

Biology

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Chapter 17
Speciation and
Macroevolution
Lecture Outline

See separate FlexArt PowerPoint slides for
all figures and tables pre-inserted into
PowerPoint without notes.

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17.1 How New Species Evolve

Macroevolution

- Evolution on a large scale
- Best observed within the fossil record
- Involves the origin of species, also called speciation
- **Speciation**
 - Splitting of one species into two or more species
 - Final result of changes in the gene pool's allelic and genotypic frequencies

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What Is a Species? (2)

Morphological species concept

- Based on analysis of **diagnostic traits** distinguishing one species from another
 - Species can be distinguished anatomically by one or more distinct physical characteristics.
 - This method was used by Linnaeus.
 - Most species are described this way.
 - This held up for 200 years.
 - But, bacteria and other microorganisms do not have many measurable traits.

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What Is a Species? (3)

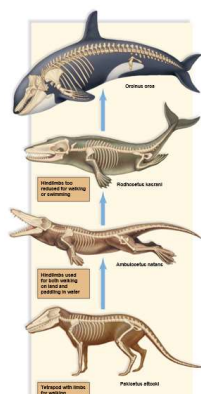
The **evolutionary species concept** distinguishes species from one another based on morphological (structural) traits.

- Critical traits for distinguishing species are called diagnostic traits.
- It was used to explain speciation in the fossil record.
- It implies that members of a species share a distinct evolutionary pathway.
- Since fossils don't provide information about color, soft tissue anatomy, or behavioral traits they are of limited use.

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Evolutionary Species Concept


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What Is a Species? (4)

The **phylogenetic species concept** is used to identify species based on a common ancestor.

- It is based on a single ancestor for two or more different groups.
- For you and your cousins, your grandmother is a common ancestor.

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How New Species Evolve (1)

Biological Species Concept

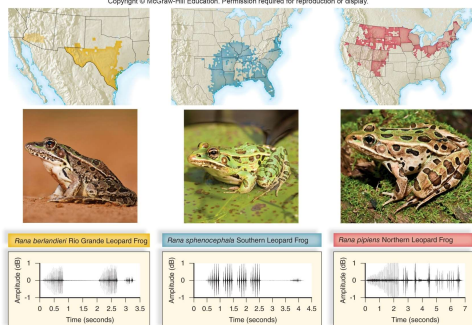
- Populations of the same species breed only among themselves.
- They experience **reproductive isolation** from other such populations.
- Very few species are actually tested for reproductive isolation.
- A group of birds collectively called flycatchers all look similar but do not reproduce with one another, so they are different species.
- Leopard frogs live in different habitats, have a different courtship song, and are different species.

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How New Species Evolve (2)

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How New Species Evolve (3)

Reproductive isolating mechanisms

inhibit gene flow between species.

Two general types:

- **Prezygotic isolating mechanisms**
- **Postzygotic isolating mechanisms**

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How New Species Evolve (4)

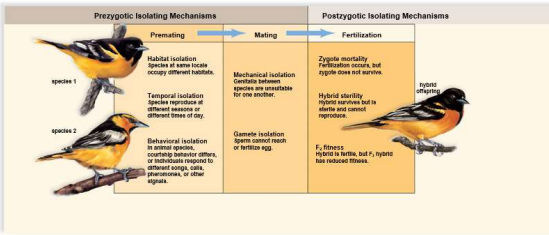
Prezygotic isolating mechanisms prevent mating attempts or make it unlikely that fertilization will be successful.

- **Habitat Isolation** – species occupy different habitats
- **Temporal Isolation** – each reproduces at a different time
- **Behavioral Isolation** – courtship patterns for recognizing mates differ
- **Mechanical Isolation** – incompatible animal genitalia or plant floral structures
- **Gamete Isolation** – gametes that meet do not fuse to become a zygote

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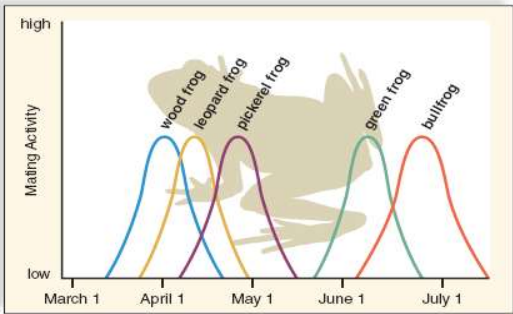
Reproductive Barriers



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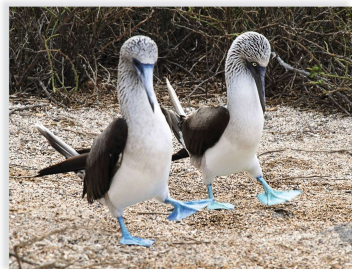
Temporal Isolation



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Prezygotic Isolating Mechanism



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How New Species Evolve (5)

Postzygotic Isolating Mechanisms –

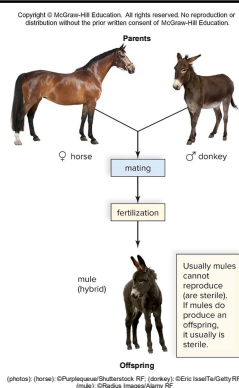
Prevent hybrid offspring from developing or breeding

- **Hybrid Inviability** – hybrid zygote is not viable and dies
- **Hybrid Sterility** – hybrid zygote develops into a sterile adult
- Mules, for example, the offspring of a cross between a female horse and a male donkey, are usually sterile and cannot reproduce.

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Postzygotic Isolating Mechanism



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17.2 Modes of Speciation

Speciation:

- The splitting of one species into two, or
- The transformation of one species into a new species over time

Two modes:

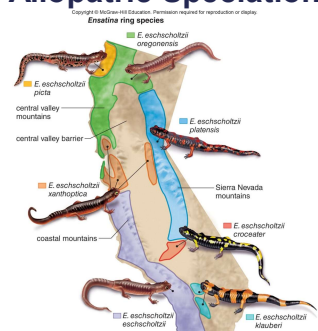
• Allopatric Speciation

- Microevolutionary processes such as genetic drift and natural selection alter the gene pool of each population independently.
- When differences become large enough, reproductive isolation may occur and new species are formed.
- Two geographically isolated populations of one species become different species over time.
- It can be due to differing selection pressures in differing environments.

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Allopatric Speciation



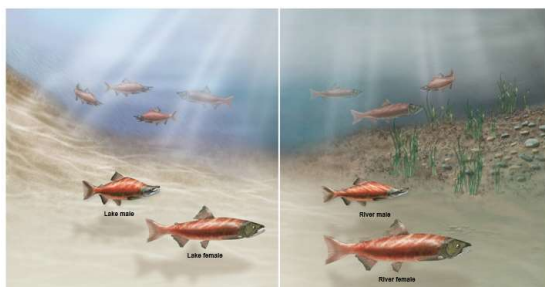
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Allopatric Speciation Among Sockeye Salmon



a. Sockeye salmon at Pleasure Point Beach, Lake Washington

b. Sockeye salmon in Cedar River. The river connects with Lake Washington.

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Modes of Speciation (1)

Two modes:

- **Sympatric Speciation**

- One population develops into two or more reproductively isolated groups.
- There is no prior geographic isolation.
- Example: Midas and arrow cichlid fish; the arrow cichlid evolved from a population of midas cichlids adapted to living and feeding in an open water habitat.
- In plants, sympatric speciation often involves **polyploidy** (a chromosome number beyond the diploid $2n$ number).
 - Tetraploid hybridization in plants
 - Results in self-fertile species that are reproductively isolated from either parental species

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Modes of Speciation (2)

Sympatric Speciation

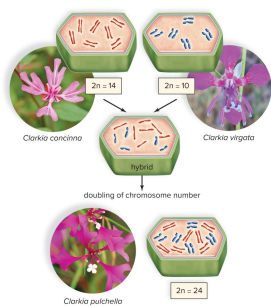
- A polyploid plant can reproduce with itself, but cannot reproduce with the $2n$ population because not all the chromosomes would be able to pair during meiosis.
- Two types of polyploidy are known:
 - **Autopolyploidy** occurs when a diploid plant produces diploid gametes due to nondisjunction during meiosis.
 - If diploid gamete fuses with a haploid gamete, a triploid plant results.
 - A triploid ($3n$) plant is sterile and cannot produce offspring because the chromosomes cannot pair during meiosis.
 - **Allopolyploidy** is a more complicated process than autopolyploidy.
 - Requires two different but related species of plants
 - Hybridization followed by doubling of the chromosomes

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Allopolyploidy

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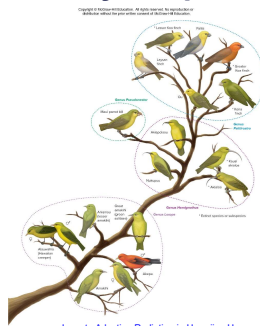
Modes of Speciation (3)

Adaptive Radiation

- It occurs when a single ancestral species rapidly gives rise to a variety of new species as each adapts to a specific environment.
- Many instances of adaptive radiation involve sympatric speciation following the removal of a competitor, predator, or a change in the environment.
- Allopatric speciation can also cause a population to undergo adaptive radiation.

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Adaptive Radiation in Hawaiian Honeycreepers



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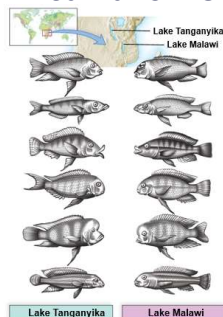
Modes of Speciation (4)

Convergent Evolution

- Occurs when a similar biological trait evolves in two unrelated species as a result of exposure to similar environments.
- Traits evolving in this manner are termed **analogous** traits.
 - Similar function, but different origin
 - Example: bird wing vs. bat wing
 - Opposite of analogous is homologous—traits are similar because they evolved from a common ancestor.
 - Example: wings of butterflies and moths, since both evolved from Lepidoptera

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Convergent Evolution of Africa Lake Fish



Lake Tanganyika Lake Malawi

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Genetic Basis of Beak Size and Shape in Finches – Nature of Science Reading (1)

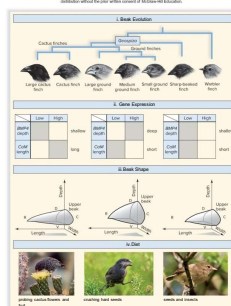
Darwin's finches are an example of how many species originate from a common ancestor.

- Over time, each species of finch adapted to a unique way of life.
- Beak shape and size are related to their diets.
- Increases or decreases in gene activity fine tune beak morphology.
- *BMP-4* and calmodulin (*CaM*) genes regulate the length and depth of the beaks.
 - The cactus finch has a low level of *BMP-4* and a high level of *CaM* and has a shallow, long beak.
 - The ground finch has the opposite pattern and a short, deep beak.

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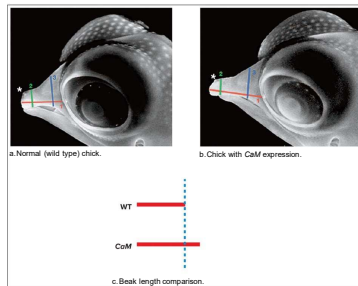
Genetic Basis of Beak Size and Shape in Finches – Nature of Science Reading (2)



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Genetic Basis of Beak Size and Shape in Finches – Nature of Science Reading (3)



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17.3 Principles of Macroevolution

Macroevolution

- It is the evolution at the species or higher level of classification.
- Some evolutionists support a *gradualistic model*.
 - Evolution at the species level occurs gradually.
 - Speciation occurs after populations become isolated.
 - Each group continues its own evolutionary pathway.
 - The gradualistic model suggests that it is difficult to indicate when speciation occurred.

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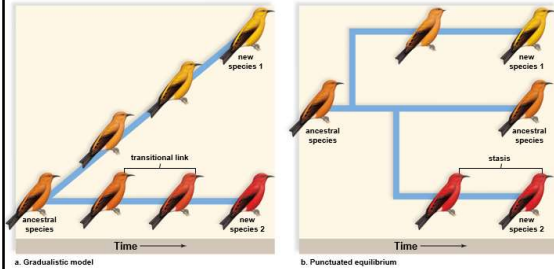
Principles of Macroevolution (1)

Macroevolution

- Some paleontologists support the *punctuated equilibrium model*.
 - This model states that periods of equilibrium are punctuated by speciation.
 - Species can appear quite suddenly.
 - The assembly of species in the fossil record can be explained by periods of equilibrium interrupted by abrupt speciation.
- Some fossil species can be explained by the gradualistic model and others by the punctuated equilibrium model.
 - Stabilizing selection can keep species in equilibrium for long periods.

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Gradualistic and Punctuated Equilibrium Models



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Principles of Macroevolution (3)

Macroevolution is not goal-oriented.

- The evolution of the horse (*Equus*)
- The first probable members of the horse family lived about 57 Million Years Ago.
 - *Hyracotherium* survived for 20 million years.
 - Horse evolution has been studied since the 1870s.
 - This genus represented a model for gradual, straight-line evolution with the modern horse as its "goal."
- Three trends were particularly evident during the evolution of the horse:
 - Increase in overall size
 - Toe reduction
 - Change in tooth size and shape

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Principles of Macroevolution (4)

Macroevolution is not goal-oriented.

- Discovery of more fossils has led to recognition that:
 - The lineage of a horse is complicated by the presence of many ancestors with varied traits.
 - The direct ancestor of *Equus* is not known.
 - Each ancestral species was adapted to its environment.
- Speciation, diversification, and extinction are common occurrences in the fossil record.

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