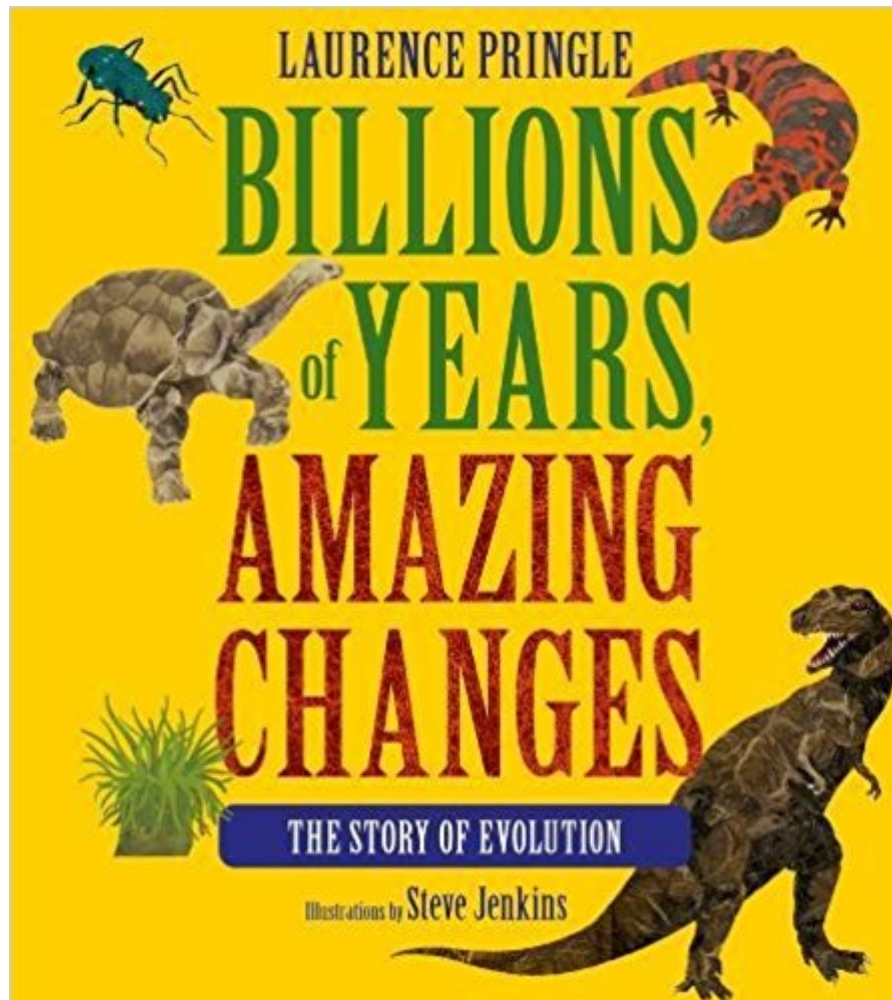




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Billions Of Years, Amazing Changes: The Story Of Evolution



Synopsis

Ever since Charles Darwin revealed his landmark ideas about evolution in 1859, new findings have confirmed, expanded, and refined his concepts. Now, author Laurence Pringle, one of the nation's premier science writers, brings together the pillars of evidence that support our understanding of evolution in this ALA Notable Children's Book. Field biology, genetics, geology, paleontology, and medicine all add to the impressive structure of evidence. With a perfect blend of science and art, renowned illustrator Steve Jenkins creates stunning new depictions of important concepts and key evolutionary scientists. More than fifty photographs capture natural marvels, including awe-inspiring fossils, life forms, and geological wonders. The result is a full, clear, and up-to-date account of the monumental evidence supporting the modern view of evolution.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1000L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 112 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

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Age Range: 8 - 18 years

Grade Level: 3 and up

Customer Reviews

* "A necessary title for most school and public libraries serving young readers." --Kirkus Reviews, starred review* "Simpler, and far more lively than Thom Holmes's dry *Evolution* (Chelsea House, 2011), more difficult than Steve Jenkins's own elegant *Life on Earth: The Story of Evolution* (Houghton Harcourt, 2002), and more solid than Robert Winston's somewhat fragmentary *Evolution Revolution* (DK, 2009), Pringle's intelligent and eye-catching book is an engaging, readable

lodestone for researchers." --School Library Journal, starred review* "A logical, well-organized, easy to understand book about the often controversial issues between evolutionists and creationists."

--Library Media Connection, starred review

Laurence Pringle has written more than 100 books for young readers, many of them award-winning science titles. Internationally, his books have sold nearly three million copies. He is the recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Prize from the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He lives in West Nyack, New York. Steve Jenkins has received numerous awards and critical praise for his art work and innovative book design. Recent titles include *Bones*, *Never Smile At a Monkey*, and *Life on Earth*. His books have sold more than one million copies worldwide. He lives in Boulder, CO.

This is a great intro to evolution and how it works. It does a great job of explaining things like natural selection and convergent evolution. It's also broken down into bite-sized chunks that were easy to understand and remember. I do have to say that the title is somewhat misleading though. I expected it to be more of a story of how things evolved through history, but it doesn't really cover how one thing became another, and then another, etc. It shows the nuts and bolts, but not the finished product, I guess. I do have other texts that show that more, so this was not a great disappointment for me. In my situation it filled in some blanks that other books didn't cover for us, but I felt I should mention that in case others are under the wrong impression as I was. Overall I am very happy with this book, and I'm glad it was the book it was. Interesting book that easily explains the theory of evolution and everything about it.

Perfect for my kids to get a clear understanding on the basics behind what evolution is & why it is true. My 3rd grader is reading it without comprehension problems and immediately started drawing her own pictures to accompany her thoughts as she read. I love that a book like this exists for her on this topic, I wish I had it when I was young. For parents looking for a way to introduce their kids to evolution, it's a great choice. And as a bonus...as much as the information is modified to be read at an elementary level, a lot of adults could stand to read it as a good, basic summary towards accepting the facts about evolution. There is a lot of dis-information being fed to the general (American) public and from my reading, it is a great starting point for conversations and further inquiry with those who may be suffering from extreme cognitive bias :-)

Absolutely fantastic book to teach children about evolution. In retrospect, maybe a bit advanced for my infant, but will definitely be read to him as soon as he can comprehend a bit more! :)

Great book , great for the kids teaching them the facts of Evolution

Bought this for a friend's son's first birthday. It was exactly what they wanted and they're so very happy with the book!

Wonderful

This book has not one word about the glorious creation of man by the Flying Spaghetti Monster (blessed be his noodly appendage)! And that's as it should be. The book clearly presents the overwhelming evidence for the "theory" (in science, not a guess, but a well-supported and tested model or explanation) of evolution by natural selection -- as reliable as the "theory" of gravity. This includes contemporary evolution, notably covering the serious problem of drug-resistant microbes. Unfortunately, Rosalind Franklin's essential contributions towards understanding the double helix structure of DNA were overlooked, as often happens with Watson and Crick getting all the credit. On the other hand, it was good to see Alfred Russel Wallace recognized, along with Darwin, as independently conceiving the theory of evolution through natural selection. All in all, this book could even serve as an accessible introduction for adults.

As he's done so often, Laurence Pringle gives us a highly-readable, straightforward account of the fascinating process that has created us and the world around us. Mostly, he shows us that evolution is not a belief, it's a conclusion based on common sense and overwhelming evidence. I shared this book with my 8 year-old son, and we both loved learning about the many riveting discoveries scientists have made since the time of Darwin. Mr. Pringle shows us that, whoever we are, evolution is not something to be feared, but something to be embraced as THE key element to who we are.

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