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| You see, in all cases where convergent evolution occurs, it is because of directional natural selection shaping analogous adaptations, but in these cases there could be no naturally selective influence identified, the convergent evolution was independent of any such naturally selective forces and therefore would have to be related to something else. Challenging the fundamental assumptions of modern science, this ground-breaking radical hypothesis suggests that nature, itself, has memory. The question of morphogenesis - how things take their shape - remains one of the great mysteries of science. Questions like "What makes a rabbit rabbit-shaped?" How do newts and starfish regenerate limbs? Why do societies arrange themselves in certain predictable patterns? According to Sheldrake's hypothesis of formative causation, these questions remain unanswered in part because convention is hobbled by the reductionist assumption that finding the answers to such questions is largely a matter of figuring out the machinery of nature, of getting to the bottom of an ultimately mechanical universe. But, Sheldrake suggests that nature is not a machine and that each kind of system - from crystals to birds to societies - is shaped not by universal laws that embrace and direct all systems but by a unique "morphic field" containing a collective or pooled memory �a collective unconsciousness. So organisms not only share genetic material with others of their species, but are also shaped by a "field" specific to that species. Why do many phenomena defy the explanations of conventional biology and physics? For instance, when laboratory rats in one place have learned how to navigate a new maze, why do rats elsewhere in the world seem to learn it more easily? Rupert Sheldrake describes this process as morphic resonance: he argues the past forms and behaviors of organisms influence organisms in the present through direct connections across time and space. Calling into question many of our fundamental concepts about life and consciousness, Sheldrake reinterprets the regularities of nature as being more like "habits than immutable laws". Said, in other words, all scientists are aware that upon the death of an organism, something leaves the body, or the body looses something, this we know is energy �which has many forms� we ask what shapes this energy into the forms we see around us. The nature of this formative principal is the focus of this theory.  The mice of this experiment:  Mice are mammals, which belong to the rodent family, having large incisor teeth that are continually growing necessitating gnawing to prevent the teeth from overgrowing. The word 'rodent' is derived from the Latin word 'rodere' which means 'to gnaw�. Rodents form the largest group of mammals. They include: beavers, squirrels, mice and porcupines. All of them have two pairs of chisel shaped incisor teeth, which they use for gnawing seeds and nuts. Mice also have small cheek pouches for storing food. The word mouse has no specific meaning in classification systems, mice are numerous throughout the world, but for convenience they are often grouped as Eurasian mice and American mice. Fields and human homes serve as homes for mice. Mice, like rats consume and damage large quantities of food and spread diseases. The common house mouse (Mus musculus) is the most often observed species and is the ancestor of the white mice, which are raised for scientific experimentation. These are the species of mice used in this experiment. In its wild state, the house mouse slightly less than 17 cm (less than 6.5 inch) long including the tail which is slightly more than 8 cm (more than 3 inches) long; domestic mice, because of better nutrition, are often considerably larger.The house mouse is yellow and/or gray, sometimes streaked with black and lighter gray beneath. There are many species of common American Wood mice. The Deer mouse, slightly larger than the house mouse, is a common American outdoor mouse prevalent in the southern United States. The cotton mouse, Dark brown with gray feet, is harmful to cotton plants. The grasshopper and Scorpion, mice inhabit western North America and differ from typical mice in feeding primarily on insects and other animals with jointed bodies and limbs. Mice are from the sub-family Murinae, which is broken down into Genera and then Species. There are many different species of mice throughout the world and the mouse domesticated and kept as a pet is the common house mouse, Mus musculus, which is often referred to as the Fancy Mouse.    ([Intro1](http://docs.google.com/introduction.html))([Intro2](http://docs.google.com/intro2.html))([Intro3](http://docs.google.com/intro3.html))([Intro4](http://docs.google.com/intro4.html))    [Home](http://docs.google.com/home.html)][[Introduction](http://docs.google.com/introduction.html)][[Hypothesis](http://docs.google.com/hypothesis.html)][Procedure][[Data](http://docs.google.com/data.html)][[Conclusions](http://docs.google.com/conclusions.html)][Bilio/Links]  [2002 Projects](http://docs.google.com/AP2002/index.html)][[2001](http://docs.google.com/index.html) ][[2000 Projects](http://docs.google.com/AP2000/index.html)][[1999](http://docs.google.com/AP99/index.html) ][[1998 Projects](http://docs.google.com/AP98/index.html)] |