understood.' —Angus d'A. Bellairs, *Encyclopedia of Reptiles & Amphibians*, Equinox, Oxford, 1986, p. 60).
'Not a single specimen of an appropriate reptilian ancestor is known, prior to the appearance of true reptiles.' —Robert L Carroll, "Problems of the Origin of Reptiles", *Biological Review of Cambridge Philosophical Society*, 1969. p. 393

Amphibians such as frogs appear abruptly in the fossil record, with no sign of '50 million years' of evolution from fish.



'Although this transition [from fish to amphibian] doubtless occurred over a period of millions of years, there is no known fossil record of these stages.' —Dr. Kraig Adler, *Encyclopedia of Reptiles & Amphibians*, Equinox, Oxford, 1986, p. 4.
'There are no intermediate forms between finned and limbed creatures in the fossil collections of the world.' —Gordon Rattray Taylor, *The Great Evolution Mystery*, Harper & Row, 1983, p. 60.

All the classes of true fish (vertebrates) appear fully formed, with no evidence they evolved from invertebrates.



'All three subdivisions of the bony fishes first appear in the fossil record at approximately the same time... Why is there no trace of earlier, intermediate forms?' —Gerald Todd, *American Zoologist*, Vol. 26 (4) 1980, p. 229.
'The very first fishes undoubtedly arose from invertebrate protochordates.... However, the first fishes left no fossil record and their form and relationships are a mystery.' —Hickman, C.P., L.S. Roberts and A. Larson. *Integrated Principles of Zoology*, 2001, p. 151.

Invertebrates (and some vertebrates) appear suddenly and in great profusion in the Cambrian rocks.



'In a geological moment, near the beginning of the Cambrian, nearly all modern phyla make their appearance.' —Dr Stephen J Gould, *Wonderful Life*, Penguin Books, 1989, p. 64.
'It is as though they [Cambrian invertebrates] were just planted there, without any evolutionary history.' —Dr Richard Dawkins, *The Blind Watchmaker*, W. W. Norton, New York, 1987, p. 229.

Photos of fossils from the Smithsonian, and Denver and Colorado Museums, courtesy Paul Abramson www.creationism.org

A CLOSER LOOK at Evolution

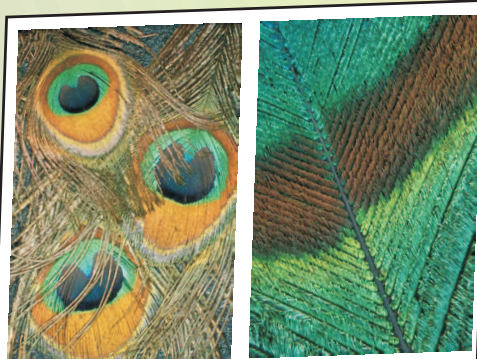
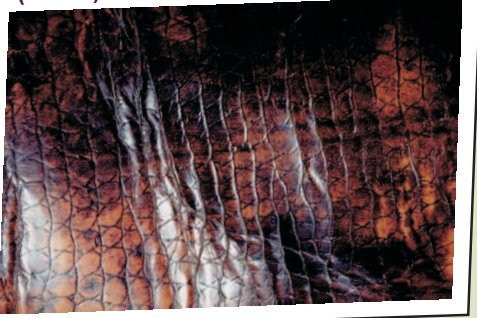
The Origin of Feathers

The theory that birds evolved from reptiles is very popular. There are many problems with this theory, including the different respiratory systems of reptiles and birds. But an even greater problem is the origin of feathers, which all birds, from hawks to humming-birds, penguins to peacocks, possess. Los Angeles Museum of Natural History website states: 'Feathers are unique to birds: all birds and only birds have them.' So far, so good, but the statement continues, 'They evolved from the scales of birds' reptilian ancestors.'



Compare the feathers of a peacock (above) with the scales of a reptile (below). There is really **no** comparison!

'MODIFIED SCALES'?
Evolutionist Dr Richard Dawkins has written 'Feathers are modified reptilian scales.' 'We would say, 'Some modification!' Reptiles' scales are quite different from the feathers of birds. When a reptile moults, it loses all its scales together as a single sheet, but birds moult feathers individually. Each feather grows from a single follicle—rather like the hairs of a mammal. This is totally different from reptiles' scales. What is more, each feather may have as many as 40 muscles at its base. Feathers are designed for both lightness and insulation. A feather magnified (see picture at bottom right) reveals its intricacy. A network of hooks and barbules locks neatly together to form a strong, yet light surface.



The eye pattern on a peacock's feather (left), highly magnified (right) 'Frayed scales' —or a Creator's handiwork?

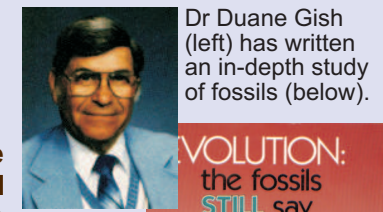
FRAYED SCALES?
Some evolutionists have suggested that feathers originated when reptiles' scales became frayed. Just how frayed scales could evolve into intricate feathers with individual follicles they don't explain. Neither do they tell us what advantage frayed scales would be to a reptile. The Museum website mentioned above described birds' feathers as 'an engineering marvel'. We agree with this, but an 'engineering marvel' requires an engineer! Feathers are best explained by creation, not evolution.
1. *Climbing Mount Improbable*, Penguin 1996, p. 113.



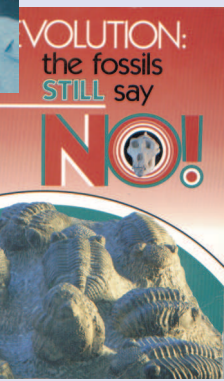
The hooks and barbules of a feather, highly magnified

THE FOSSILS SAY "NO EVOLUTION"!

ONE of the most detailed critiques of the fossil record is the book 'Evolution: the Fossils still say No!*' by Dr. Duane T Gish. Dr Gish is a much-travelled lecturer and speaker on the creation-evolution issue, and has taken part in numerous debates with evolutionists. In his book, he compares the evidence of fossils found all over the world with the claim that all forms of life have evolved from a single-celled ancestor over many millions of years. Dr Gish considers the odd few fossils which evolutionists claim to be transitional forms, and demonstrates that they are totally unconvincing. And he points out that it is not simply a case of looking for one 'missing link' between the different kinds of living organisms—there ought to be *thousands* of these links if changes really took place slowly over millions of years. Dr Gish's book contains lots of references and quotes by evolutionists. If you want to find out what the fossils *really* say, we recommend it!



Dr Duane Gish (left) has written an in-depth study of fossils (below).



*Paperback, 391 pages. £8.50 (+ £1.25 P & P) from address on back page)