

## LESSONS ON FOUR AREAS OF BIOLOGICAL EVOLUTION

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## WELCOME!



## Dear Instructors and Caregivers,

This booklet offers four lessons on biological evolution. Biological evolution is defined as the **change** in a population's traits **over time**.

Throughout this booklet, we hope to dispel misconceptions about evolution and uphold its **scientific veracity**. In turn, we aim to foster acceptance of evolution, which will persist throughout a student's educational and personal trajectories.

To do so, we present lessons on biological evolution from four different areas: human, fossil, ecological and sexual. Each lesson is targeted for **12-14-year-old** students, so each activity can be completed by the student independently or with the guidance of an instructor or caregiver.

Each lesson plan also corresponds to **Next Generation Scientific Standards** (NGSS). NGS standards are national scientific standards that pinpoint relevant science instruction for each grade level. Our alignment with these standards will not only produce **relevant and pertinent evolution lessons**, but also reinforce and supplement classroom instruction about the topic. For more information, please visit: www.nextgenscience.org.

These lessons were crafted for **Latham Science Engagement Initiative** at the University of Iowa. Fellows in this program spend a year devising, creating, and implementing science outreach projects. Each project aims to make science equitable, engaging, and simply fun. For more information, please visit www.stem-o-sphere.org.

Yours Truly, Evo: Gabriella Snyder, Josie Mbaye, Seren Castellano, and Morgan Anderson Latham Fellows 2023-2024