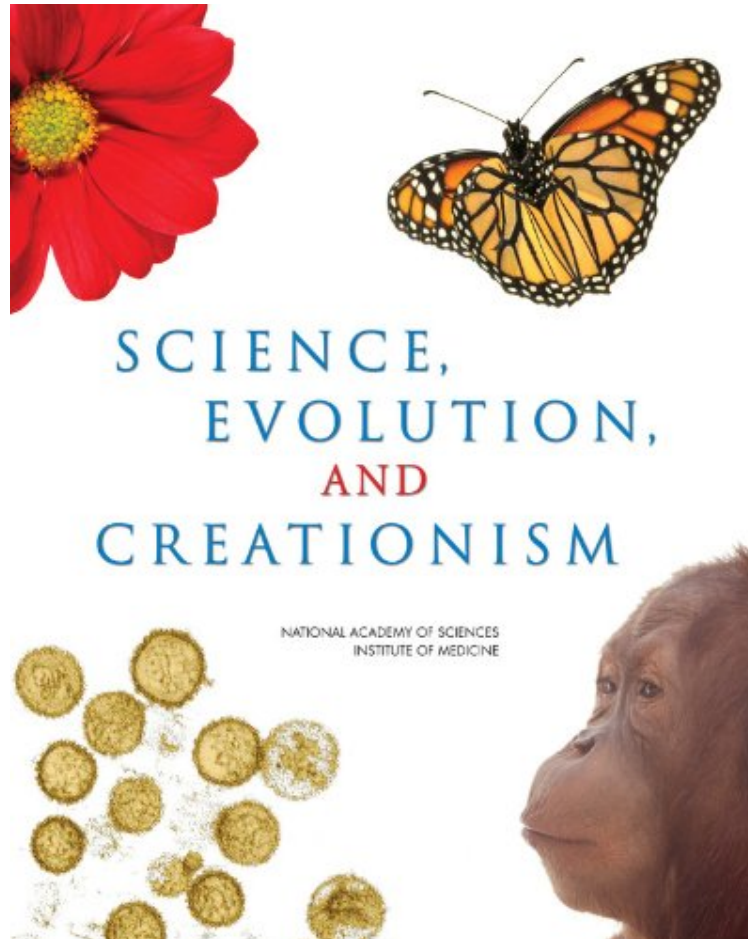


Science, Evolution, and Creationism

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National Academy of Sciences, Institute of Medicine : Science, Evolution, and Creationism before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Science, Evolution, and Creationism:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Succinct yet sufficient information regarding evolutionBy hijodeganasDespite its elementary level explanation of evolution and the ongoing yet tedious debate it has with creationism, this was probably one of the most helpful books I've ever purchased. No where does it go into great detail regarding evolution (and there is plenty of detail when it comes to evolution), the book's aim is very simple, and it succeeds: to establish, at its essence, what evolution is and why creationism is neither a science nor anywhere near on par with evolution. For those already familiar with the topic, there is little to be gained from this book. However, for me this book was exactly what I was looking for: a simple, easy-to-understand and succinct yet thorough explanation of what evolution is and what all the hoopla behind creationism vs. evolution is. This book is an amazing starting point for anyone who is not particularly science-minded but is intrigued by evolution, or (particularly) the creationism vs. evolution debate.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A Miniature MasterpieceBy a reader from

Alexandria, VA We are most fortunate that our nation's scientists and medical doctors, through their professional organizations, the National Academy of Sciences and the Institute of Medicine, have provided us with this succinct, comprehensive and authoritative account of evolution and its creationist critics. I do not wish to rehash any of the points made by the other reviewers. However there is one excerpt from the book's FAQ section, which is an excellent answer to the question "How can random biological changes lead to more adapted organisms?" I quote it here in the hope that it gives some young person a taste of science: Contrary to a widespread public impression, biological evolution is not random, even though the biological changes that provide the raw material for evolution are not directed toward predetermined, specific goals. When DNA is being copied, mistakes in the copying process generate novel DNA sequences. These new sequences act as evolutionary "experiments." Most mutations do not change traits or fitness. But some mutations give organisms traits that enhance their ability to survive and reproduce, while other mutations reduce the reproductive fitness of an organism. The process by which organisms with advantageous variations have greater reproductive success than other organisms with a population is known as "natural selection." Over multiple generations, some populations of organisms subjected to natural selection may change in ways that make them better able to survive and reproduce in a given environment. Others may be unable to adapt to a changing environment and will become extinct. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Came in time! By Robert The book came quickly. Haven't used it a ton, but a good book for those who believe religion contradicts evolution. Too common of a flaw in modern religious communities.

How did life evolve on Earth? The answer to this question can help us understand our past and prepare for our future. Although evolution provides credible and reliable answers, polls show that many people turn away from science, seeking other explanations with which they are more comfortable. In the book *Science, Evolution, and Creationism*, a group of experts assembled by the National Academy of Sciences and the Institute of Medicine explain the fundamental methods of science, document the overwhelming evidence in support of biological evolution, and evaluate the alternative perspectives offered by advocates of various kinds of creationism, including "intelligent design." The book explores the many fascinating inquiries being pursued that put the science of evolution to work in preventing and treating human disease, developing new agricultural products, and fostering industrial innovations. The book also presents the scientific and legal reasons for not teaching creationist ideas in public school science classes. Mindful of school board battles and recent court decisions, *Science, Evolution, and Creationism* shows that science and religion should be viewed as different ways of understanding the world rather than as frameworks that are in conflict with each other and that the evidence for evolution can be fully compatible with religious faith. For educators, students, teachers, community leaders, legislators, policy makers, and parents who seek to understand the basis of evolutionary science, this publication will be an essential resource.

About the Author Committee on Revising Science and Creationism: A View from the National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Sciences and Institute of Medicine of the National Academies