

# PBS Video Series -- Evolution

Goal: For this continuing assignment, you will view clips from a video about evolution (clips are also found at the PBS evolution site (<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/evolution/> --- To reach the clips, click on "For Teachers" and then on "Evolving Ideas.") After each clip a short essay will be written that answers a question about the topic covered in the clip. Grading is based on thoughtfulness and clarity of essays. We will skip around, so don't assume #3 comes after #2. In fact, my tentative order is: 1, 3, 4, 6, 5. More on that later...

For each video segment, you have one essay question to answer. Please write your answers on a separate piece of paper and write them in paragraph form, pay attention to grammar and punctuation. Each essay should be at least one paragraph in length, and may be longer. Turn in each paper separately as you finish. Label the top with your name, date of watching the video clip, due date, video segment title, and question the essay is related to (**see back for a template**). Keep this paper handy because it will be referenced in the future as we progress through the evolution unit.

## **Clip 1 - Isn't Evolution Just a Theory?**

Is it correct to say the evolution is JUST a theory? Is gravity JUST a theory? Defend your answer.

## **Clip 2 - Who was Charles Darwin?**

Why was Darwin considered to be a "revolutionary"?

## **Clip 3 - How Do We Know Evolution Happens?**

Describe the transitional fossils associated with whale evolution. Include specific examples of these fossils and explain why they are considered to be whale ancestors.

## **Clip 4 - How Does Evolution Really Work?**

Describe the process of natural selection and how it affects hummingbird populations.

## **Clip 5 - Did Humans Evolve?**

Explain how DNA sequences are used to provide evidence of common ancestry.

## **Clip 6 - Why Does Evolution Matter Now?**

Why is the theory of evolution an important theory in for doctors and the field of medicine? How does the theory affect the way illnesses and treatments are approached?

## **Grading of Essays**

	<b>Beginning</b>	<b>Knowledgeable</b>	<b>Exemplary</b>
<b>Expression</b>	Ideas are vague and not well supported (2 pts)	Ideas expressed are concrete and supported by thoughts and evidence (4 pts)	Ideas expressed are concrete, show depth of thought, and are well-supported (5 pts)
<b>Clarity</b>	The question of the essay is not answered, opinions are meandering and unfocused (1 pt)	The question is answered clearly and thoughtfully, focus is somewhat lacking. (2 pts)	The question is answered clearly and thoughtfully, writer maintains focus and clearly defends position. (3 pts)
<b>Grammar</b>	Major grammatical errors (0 pts)	Some minor grammar or spelling errors (1 pt)	No grammar or spelling errors, paragraphs flow (2 pts)
			<b>Total Possible: 10 pts per essay</b>

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Current Date\_\_\_\_\_

Due Date\_\_\_\_\_

Video Segment Title\_\_\_\_\_

Question you're answering \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Paragraph...