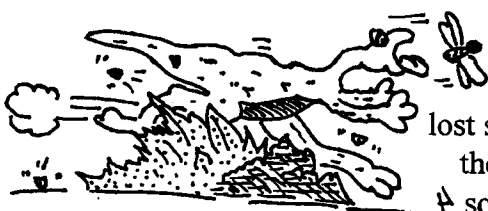


A Publication of **Alpha Omega Institute**
 July/August 2001
 by *Lanny and Marilyn Johnson*

FRACTURED FEATHERED FAIRYTALE
 (an evolutionary flight of fancy)

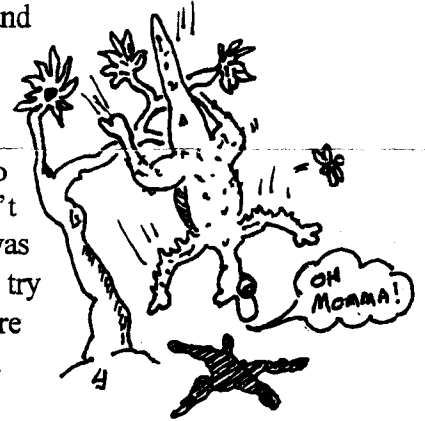
Once upon a time, many millions of years ago in a swampy hamlet named Gooville, lived a small dinosaur named Arch. Now Arch was a very handsome fellow. He had beautiful scales, a long handsome tail, two stout rear legs to run around on, and two lovely front legs equipped with sharp claws. Life was good for Arch, and he should have been a very happy dino, but alas he wasn't. To Arch, things always looked greener on the other side of the fence. Since the time when he was just a wee one he had always been unhappy with his life and very paranoid (scared about what others might think). Once, while munching on some lovely herbs he noticed some insects flying around his head. He was sick to death of eating only plants, so decided to change his diet with a bug or two. Arch scurried to catch the bugs, but he soon found that they were very quick and always just out of his reach. Even when he made a grab for them, his claws were unable to hold on. Although Arch was a grumbler, he was an extremely patient creature. Day after day he continued to try to catch those elusive bugs but day after day he kept failing. The chase was taking a terrible toll on his body. As he ran through the brush, his beautiful scales were becoming frayed, tattered and loose. Some were even falling out! When Arch discovered he had lost some of his scales, he was afraid others would laugh at him (remember how paranoid he is)



so he retraced his steps and found every lost scale and hid them. He hid them so well that they

have yet to be discovered today. As time went by, and the chase continued, Arch noticed something very strange. Those scales on his front legs were growing longer and spreading out. Maybe he could use these longer scales to his advantage. Though he had to keep finding lost scales and hiding them for no one to find, he was patient and let time have its way — and it worked! One day one of those long frayed scales actually acted like a net and Arch was able to scoop in a bug. Oh what a glorious day that was. Arch really didn't like the taste of the bug, but that didn't matter. Too much time had been involved to be fussy about how things tasted! Arch

continued to chase bugs and occasionally was able to snare in another bug, but he noticed that most of the bugs would fly up into the trees where he couldn't reach them. One day he was adventuresome enough to try to scramble up a tree where there were plenty of bugs.



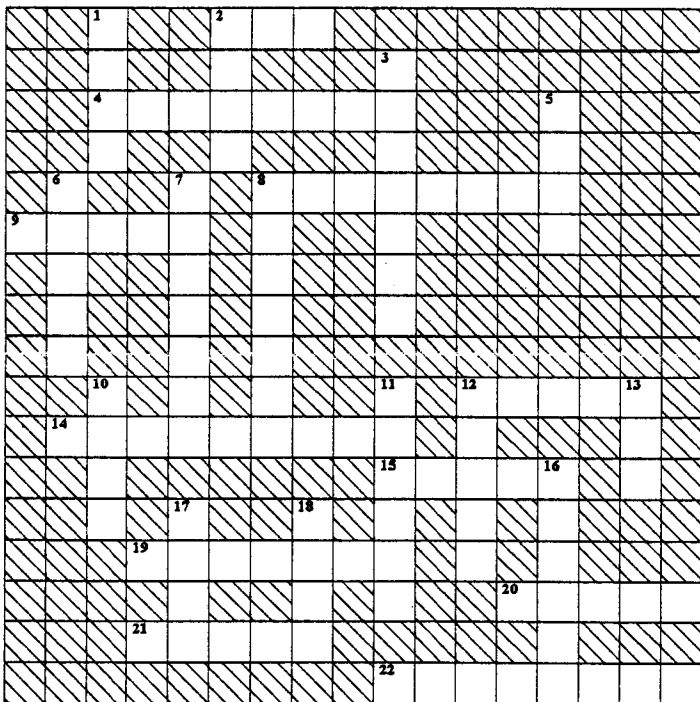
This was very hard to do because his loose scales wouldn't hold on to much and kept falling out. This also caused Arch to fall out of the tree. After picking himself up, greatly bruised and embarrassed, Arch naturally took time to hide his lost scales. Now most of us would have given up by now. But not Arch. He always felt that time was on his side, so he kept trying to climb the tree, until he finally made it! Oh what a glorious day that was! Arch should have been a very happy dino. Alas, Arch had another problem. The bugs would fly out of the branches, just out of Arch's reach. Arch stretched out as far as he could, flapping his front legs with the frayed scales and he fell right out of the tree. Plop! Right on his head. Now any normal animal would have been killed in the fall. Luckily though, time was with Arch. Did this terrible fall stop Arch? No! After resting for a few months while his bones mended and healed, he tried it again and again and again....until, after lots and lots of time, Arch discovered that if he flapped his front legs hard and fast enough he could glide to the ground biting at bugs as he went. This was a very fast glide, and the landings were rough, but it was a start! As time went by, those tattered and frayed scales continued to evolve and eventually became the awesome marvels we now call feathers. Arch had turned into a Bird! And of course he lived happily ever after....The End...or was it?

Would it really be the end? For a dinosaur to evolve into a bird would be more than just a problem of somehow getting feathers. The dino would also have to completely change the way it gets air, change it's bone structure, become warm-blooded (if they were cold-blooded as many scientists guess), change his digestive system and nervous system, evolve a bill.....and the list goes on and on.

Many people believe in just such a story as I have told. This tale can be found in many science books and textbooks. Oh, the story will be told a little differently, but the story is essentially the same. According to evolution, over many generations, given enough time, anything is possible. Many of these same people will then laugh at the idea of Creation, saying it has no scientific truth. Yet, where are all those missing pieces of the evidence that evolution relies on? They truly are missing (Arch hid his well!). When I look at a feather, or any part of a bird for that matter, I see wonderful design — design so marvelous that it demands a Creator!

FAIRYTALE

(All words are from Fractured Feathered Fairytales)



ACROSS

- 2 To get from one place to another through the air.
- 4 Idea that God made everything.
- 8 Scared of what others might think.
- 9 Not tight.
- 12 Pull yourself higher (as up a tree).

- 14 Just a story (which evolution seems to be).
- 15 Reptiles are covered with these.
- 19 If you can't find something, it is _____.
- 20 Sharp hooked nail.
- 21 Float to ground through air without flapping.
- 22 Frayed or _____.

DOWN

- 1 Name of dino in story.
- 2 Beat arms (or wings) together very fast.
- 3 Not happy.
- 5 Put something where others can't find it.
- 6 Not smooth.
- 7 Birds are covered with these.
- 8 Willing to wait a long time for something to happen.
- 10 Drop out (as of a tree).
- 11 Things made by intelligence show _____.
- 12 Run after something.
- 13 Another name for an insect.
- 16 To happen by chance or accident.
- 17 Another word for beak.
- 18 According to evolution, given enough of this anything is possible.

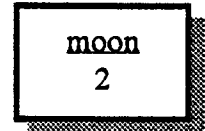


Oops! In the last Kids Think and Believe Too, 2 word puzzles graphic boxes were changed at the printers! They should have been....

A.

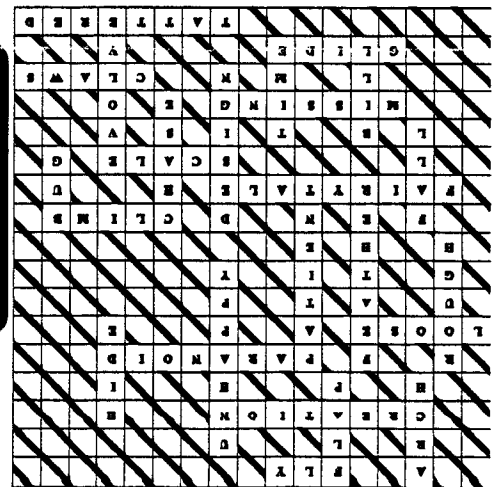


G.



A. Fall in love G. Half-moon
Do they make more sense now? Hope so.
Love Ya!!! Eugene

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