The evolution of man began with the emergence of hominids (pre-humans) over 6 million years ago. From then on, hominid species gradually split into multiple branches, eventually leading to the emergence of modern humans about 200,000 years ago. Along the way, major developments included the emergence of bipedal locomotion (the ability to walk on two feet), the use of primitive tools, and the development of language and language-based culture. In addition, over this time period, hominid species gradually increased in brain size, shift to omnivorous diets, and eventually become dependent on complex social systems. This process of human evolution led to the development of the human race we know today.