

EVOLUTIONARY SCIENCE DISCOVERY TIMELINE

1794 Zoonomia *Erasmus Darwin*

Early proposal that all warm-blooded animals could have descended from a single "living filament."

1809 Philosophie Zoologique *Jean-Baptiste Lamarck*

Proposed the first cohesive theory of evolution based on the inheritance of acquired characteristics.

1859 On the Origin of Species *Charles Darwin*

Introduced the scientific theory that populations evolve over generations through a process of natural selection.

1866 Laws of Mendelian Inheritance *Gregor Mendel*

Established the rules of heredity, later providing the mechanism for how traits are passed down during evolution.

1937 The Modern Synthesis *Theodosius Dobzhansky*

Unified Mendelian genetics with Darwinian natural selection, creating the framework for modern evolutionary biology.

1953 Structure of DNA *Watson, Crick, and Franklin*

Discovery of the double helix, revealing the physical basis for genetic mutation and variation.

1972 Punctuated Equilibrium *Eldredge and Gould*

Proposed that evolution often occurs in rapid bursts of speciation followed by long periods of stability.

2003 Human Genome Project *International Consortium*

Completed the mapping of the human genome, allowing for precise molecular tracing of evolutionary history.

Educational Resource Template â€¢ Non-Submittable Reference