40 failed predictions of Evolution

by **Don Batten**

Evolutionists often claim that they have made many successful predictions that show evolution is true. Let us investigate 40 predictions and expectations based on cosmic evolution (cosmological, geological, and biological evolution).

Important note: if a prediction/expectation is born out, it *proves* nothing, as it is the fallacy of affirming the consequent. If predictions are falsified, however, it is a problem for a scientific hypothesis, because this constitutes *disproof*, according to the rules of formal logic. For example, consider the premise 'All horses are brown'. No matter how many brown horses you observe, unless you know that you have observed all horses, this can never be proven true. It only takes the observation of *one* white horse to show it is false (disprove it).

In the case of evolution, however, evolutionists do not accept a falsified prediction as disproving evolution, or even *many* failed predictions. Rather, they invent secondary hypotheses to 'explain' the contradictory evidence and continue to accept that evolution is true. We see many cases of such invented 'rescuing devices' in the examples below. This shows that evolution is not a true scientific theory but a quasi-religious or philosophical worldview that persists despite the evidence.

It is interesting that the entrenched belief in 'deep time' frequently undergirds the failed predictions/expectations.

Note: original sources are cited directly or in the linked articles.

Astronomy/cosmology

1. Prediction: the cosmic microwave background radiation (CMBR) should be lumpy, but it is extremely smooth. So,

evolutionary cosmologists invented a miraculous period of 'inflation' (the rescue device) to try to account for this.[1]

2. Prediction: there would be no preferential plane or axis or position in the universe (the cosmological principle; the universe is homogeneous and isotropic). However large-scale galaxy surveys point to our galaxy being in a preferred position; this is commonly referred to as the 'axis of evil', because it is such a problem for evolutionary cosmology.[2]

3. Prediction: the universe contains a lot of 'dark matter', which is mysterious stuff that is very difficult to detect but nevertheless creates a lot of gravitational force. Galaxies seemed to need this to explain the rotational speeds of stars. The big bang also needs this to have a ghost of a chance of forming any stars. The case for dark matter was considered so strong that all that was left to do was find it; hence a multibillion-dollar industry developed to build ever more sensitive particle detectors, which in 40 years have turned up *nothing*. Now it seems that a thorough application of Newtonian mechanics to galaxy star orbits explains them without dark matter.[3] That leaves the hypothetical big bang cosmic evolution story as the only reason for keeping the notion of dark matter.

4. Prediction: a lot of 'dark energy' exists in the Universe. This is more mysterious stuff needed by big bang cosmology whereby the red-shifted radiation from distant objects is interpreted to mean that they are accelerating away from us. This acceleration needs energy: hence 'dark energy'. There is no evidence for such dark energy, despite looking 'hi and lo' for it.[4]

Pixabay

NGC 4414 spiral galaxy. The James Webb Space Telescope is finding loads of spiral galaxies where evolutionary cosmology (big bang) predicts that they should not be.

5. Prediction: distant galaxies would not be spiral galaxies—because they would be 'young' and not have had enough time to wind into spirals.[5] In similar vein, astronomers were surprised to discover a very distant (= 'young' in stellar evolutionary terms) galaxy with heavier elements present, which were not expected based on cosmic

evolutionary theories (big bang, etc.).[6] The findings of the James Webb Space Telescope have seriously compounded this problem.[7]

6. Prediction: there would be no magnetic fields on planets that should be cold and dead due to their size and supposed billions-of-years age. They have magnetic fields.[8]

Geology

7. Prediction: paraconformities, or 'flat gaps',[9] should be rare due to due to the extended timeframe of deposition of the layers, which should mean that there is ample time for erosion of the surfaces of underlying formations. However, the boundaries between layers often show no signs of erosion. Flat gaps are common.[10]

8. Prediction: there should be little evidence of large-scale folding of soft sediments involving many strata. Again, this expectation arises from the extended timeframe assumed, which means that the lower layers at least should be solid rock at the time of the bending. However, there are extensive folded sedimentary rocks around the world that indicate that they were soft when folded.[11]

9. Prediction: sedimentary strata should have limited geographical extent due to the localized nature of depositional processes (i.e. no global flooding cataclysms). However, continent-wide sedimentary formations are common, even extending between continents.[12] There are six sequential 'megasequences' in the Phanerozoic (fossil-bearing strata) that are global in extent.[13]

10. Prediction: there should be no carbon-14 in coal, oil, or diamonds that are supposed to be many millions, or even billions, of years old, but it is consistently detected above background levels.[14] That's because carbon-14's half-life is only 5,730 years, and it should have decayed below the detection limit after about 100,000 years. Not only that, but coal samples ranging in evolutionary 'age' from 37–318 millions of years all proved to have the same amounts of carbon-14 (consistent with all the coal samples coming from plants buried during Noah's Flood).[15]

11. Prediction/claim: regarding the age of planation surfaces:[16] "most of it is no older than Pleistocene"[17] (less than two million years). This was based on the *observed* pervasive effect of the rate of erosion processes today that would not leave any flattish surfaces flat for long, especially when there is a variety of rock types differing in hardness. And yet, based on the evolutionary deep-time paradigm, there are now said to be many 'very old' planation surfaces.[18] For example, the Kimberley Plateau of north-west Australia is said to be older than 540 Ma! *Encyclopaedia Britannica* notes: "There has been much scientific

controversy over the origins of such surfaces." Indeed so. The global biblical Flood in Noah's time would explain them nicely!

12. Expectation: bioturbation (mixing of sediments due to the activity of marine organisms) should be evident throughout the major fossil-bearing strata (Phanerozoic). This expectation arises out of the experimental observation that marine burrowing animals, which are evident throughout the Phanerozoic, thoroughly mix sediments to 10 cm depth or more within hours. Thus, if sediments were deposited at the very slow rate needed to match the deep time dating of the strata, they should all be thoroughly mixed; there would be almost no layering evident. This is not the case at all; a major fail.[19]

Paleontology

13. Prediction: "no organism wholly soft can be preserved". Darwin said this in *Origin of Species*. This prediction has failed repeatedly and spectacularly. For example, exquisitely preserved jellyfish fossils are found in multiple places.[20]

14. Prediction: the fossil record, according to evolution, should show diversity first, developing into disparity, but the record is the opposite: disparity comes first (with all the major phyla appearing in the 'Cambrian explosion') and then comes diversity within those major categories.[21] This is a serious failure.

15. Prediction: there should be found in the rocks many finely graduated organic chains of transitional fossils showing the transitions from one major kind of organism to another, but such are absent. Transitions between *major body plans* should be the most amply documented, but the fossils show no such transitions.[22]

16. Prediction: fossils should not cut across many strata representing millions of years. The supposed slow and gradual rate of formation of the rock layers (or with episodes of deposition separated by millions of years) means that any organism would decay before being completely buried and preserved. However, such 'polystrate' fossils are common.[23]

17. Expectation: sea creatures and land animals would not be commonly found fossilized together, again due to the localized, slow formation of rock layers in lake beds or the seabed. However, mixtures of sea and land fossils are common.[24]

18. Prediction: "... no original protein and/or DNA fragments can be recovered beyond ca. 100 kyr [100,000 years] ...".[25] However, they have been found in fossils 'dated' at many 10s of millions of years. The desperate efforts made to overturn Dr Mary Schweitzer's findings on dinosaur bones (proposals of bacterial biofilm to explain flexible blood vessels in

dinosaur bones, contamination for proteins and DNA, preservation by iron compounds, etc.) underline just how problematic this is for the evolutionary storyline.[26]

19. Prediction: fossils of organisms found in geological layers separated supposedly by many millions of years should not be similar and certainly not apparently identical. But similar fossils and lack of evolutionary change over many geological 'eras' are the rule; they are known as 'living fossils'.[27] Again, a rescuing device, called 'evolutionary stasis' was invented to try to accommodate these uncomfortable facts. Evolutionary stasis is an oxymoronic term (evolution = change; stasis = no change) pretending to be an explanation. Another rescue device: the living and fossil creatures only *appear* to be similar; their genomes 'would be' quite different! This is special pleading, and not falsifiable since we do not have access to the genomes of the fossilised organisms.[28] And there are *many* living fossils!

Biology

20. Prediction: vestigial organs as 'left-overs' of evolution. Evolutionists predicted vestiges of past evolution that are now useless organs. They identified many candidates, such as the human appendix, tonsils, 'tailbone', etc. Because claimed vestigial organs have been progressively shown to be functional,[29] some evolutionists have resorted to redefining what 'vestigial organ' means—an organ that has lost its original function and now has a *different* or *reduced* function. This is yet another rescuing device that shows how evolution is not falsifiable in the minds of those who have a need to adhere to naturalism.

21. Prediction: no wheels would be found in living things. The famous evolutionary population geneticist, J.B.S. Haldane, proclaimed in 1949 that mutations and natural selection (neo-Darwinian evolution) could never produce "various mechanisms, such as the wheel and magnet, which would be useless till fairly perfect." But 'wheels' far more sophisticated than Haldane could have imagined, such as subcellular rotary motors, have been discovered.[30] A related prediction:
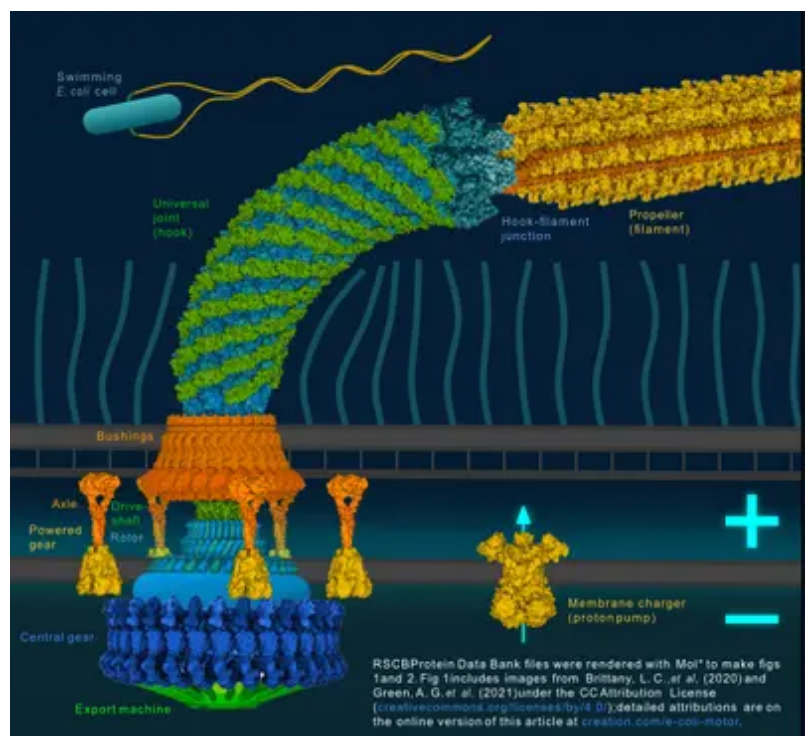
there would be no magnets in living things, for similar reasons. Haldane was wrong about that too.[31]

Famous evolutionist Haldane said that a wheel would never evolve, but extremely sophisticated 'wheels' in the form of rotary motors have been discovered, such as the bacterial flagellum.

22. Prediction: similarities, being due to common ancestry, would show a clear pattern of phylogeny (evolutionary ancestry), tree of life, etc. This is not so; there are numerous 'homoplasies', which are similarities that do not fit any pattern of common ancestry, or phylogeny. Homoplasies are so common that evolutionists invented the rescuing device of 'convergent evolution'.[32] A comparison of the genes involved in bat and dolphin sonar found 200 similar genes. Since there is no possible sonar-equipped common ancestor of both, these similarities *must* have evolved independently, *by chance mutations*.[33] This stretches 'convergent evolution' to breaking point. Another rescue device is *horizontal gene transfer*, which creationist Walter Remine predicted would be invoked by evolutionists.[34] E.g., a key gene regulation system known as citrullination is said to have been introduced into vertebrate animals by horizontal gene transfer from cyanobacteria![35]

23. Prediction: independently originating similarities should not exist. That is, convergence is not predicted by evolutionary theory. Evolution is 'contingent', as Stephen Jay Gould emphasized, so if the evolutionary experiment were run again, it would have different outcomes.[36] So, the evolution of two very similar creatures with entirely separate phylogenies, would be so unlikely that it would not happen. And yet 'convergence' abounds.[37]

24. Prediction: there would be little genetic resemblance between extant and 'primitive' life forms (biochemical homology). Being separated in deep time, every locus of every gene would have mutated multiple times. Thus, Ernst Mayr stated in his 1963 book *Animal Species and Evolution* "the search for homologous genes [derived from the same ancestor] is quite futile except in very close relatives."[38] This was a strong prediction, but it has been falsified repeatedly. One example: humans share a gene involved in eye formation with flies. Walter Gehring, University of Basel scientist, remarked: "*Much to our surprise*, the same gene causes eyeless[ness] in the fruit fly. That came as *a total surprise*, because we thought that the fruit fly eye was in no way a homologous, a similar structure as in humans."[39] (*emphasis* added). By non-homologous, they meant that the insect compound eye and the human eye could not possibly have arisen from an eye in a common ancestor. It was a "total surprise" because it was not expected in evolutionary theory, which holds that insect and vertebrate eyes evolved separately. Another failed expectation.

25. Prediction: Richard Dawkins explicitly predicted that all living creatures share the exact same genetic code and this is 'proof' of evolution. After all, switching from one code to a different one would be like switching keys on a keyboard, and scrambling the messages. However, organisms with different genetic codes have been catalogued since the 1970s. This is *a massive fail* under Dawkins' own criterion.[40]

26. Prediction: it was proposed in the early 1940s that genes would each code for one protein or enzyme.[41] This applied in bacteria. And the realization that the formation of any functional gene coding for one protein by evolutionary processes was improbable reinforced this view. Thus, it was applied to all organisms. It was not anticipated that a gene could code for more than one protein, or other functions as well as protein production. Hence it was thought that humans would have over 100,000 genes. This is not the case; we have ~23,000 genes, but we produce many *more* than 100,000 different proteins. This is achieved by a given DNA sequence being multi-functional, coding for more than one protein.[42]

27. Prediction: genes are linear, where a control sequence will be next to the gene controlled, and others genes involved in the same biochemical pathway will be next on the DNA strand (the *lac* operon in *E.coli* is like this). However, genes in eukaryotes such as humans are divided into exons that are separated by stretches of DNA called introns. Different exons combine in modular fashion for multiple different functions. In humans, exons from up to 33 different genes on as many as 14 different chromosomes combine to code for the sequence for a specific protein.[43] Furthermore, gene control often comes 'from afar', a long way from the gene involved, even located on a different chromosome.[44] However, the controls often turn out to be close to each other because of the 3D-arrangement of the chromosomes, also controlled by DNA coding. These discoveries of stupendous complexity go against evolutionary expectations.

28. Prediction: there must be lots of junk DNA. Evolution needs lots of non-functional DNA for three reasons: a) Being a messy process, evolution could never produce a high proportion of functional DNA; b) Evolution needs lots of non-functional DNA to experiment with so that evolution can be ongoing; c) Most mutations are harmful, if only slightly so on average, and there are many of them, so if most of the DNA is functional this means that these mutations would inevitably cause genomic degradation (extinction), not progressive evolution. When the ENCODE project found that at least 80% of human DNA is functional, evolutionists went into overdrive to criticize the 'dangerous' notion that there was little if any junk DNA. This is a major failure for evolution theory that has hampered scientific progress (why study something that is junk?)![45]

29. Prediction: pseudogenes are functionless. Pseudogenes look like protein-coding genes but do not code for proteins. They were said to be 'broken' genes. Evolutionists have repeatedly claimed that, because they have 'no function' to constrain their sequences, shared pseudogene sequences (e.g. in humans and chimps) are evidence of evolution (common ancestry).[46] The very notion has discouraged research to discover pseudogene functions, but functions are being discovered because diseases are associated with mutations in pseudogenes. An example is the β-globin pseudogene, which is involved in the production of red blood cells.[47]

30. Prediction: the first living cell must have been quite simple (it *must be* to get started by purely natural processes). Researchers expected that a cell could be found that worked on 'only' about 20 genes (which would still be an impossible hurdle for its origin by natural means). However, the proposed LUCA (last universal common ancestor) is getting increasingly complex. The minimal viable cell now has over 400 genes/proteins! The prediction was stupendously wrong.[48]

31. Prediction: there can be no global gene switching network system in genomes because such could not evolve—an evolutionary response to Prof. John Mattick's suggestion that such might exist,[49] since borne out by the ENCODE project. Mattick scathingly denounced the junk DNA claim (see #28), saying it "will go down as the biggest mistake in the history of molecular biology."[50] Even after becoming CEO of Genomics England, Mattick reaffirmed that his "most important professional achievement" was recognizing that the so-called junk DNA "specifies a massive hidden layer of regulatory RNAs that organise our development and provides the platform for brain function.[51] A sophisticated gene switching network controls the construction of the bacterial flagellum, for example.[30]

32. Prediction: a low mutation rate in complex organisms—it *must* be to avoid extinction over millions of years. The human mutation rate was assumed for deep time evolutionary reasons to be < 0.3 per person per generation. However, it has been *measured* at over 200 times that. As the evolutionary geneticist Alexey Kondrashov said, "Why aren't we extinct 100 times over?" Indeed. Geneticist Dr John Sanford, co-inventor of the 'gene gun', has highlighted this evolutionary failure.[52]

33. Prediction: mutations are random. This has been a core assumption of evolutionary theory since mutations were discovered and adopted as the source for new traits (neo-Darwinism). Evidence is mounting that mutations are not random, but that core genes are protected and that more mutations are permitted in regions of the genome that are not critical to survival.[53] The findings are said to "radically change our understanding of

evolution".[54] Indeed so! Could it be that such 'directed' mutations are part of a designed mechanism for adaptation?[55] Such of course would be anathema for evolutionists.

34. Prediction: under Richard Dawkins' evolution-inspired 'selfish gene' hypothesis, stepparents should be less devoted to child rearing than biological parents. Not so. A comparison of parenting of children conceived naturally, through IVF or donor insemination (DI) showed that the quality of parenting with IVF and DI *exceeded* that in well-functioning families with natural conception.[56] Fail, Dr Dawkins!

35. Prediction: male birds have colourful plumage because the females preferred ostentatious males, and so the males with more colourful plumage passed on more of their genes. This was Darwin's idea of 'sexual selection'. However, colourful birds are more prone to predation and extinction.[57] More importantly, experiments showed that peacocks with a tail, the prime example of sexual selection, are not preferred by females over males with their tails cut off.[58] As an aside, even if sexual selection operated in the peacock, it would not explain the *origin* of the intricate design of the feathers.[59]

pixabay.com

Darwin speculated that a peacock's tail came about because peahens preferred showy males, but the story failed to survive experimental testing.

36. Prediction: 'kinship' theories of cooperation explain colony formation in eusocial animals. The naked mole rat and Damaraland mole rat (which is hairy) are eusocial—the colonies are organized like a honeybee or ant colony with a 'queen' and several males breeding and the rest of the colony caring for the young. "This behaviour—like that of termites and ants—is found in very few mammals, and it has remained a puzzle for natural selection." With the naked mole rat, the colony is a virtual clone, so helping raise others ensures one's own genes survive. So, the evolutionist reasons from kinship theory for the maintenance of such eusocial behaviour. However, the Damaraland mole rat colony is much more genetically diverse because the colony seems to prefer a replacement queen to come from somewhere else if their queen dies, contrary to kinship theory.[60]

37. Prediction: hybridization between different species would be unusual/rare, due to the assumption of deep time separating the species (they would be expected to be too different genetically). For example, evolutionary biologists were greatly surprised by the discovery of hybrids between different species of iguanas, and between finch species in the Galápagos islands.[61] There are many hundreds of examples of hybrid mammals[62] and birds (in 18 orders).[63] This is not at all surprising in a biblical creation scenario, because the species are only separated by thousands of years at most.

38. Prediction: patterns in mitochondrial DNA 'barcode' sequences across many species would reflect their origin in deep time. Not so, and the consternation expressed by evolutionary authors shows just how much this result was unexpected and a problem for evolutionary theory.[64] Indeed, creationist research predated evolutionary research on this issue.[65] The number of mutations needed to account for the differences is consistent with measured mutation rates and the Bible's timeframe.[39]

39. Prediction: microbes separated by 165 million years in evolutionary time would be quite different: "Given the large geographic distances separating the subsurface sampling sites, we hypothesized that CDA[66] genomes should be genetically divergent. Further, because of the differences in the physicochemical conditions among the sampling sites, we also anticipated divergent adaptations to the local environments, i.e., that the evolutionary trajectories of the CDA populations would be analogous to those of Darwin's finches."[67] However, the genomes had more than 99.2% average nucleotide identity. The authors invoked a 'rescue device': "High-fidelity DNA replication and repair mechanisms are the most plausible explanation for the highly conserved genome of CDA." However, this would then bring into serious question the whole molecular clock paradigm, which assumes a given rate of mutation to estimate the date of origin and divergence of different organisms. It also seriously contradicted by *measured* mutation rates in a wide range of microbes (none are known to have such a low mutation rate, anything remotely like that needed). (CDA also lives in a hot (60°C/140°F) and alkaline (pH 9.3) environment, both very bad for DNA stability.)

40. Prediction/claim: inheritance of acquired characters does not happen. This relates to the Weismann barrier, named after a German evolutionist who first posited that only germ cells in organisms pass on their genes—and thus changes to body cells cannot be inherited. Weismann strongly rejected the Lamarckian view of the inheritance of acquired characteristics. This was a 'central dogma' of Neo-Darwinism (the Modern Synthesis). There is now a growing list of examples of epigenetic inheritance that breach the

How many falsified predictions should it take before the grand schemes of stellar evolution, geological evolution, chemical evolution, and biological evolution

Weismann barrier.[68] Epigenetics: epi: above genetics: genes; hence 'above genes'. A major mechanism involves the addition of a methyl group to a DNA base in a gene. This can block the gene's activity. The environment (e.g., diet) can cause methylation of germ cells and the methylation pattern can be inherited such that the offspring have the same feature as the parent. It appears that such an epigenetic inheritance mechanism is involved in the rapid adaptation of fish to living in dark caves, with loss of functional eyes.[69]

are recognized as failed hypotheses?

Conclusion

How many falsified predictions should it take before the grand schemes of stellar evolution, geological evolution, and biological evolution are recognized as failed hypotheses? But the evolutionary ideas will not be rejected because the idea is sacrosanct. It is an item of faith because the alternative is unthinkable. Leading evolutionary population geneticist D.M.S. Watson (1886–1973) commented years ago:

> "evolution [is] a theory universally accepted not because it can be proven by logically coherent evidence to be true, but because the only alternative, special creation, is clearly incredible."[70]

Published: 14 November 2023

References and notes

1. Henry, J., The elements of the universe point to creation: Introduction to a critique of nucleosynthesis theory, *J. Creation* **20**(2):53–60, 2006; creation.com/elements. Return to text.

2. Hartnett, J.G., Where are we in the universe? *J. Creation* **24**(2):105–107, 2010; creation.com/location-in-universe. Return to text.

3. Hartnett, J.G., Has the dark matter mystery been solved? creation.com/dark-matter-mystery, 6 Apr 2017. Return to text.

4. Hartnett, J.G., Dark energy and the elusive chameleon—more darkness from the dark side, creation.com/dark-energy-elusive, 8 Oct 2015. Return to text.

5. McIntosh, A. and Wieland, C., 'Early' galaxies don't fit! *Creation* **25**(2):28–30, 2003; creation.com/early-galaxies. Return to text.

6. ESO, An old-looking galaxy in a young universe, phys.org/news/2015-03-old-looking-galaxy-young-universe.html, 2 Mar 2015. Return to text.

7. Lawrence, B., New images from the James Webb Telescope: Do they challenge the Big Bang? creation.com/webb-images, 26 Nov 2022. Return to text.

8. Physicist staunchly defends biblical creation (Interview with Dr Russell Humphreys), *Creation* **43**(1):44–47, 2021; https://creation.com/russ-humphreys-defends-creation. Return to text.

9. A paraconformity (aka pseudo-conformity) is a supposed time gap in sedimentary strata where the planes above and below the conformity are parallel and there is little evidence of erosion on top of the bottom plane. Return to text.

10. Roth, A., 'Flat gaps' in sedimentary rock layers challenge long geologic ages, *J. Creation* **23**(2):76–81, 2009; creation.com/flat-gaps. Return to text.

11. Allen, D., Warped earth, *Creation* **25**(1):40–43, 2002; creation.com/warped-earth and Walker, T., Grand Canyon strata show geologic time is imaginary, *Creation* **25**(1):41, 2002; creation.com/grand-canyon-bends. See also conclusive research showing that a major fold in the Grand Canyon happened as soft sediment deformation: Snelling, A.A., The Monument Fold, Central Grand Canyon, Arizona, *Answers Research Journal* **16:**301–432, 2023. Return to text.

12. Walker, T., Sedimentary blankets: Visual evidence for vast continental flooding, *Creation* **32**(4):50–51, 2010; creation.com/sedimentary-blankets. Return to text.

13. Clarey, T.L. and Werner, D.J., Global stratigraphy and the fossil record validate a Flood origin for the geologic column; in: Whitmore, J.H. (Ed.), *Proc. Eighth Int. Conf. Creationism*, pp. 327–350, 2018; creationicc.org. Return to text.

14. Catchpoole, D., A conversation arising, creation.com/a-conversation-arising, 26 Apr 2012. Return to text.

15. Baumgardner, J.R., Snelling, A.A., Humphreys, D.R., and Austin, S.A., Measurable ^{14}C in fossilized organic materials: Confirming the young Earth Creation–Flood model, *Proc. Fifth Int. Conf. Creationism* (Pittsburgh, PA: Creation Science Fellowship), 2003, pp. 127–147. Return to text.

16. Planation surface: a large-scale surface that is almost flat, cutting across varied rocks and structures. See Oard, M., It's plain to see: Flat land surfaces are strong evidence for the Genesis Flood, *Creation* **28**(2):34–37, 2006; creation.com/plain. Return to text.

17. Thornbury, W.D., *Principles of Geomorphology*, John Wiley & Sons, New York, p. 26, 1954. Return to text.

18. Oard, M., Revisiting the problem of very old landforms, *J. Creation* **31**(3):3–4, 2017; creation.com/very-old-landforms. Return to text.

19. Brand, L., and Chadwick, A., *Faith, Reason, & Earth History,* 3rd Edn, Andrews University Press, (Kindle loc. 7159–7172), 2016. Return to text.

20. Hagadorn, J.W., Dott, R.H. and Damrow, D., Stranded on a Late Cambrian shoreline: Medusae from central Wisconsin, *Geology* **30**(2):147–150, 2002. See also: Hundreds of

jellyfish fossils and related articles at the end. Return to text.

21. Statham, D., The Cambrian explosion: The fossils point to creation, not evolution, *Creation* **39**(2):20–23, 2017; creation.com/cambrian-explosion. See also: Doyle, S., Is the fossil record 'overwhelming evidence for evolution'? No, it's evidence for Creation! creation.com/fossils-creation, 20 Apr 2019. Return to text.

22. Sarfati, J., The links are missing (*Refuting Evolution* chapter 3), creation.com/re-3. Return to text.

23. Walker, T., Polystrate fossils: evidence for a young earth, *Creation* **29**(3):54–55, 2007; creation.com/polystrate. Return to text.

24. There are many examples, such as: Walker, T., Deluge disaster: Amazing Australian plesiosaur preservation, *Creation* **26**(3):28–31, 2004 creation.com/deluge-disaster and Snelling, A.A., Tasmania's fossil bluff, Creation 7(3):6–10, 1985; creation.com/fossil-bluff and Wieland, C., Fascinating French fossil find, *Creation* **11**(2):44–47, 1989; creation.com/french-fossil. Return to text.

25. Schweitzer, M.H., Wittmeyer, J.L., and Horner, J.R., Soft tissue and cellular preservation in vertebrate skeletal elements from the Cretaceous to the present, *Proc. Royal Soc. B* **274**:187–197, 2007 (quote p.191). Return to text.

26. Catchpoole, D., Double-decade dinosaur disquiet, *Creation* **36**(1):12–14, 2013; creation.com/double-decade-dinosaur-disquiet. Robinson, P., DNA detected in duckbilled dino, *Creation* **42**(4):15, 2020; creation.com/dna-duckbill. Return to text.

27. Over many geological eras spanning 600 million evolutionary years. See numerous examples: creation.com/en/topics/fossils/living-fossils. Return to text.

28. Batten, D., Evolutionists can't dodge 'Living Fossils', *Creation* **33**(4):42–43, 2011; creation.com/dodging-living-fossils. Return to text.

29. Doyle, S., Vestigial arguments: remnants of evolution, creation.com/vestigial-arguments-remnants-of-evolution, 11 June 2008. Also: Bergman, J., A book about human errors that don't exist, *J. Creation* **33**(2):33–37, 2019; creation.com/lents. Return to text.

30. Thomas, D., *E. coli*'s electric motor: a marvel of design, *Creation* **44**(1):42–45, 2022; creation.com/e-coli-motor. Thomas, B., ATP synthase: majestic molecular machine made by a mastermind, *Creation* **31**(4):21–23, 2009; creation.com/atp-synthase. Return to text.

31. Sarfati, J., Is the design explanation legitimate? (*Refuting Evolution* chapter 9); creation.com/re-9. Return to text.

32. Statham, D., Homology made simple, *Creation* **34**(4):43–45, 2012; creation.com/homology-made-simple. Return to text.

33. Sarfati, J., Echolocation 'evolved in the same way', 3 Oct 2013; creation.com/echolocation-homoplasy. Return to text.

34. ReMine, W.J., *The Biotic Message: Evolution Versus Message Theory,* Saint Paul Science, 1993, 538 pp. Return to text.

35. Anon., Case study inadvertently shows why universal common descent is untestable, evolutionnews.org/2021/11/case-study-inadvertently-shows-why-universal-common-descent-is-untestable, 5 Nov 2021. Return to text.

36. Gould, S.J., *Wonderful Life: The Burgess Shale and the Nature of History,* W.W. Norton, 1990. Return to text.

37. Conway Morris, S., Life's Solution: Inevitable humans in a lonely universe, Cambridge University Press, UK, 2005. Return to text.

38. Mayr, E., *Animal Species and Evolution,* Harvard University Press, Cambridge, MA, 1963, p. 609. Return to text.

39. Walter Gehring: Master control genes and the evolution of the eye, pbs.org/wgbh/evolution/library/04/4/text_pop/l_044_01.html (Accessed 11 Oct 2023). Return to text.

40. Thomas, D., Evolution's fatal problem of non-standard genetic codes, https://creation.com/non-standard-genetic-codes, 1 August 2022. Return to text.

41. One gene–one enzyme hypothesis, britannica.com/science/one-gene-one-enzyme-hypothesis [accessed 11 Oct 2023]. Return to text.

42. Carter, R., The four dimensional human genome defies naturalistic explanations, creation.com/four-dimensional-genome, 6 Oct 2016. Return to text.

43. Kapranov, P., Willingham, A.T. and Gingeras, T.R., Genome-wide transcription and the implications for genomic organization, Nature Reviews Genetics, May 2007. Return to text.

44. Miele, A., Dekker, J., Long-range chromosomal interactions and gene regulation, *Mol. Biosyst.* **4**(11):1046–57, 2008; DOI:10.1039/b803580f. Return to text.

45. Batten, D., Dazzling DNA: Huge study highlights stupendous design in human DNA, *Creation* **35**(1):38, 2012; creation.com/dazzling-dna. Return to text.

46. Examples of such claims, specifically for the β-globin pseudogene: Luskin, C., Blast from the Past: Eugenie Scott's Failed Prediction on Pseudogenes, 20 Jan 2022, evolutionnews.org/2022/01/blast-from-the-past-eugenie-scotts-failed-prediction-on-pseudogenes. See also Lawrence, B., 'Pseudogenes'—Evidence of human evolution? *Creation* **45**(1):44–45 2023. Return to text.

47. Ma, Y., and 35 others, Genome-wide analysis of pseudogenes reveals HBBP1's human-specific role in in erythropoiesis and implication in β-thalassemia, *Science Direct* **56**(4):478–493, 2021. Return to text.

48. Goldman, A., Ancient Life in the Information Age: What can bioinformatics and systems biology tell us about the ancestor of all living things? *The Scientist*, 1 Mar 2014; the-scientist.com/thought-experiment/ancient-life-in-the-information-age-37880. See also,

Sarfati, J., How Simple Can Life Be? creation.com/how-simple-can-life-be, last updated 15 Mar 2021. Return to text.

49. Sarfati, J., DNA: marvellous messages or mostly mess? *Creation* **25**(2):26–31, 2003; creation.com/dna-marvellous-messages-or-mostly-mess (updated 2011). Return to text.

50. Genius of Junk (DNA), Catalyst, abc.net.au, 10 July 2003. Return to text.

51. Meet Professor John Mattick, CEO at Genomics England, genomicsengland.co.uk, 29 May 2018. Return to text.

52. Sanford, J.C., *Genetic Entropy,* FMS Publications, 2014 and Sanford, J., Critic ignores reality of Genetic Entropy: The author of a landmark book on genomic decay responds to unsustainable criticisms, creation.com/genetic-entropy, 7 Mar 2013. Return to text.

53. Monroe, G.J., *et al.,* Mutation bias reflects natural selection in *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Nature*, 2022; DOI:10.1038/s41586-021-04269-6. Return to text.

54. Study challenges evolutionary theory that DNA mutations are random, ScienceDaily.com, 12 Jan 2022. Return to text.

55. Etinger, J., Designed to adapt? creation.com/designed-to-adapt, 2017. Return to text.

56. Golombok, S., *et al., Child Development*, April 1995. City University, London, UK. *Science News* **147**(21), 27 May 1995, p. 333. Return to text.

57. Doherty, P.F. Jr. *et al.*, Sexual selection affects local extinction and turnover in bird communities, *PNAS* **100**:5858–5862, 2003. Return to text.

58. Takahashi, M. *et al*., Peahens do not prefer peacocks with more elaborate trains, *Animal Behaviour* **75**(4):1209–1219, 2008. See also Catchpoole, D., Peacock tail tale failure: Charles Darwin's 'theory of sexual selection' fails to explain the very thing Darwin concocted it for, *Creation* **31**(2):56; creation.com/tale. Return to text.

59. Burgess, S., The beauty of the peacock tail and the problems with the theory of sexual selection, *J. Creation* **15**(2):94–102, 2001; creation.com/peacock. Return to text.

60. See ReMine, W., *The Biotic Message*, pp. 125–130 on group and kin selection, and Holloway, M., Socializing with non-naked mole rats, *Scientific American* **272**(1):11, Jan 1995. Return to text.

61. For example, see admissions by evolutionary biologists in *Darwin: The Voyage that Shook the World, Creation Ministries Int. (Australia),* 2009. Return to text.

62. Gray, A.P., *Mammalian Hybrids: a checklist with bibliography,* Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux, Farnham Royal, U.K. Return to text.

63. McCarthy, E.M., *Handbook of Avian Hybrids of the World,* Oxford University Press, New York. Return to text.

64. Stoeckle M.Y. and Thaler, D.S., Why should mitochondria define species? *Human Evolution* **33**(1–2):1–30, 2018 | DOI:10.14673/HE2018121037. Return to text.

65. Jeanson, N., Recent, functionally diverse origin for mitochondrial genes from ~2700 metazoan species, *Answers Research J.* **6**:467–501, 2013. Return to text.

66. *Candidatus* Desulforudis audaxviator, a bacterium that lives in deep subterranean water, supposedly isolated from the surface for millions of years. Instead of deriving energy from sunlight, it relies on high-energy radioactive decay particles from uranium, thorium, and potassium from uranium acting on water to generate sulfate ions and hydrogen. In turn, they enable its sulfate reduction metabolism. "Candidatus" refers to a well-characterized microbe that hasn't yet been cultured. Return to text.

67. Becraft, E.D., Lau Vetter, M.C.Y., Bezuidt, O.K.I. *et al.,* Evolutionary stasis of a deep subsurface microbial lineage, *ISME J.*, 2021; doi.org/10.1038/s41396-021-00965-3. Return to text.

68. Carter, R.W., The barrier has been breached! Making a fool out of Professor Wise-man, creation.com/weismann, 9 Sep 2021. Return to text.

69. Gore, A.V., *et al.,* An epigenetic mechanism for cavefish eye degeneration. *Nature Ecology & Evolution* **2**:1155–1160, 2018 | DOI:10.1038/s41559-018-0569-4. Return to text.

70. Watson, D.M.S., *Nature* **124:**233, 1929. Return to text.

⌄ View All

Readers' comments

David B.   US   November 18, 2023

I could quibble about the "40" (some overlap and could be combined) "predictions" (some things were not explicitly stated as predictions) and "evolution" (the first ones relate to the standard model of cosmogony/cosmology and abiogenesis, while many evolutionists restrict "evolution" in the scientific sense to biological evolution) -- but whatever title you might substitute, the overall result is the same: a compilations of examples that illustrate how belief in the purely natural formation of the universe, the origin of life, and the rise of all the panoply of living things is sustained by many kludges, rescuing devices, and sheer faith that everything turned out "just so" by nothing more than physical deterministic forces and sheer happenstance. Mind boggling.

> *Don Batten*   November 18, 2023
>
> The first paragraph in the article defines the scope of the article as being "cosmic evolution", which includes far more than biological evolution. A title cannot be too complex.
> And at the beginning of the second paragraph in the introduction: "Important note: if a prediction/expectation is born out, ...". They are not just predictions. Some are also stated as "claims".
> I don't see much overlap, and my compilation is not exhaustive!
> But thanks for agreeing with the thrust of the article.

D R L.   CA   November 17, 2023

You people appear to have never heard of the Ninth Commandment.
Astronomy, Cosmology, Palaeontology, Geology do NOT deal with evolution, and most of the biological "predictions" you list are distortions. For example, no one ever claimed that vestigial meant no function.
It appears that your counter won't allow me to list them all. Very wise!

Don Batten November 17, 2023

It's so nice when haters accuse you of lying; so often it seems like their first resort when they have no substantive answers.
1. The scope of the article is defined in the first paragraph, if you care to read it. It is "cosmic evolution", not just biological evolution.
2. And your best example of a distortion (lie)? Vestigial organs—and you trotted out the rescue device that is stated, proving my point! (smile). The lack of validity for this rescue device is explained in the linked article (if you care to read it). Changing the definition of vestigial organs is historical revisionism, as the linked article demonstrates.
3. Our limit on comment length is far, far longer than your comment, so I doubt that you tested it.

Mark P. US November 16, 2023

40 is being generous (to evolutionists): there are so many more failed predictions! Pluto was supposed to be geologically dead, but wasn't. Retrograde orbits, starlight coming from opposite directions at least 14 B light years away each, flora and fauna not coming back from Chernobyl in our lifetime, cross breeding experiments resulting in major deformities and sterilization, and the most recent world-wide disasterous experiment gone awry, so-called Gain of Function experiments aka Covid 19. Turns out most perhaps all of evolutionary predictions have been wrong. Professing to be wise, they became fools.

Don Batten November 16, 2023

I agree that there are more than 40 failed predictions, but that was a nice number. However, some of your suggestions have nothing to do with evolution.

Julie M. AU November 15, 2023

I was disappointed to see #34 being used as an example of a failed prediction. I'm no academic, so I'm not sure how to analyse the cited article. However, my understanding from the work of "Them Before Us" advocate, Katy Faust, is that many of the studies which have come up with conclusions like this are very skewed. They are often very small sample sizes and involve a lot of self-reporting of people who have an LGBTQI agenda and know the research is trying to demonstrate good child/parent outcomes.
As I understand it, more rigorous studies have demonstrated the opposite, especially in regards to child outcomes.
In particular, children conceived using donated gametes or through surrogacy demonstrate lower outcomes and are statistically more at risk of abuse in a household with a non-related adult. This is as we would expect. God designed reproduction to occur as a result of a loving relationship between one man and one woman in a one-life covenantal relationship. Children conceived through donor gamete IVF and surrogacy arrangements are being intentionally deprived of at least one of their biological connections. These technologies are killing children (only 7% of IVF created children will make it to live birth) and depriving children of their natural rights to a biological connection to either their mother, or father, or both. More children are killed through IVF processes than are killed by abortion each year.

I hope you will consider removing this statement and I would courage anyone who has an interest in the natural rights of children to look into "Them Before Us" and Katy Faust's work.

Don Batten November 15, 2023

#34 is not about justifying same-sex 'families', single parenting, surrogacy, or IVF, etc.
The study cited was from 1995, meaning the research was done prior to this. This is prior to any legalisation of same-sex marriage, or even the availability of IVF to lesbians or homosexuals. The study was specifically limited to IVF (not by surrogacy) or donor insemination, where the female parent-to-be of the child carries the baby in her womb. And comparison was made between naturally conceived children in mum and dad families, adopted children in mum and dad families, and children conceived by IVF or donor insemination in mum and dad families. The families were like versus like, because the issue was if the children conceived by IVF or donor insemination were in any way disadvantaged due the manner of conception. Those conceived by IVF or DI fared a bit better than those conceived naturally, which was probably not an expected result (perhaps the fact that the couples had resorted to IVF or DI 'selected' for keenness for being parents, and therefore heightened their appreciation for having children).
The ethics of IVF is a different matter, which we have dealt with elsewhere (flushing away unwanted embryos is wrong).
I hope you are not suggesting that adopted children receive less love from their adopted parents than biologically-related children from their parents?
I thus stand by this 'selfish gene' prediction of Dawkins as another fail.

RONALD M. US November 14, 2023

This kind of article is helpful to many people. Some students I know need this kind of basic and short, but very pointed information. Thanks for such good work. I will tell others about this site.

Dan S. US November 14, 2023

Just going through the "biology" category, this is pretty silly. I mean just number 28 alone. 80% functional? That's not what ENCODE found. That's just a blatant misrepresentation. The actual finding was that 80% of the genome experiences some kind of biochemical activity - protein binding, transcription, etc. ENCODE made this clear in the famous 2012 paper, and was even more explicit that much of the documented activity is most likely NOT associated with a selected function in the 2014 paper that everyone (especially creationists claiming there's no junk DNA) ignores.

Don Batten November 14, 2023

Silly, eh? The fact that you have bothered to comment shows how this evidence for evolution's failures bothers you; that it is significant and not at all silly!
If you care to read the article linked to this point, it gives more details, including statements by the spokesman for the international ENCODE project, Dr Ewan Birney, who said, "It's likely that 80 percent will go to 100 percent" and, "We don't really have any large chunks of redundant DNA. This metaphor of junk isn't that useful."
See also: The junk DNA myth takes a well-deserved hit.
No, I am not guilty of "blatant misrepresentation" at all.
And since the ENCODE project, the paradigm of junk DNA has only continued to unravel. See, for example, The human genome is amazingly complex.

CHUCK R. US November 14, 2023

This is a very good summary of showing how the story of evolution fails repeatedly.
Two thoughts: Faith in the evolution story (I refer to it as a 'story' because of all the failed claims and the many contradictions and impossibilities voids the possibility of it being a 'theory'), it is not a quasi-religion but a full-on, demanding adherence, Religion, so demanding that those of us who don't profess faith in it are quickly ostracized and ridiculed.
Second, D.M.S. Watson's statement "special creation, is clearly incredible" is not completely candid since the evolution story is even more incredible (we at a minimum can claim a Cause), but the religion of evolution is wholly intended to deny a Creator, and they propose and postulate the most incredible story to justify their denial.

Dan M. US November 14, 2023

An essential ingredient for evolution is deep time. The hypothesis, (idea) cannot survive without it. Deep time is not essential for evolution to happen, but to render the scientific method, (tool) more useless to inspect it. The further back in time one travels the more ambiguous, (lost) the evidence becomes unless you have an eyewitness to tell you how it happened. Without this eyewitness, you can make up any story you like. This is evolution; a story, a fabrication, a fairy tale, a replacement religion. It is antibiblical, as will be, the antichrist. When you take the rational step to strip away the deep time assumptions and consider the evidence, the biblical narrative makes total sense and fits together like a Jigsaw puzzle. That's why atheists are so angry all the time. They are not stupid and they know this is true. God wrote it on our hearts. It's like looking at a pile of engine parts. After a while, with a little thought, you can see how it all fits together. Although, Evolutionists would see it as a pile of scrap metal. Great article of evidence.

David P. US November 14, 2023

My very favorite part of this site--and there is a lot to love--is that they offer a PRINT button and that, importantly, when the article prints, it prints neatly without any extraneous junk, ads, urls that go on forever. Really, it is SUCH a convenience when you source articles for someone who eschews technology. These days, even finding a print button is a marvel, let alone one that does all the printer-friendly modifications for you. I really appreciate it.

> *Don Batten* November 14, 2023
>
> It's not that relevant to the article, but thanks for the love! Our aim is to please our readers, so it is encouraging that you are pleased. :-)

Mark P. US November 14, 2023

29. Prediction: pseudogenes are functionless. The very notion has discouraged research to discover pseudogene functions, but functions are being discovered because diseases are associated with mutations in pseudogenes.

As a counterpart to many failed predictions of evolution, think how few (if any) improvements to medicine from evolution. Like missing links, they should be abundant. Contrast practical improvements to technology during the same time period from basic scientific research in electromagnetism, thermodynamics, and relativity.

A M. CL November 13, 2023

It is incredible that those "science popularizers" on YouTube do not realize the problems with the evolutionary story and the billions of years.
They do not realize data that contradicts evolutionary expectations such as those mentioned in this article.
I think they are lying to the audience to indoctrinate them to atheism or they are simply not informed.
"Professing to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an

image in the form of corruptible man, birds, four-footed animals, and reptiles."
Romans 1:22-25

Don Batten   November 13, 2023

Many are just deceived, rather than deliberately deceiving. But there are plenty of examples of deliberate deception, for example: *Evolution's Blunders, Frauds, and Forgeries*

Comments are automatically closed 14 days after publication.