

Think Believe

Discover Creation...Worship the Creator

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What About Your Child?

by Dave Nutting

School is in full swing. Children are busy learning their reading, writing, arithmetic, and, yep, evolution – a BIG dose of evolution. This evolutionary indoctrination is exacting a large toll on the faith of Christian students and is largely responsible for a high percentage of them dropping out of church. Various polls put the number anywhere from 66 to 90% depending on the part of the country. According to the new book, *Already Gone* (Available from AOI – call us for a copy), we are not losing them only in college – many will drop out in middle school, a large proportion leave in high school, and the rest in college. Many parents aren't aware of the seriousness of the situation until it is too late.

Here are some false notions that some parents have. If you know of someone who falls into one of these categories, please pass this on to them.

1. Fiction: My children go to a good church. Evolution won't bother them.

Truth: I failed to mention it. The percentages of students leaving churches presented above are from good churches! So they could easily become one of those statistics if you don't prepare them well.

2. Fiction: My children attend Christian school, so I don't have to worry about them being taught evolution.

Truth: Many Christian school teachers are confused about or have accepted evolution themselves. Most don't have the knowledge of creation to adequately prepare students for the onslaught they will likely face later.

Keep in mind that some Christian schools use evolutionary textbooks. The students also have access to a huge body of evolutionary and atheistic propaganda on the internet. I don't want you to worry, but I hope you will take action!

3. Fiction: My son goes to a prominent Christian College, not a secular university. He'll be OK.

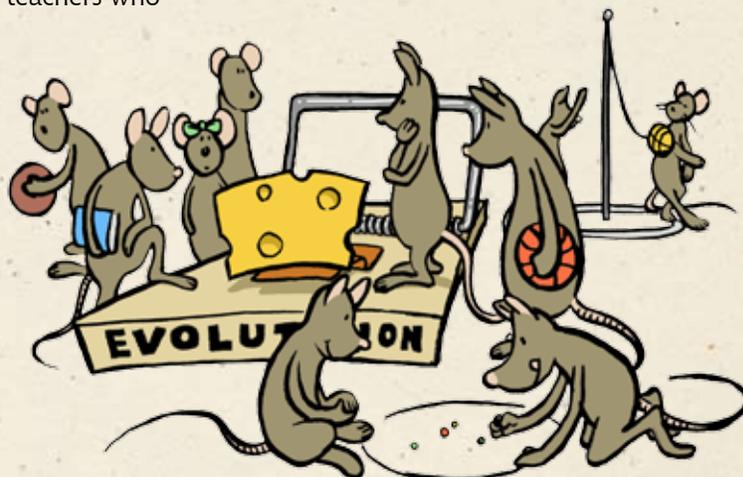
Truth: He may not be OK! See #2 above. Also, very few Christian colleges are solid on Creation. All too frequently parents tell us that their son or daughter became an agnostic or atheist at the "Christian" college they attended. These are well-meaning parents who thought they were doing the right thing for their sons and daughters. The problem is that many of these colleges hire professors who don't honor the Word of God. Not only that, they have been educated in secular colleges and are passing the secular religion on to students. Mary Jo and I taught at a "Christian" college which hired several teachers who were non-Christian and even anti-Christian.

4. Fiction: We home-school. My kids know nothing about evolution. So, they are safe.

Truth: They need to know a lot about evolution and what is

wrong with it – both scientifically and Biblically. Otherwise they will be sitting ducks for university professors, "enlightened" friends, or internet mis-information. By the way, even if they are "safe," is that all that you want for them? Perhaps they should be well-trained not only for their own sake but also so they can help others whose faith is being knocked out of them.

Yes, school is in full swing. Please don't let this year's "education" leave your or your friends' kids swinging in hot air, thinking they are nothing but monkeys. Take a pro-active stance. Fortify your family and friends with the truth. Educate yourself so you can educate them. Get some quality resources. You might want to start with AOI's 12 session DVD set. Also, show it at your church to help others. And don't forget: This is a spiritual battle. It is a battle for hearts and minds – so remember to bathe your efforts and your family and friends in prayer. Don't let students fall away. Get involved! **AOI**



Undersea Odds & Ends by Joyce Trump

Some **moray eels** make their dens in the sand of the ocean floor. Loose sand would fill in the hole whenever the eel leaves it, forcing the moray to make a new den every time he goes hunting. Instead, the moray's thick skin secretes a mucus that acts as a glue, hardening the sand around the sides of the hole and making a more permanent burrow for the eel.



A **sea star** can regenerate, or re-grow, any arms it loses. If the separated arm has enough of the central disc still attached, it will grow a new body and enough arms to create a new sea star. Some species even appear to intentionally reproduce themselves by tearing away from one anchored arm. That arm then will crawl off into a crevice or under a rock, reemerging in a few weeks as a new sea star.



Sea stars are voracious eaters. An adult can eat three times its own weight in a day. A juvenile can eat up to ten times its weight.

Sea stars will sometimes eat each other. If the predator star is smaller than the star it's preying upon, the smaller one will simply start at the end of one arm and work its way in toward the middle.

Sea stars have autotomous control of their arms, meaning they can cast off a damaged one so a new one can replace it.

Barnacles hatch with no eyes, but eyes do appear midway through their development. The simple eyes allow the **barnacle** to see well enough to locate a solid base, such as a rock or the hull of a ship. The barnacle attaches itself to this base. Then, at the next molt, it loses the eyes forever. It will spend the rest of its life with its head glued to the base.



Limpets are cone-shaped univalve (single shelled) mollusks. They cling to rocks during high tide, feeding on algae at low tide. Each limpet creates a depression in the rock that just fits its shell. It will return to its own home base every time it finishes feeding. No limpet will ever take another's base.

Limpets have tongues, or radulas, twice as long as their bodies.



Scallops are the only bivalve (two shelled) mollusks with eyes. Up to thirty five simple eyes, which look like blue dots, are located along the edges of their shells.

Scallops are the only bivalves that can swim. If attacked by a sea star, they let go of their base and escape by rapidly opening and closing the two halves of their shells. The resulting jets of water propel the scallops to safety.



The octopus is remarkably intelligent. It can be taught to remove the lid from a jar to get at a tasty treat. The female octopus is a devoted mother. Once she has laid her eggs, she guards them constantly, not even leaving to hunt food. She turns them, cleans them, and gently swishes fresh water over them throughout the weeks it takes for them to hatch. Many mothers do not survive the ordeal, dying shortly after their babies hatch.



An **octopus** will occasionally eat itself. Starting at the tip of a tentacle, it will munch its way in toward the center of its body. One theory is that stress may cause this odd behavior. Another is that hungry mothers are trying to stay alive long enough for their babies to hatch.

The only hard parts of an octopus' body are the beak and the cuttlebone inside its mouth. As a result, an octopus can squeeze through any opening its beak can fit through, even one the size of a quarter.

Marine **snails** and their cousins have tongues that resemble a chain saw. Called a radula, it is covered with small, sharp teeth that scrape algae off rocks, or bore through the shells of other mollusks. The teeth are self sharpening, and are often reinforced with the iron-containing mineral magnetite, absorbed by the snail from the sea water.



"Zoo-proof" Your Family! by Dave Nutting

Thousands of schools across the country are taking advantage of the educational opportunities afforded by fieldtrips to museums, zoos, botanical gardens, and aquariums. These are great places for "out-of-the-classroom" learning. Many of the larger attractions have bus-loads of school children attending most every day.

Since most of these places weave a huge amount of evolution into the displays, the children are further indoctrinated in the evolutionary, atheistic worldview.

Fortunately, you can now get a set of guidebooks to help you turn that temple of evolutionary secularism into a God-honoring, creationist tour.

The Museum, Zoo, and Aquarium Guides are beautifully illustrated with color photos and jam-packed with fascinating information.

Go through one at a time to become familiar with what your students will likely encounter, then go to a natural history museum, zoo, or aquarium to see the evolutionary



bias first hand. Afterwards, debrief your family by going through the guidebook again as a reinforcement.

If you don't have a museum nearby, you can use these with television programs or simply as a fun-to-read, family-oriented book.

To help your family stand firm in their faith, these 8.5 x 11" spiral-bound books normally sell for \$20 each, but we are offering you the entire set of 3 for just \$50. (US Postage/handling \$5. International shipping charged at actual rate.) Offer good through Nov 30, 2009.) Call today! **AOI**

A Mouthful of Evidence for Design

by Joyce Trump

Moray eels have been stereotyped as vicious predators, feared by divers around the world. While this reputation is largely undeserved, they are an excellent witness to the amazing complexity of God's creation.

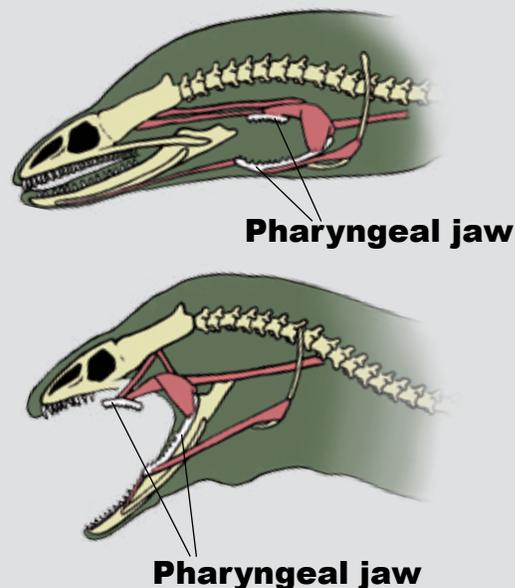


One of the reasons they are considered dangerous is because they are usually seen with their mouths open. Rather than preparing to attack, the morays are simply breathing. They must open and shut their mouths to move water across the gills. Since

morays hunt largely by ambush, a gaping pink mouth would be a drawback indeed. God did not overlook this detail. The insides of their mouths are patterned. Whether their mouths are open or closed, the morays are well camouflaged.

Morays have a unique system for feeding. Their heads are small, relative to their size, making it difficult for them to swallow. They have a second set of jaws, called pharyngeal jaws, in their throats. When they feed, these jaws launch forward, grasping the prey and pulling it into the throat where it can be swallowed. Morays are the only type

of animal known to scientists that possess these secondary jaws. Of course, God knew all along. After all, He designed them. **AOI**



One Tricky Cucumber

by Joyce Trump

At first glance, sea cucumbers are not very impressive. Although they bear a strong resemblance to the vegetable they are named for, they are actually animals. They are echinoderms, cousins to sea stars. Like the stars, they move slowly about on tiny tube feet. They also have an endoskeleton just below the skin, usually consisting of small calcified spikes. This adds to the vegetable-like appearance. These can sometimes be enlarged into flattened plates, forming an armor.

One remarkable feature of these creatures is the "catch collagen" that makes up their body wall. This can be loosened and tightened at will. If the cucumber needs to squeeze through a small crack, it can essentially liquefy its body and pour through the space. Once it's safely on the other side, the animal hooks up all its collagen fibers to

make its body firm again.

Deep water cucumbers form large herds that move across the ocean floor searching for food. Their bodies are made of a specialized tissue with unique properties that allow the animals to control their own buoyancy, making it possible for them to float to new locations with minimal effort, rather than crawling over every obstacle.



These slow moving creatures appear to be tempting morsels for hungry predators. However, some species can discharge a toxic chemical known as holothurin, which can kill any animal in the

vicinity. Some will eject a portion of their digestive system, to distract the predator while the cucumber escapes. Others can squirt out sticky tubules that entangle the predator, confusing it and slowing it down, again allowing the cucumber time to make its escape. The cucumber then hides

until the organs regrow in two to five weeks, depending on the species.

Many creatures can regrow lost limbs or tails, but how many can lose part of their internal organs and survive to grow new ones? Is this little animal just

a collection of happy accidents, or is it deliberately, ingeniously designed to survive in its environment by the Master Creator? Honest examination of the evidence can only lead to one conclusion. **AOI**

Directors' Column

by Dave Nutting



New AOI Website!

Thanks to Angeline who volunteered her technical ability and the AOI

staff/associates who put in many hours to make it happen, AOI has an updated website. Here is what to expect at www.DiscoverCreation.org:

- **Newsroom and Blog:** This will include creationist comments on new findings as well as AOI items of interest.

- **Search Function:** Find important information on a topic. This can be a huge help to students who were told that specific concepts prove evolution.

- **Kid's Corner:** Includes great information on a child's level and fun activities.

- **Seminar Information:** Watch for AOI events in your area. This section also includes resources to help your church host a seminar—pictures, biographies, seminar publicity, etc.

- **Creation Vacations and Tours:** Beautiful pictures and descriptions encourage people

to come so they can learn the truth of Creation and the fallacies of evolution.

- **Online Giving:** (See important note below).

- **Bookstore:** Includes specials and recommendations.

- **Much more:** Check out the new website:

www.DiscoverCreation.org

Quote: "A neighbor shared some of your wise newsletters that came. . . As a result you have prompted me to start reading the Bible now." (**Editor:** If you need extra copies to share, let us know! Hopefully you will make an impact on your own neighbor!)

Important On-Line Giving News:

AOI's Online Donate Link did not function during the transition period to our new website. If you had trouble with it, we certainly apologize. You can now go to www.DiscoverCreation.org and click on the donate button which is once again working! (We certainly encourage you to do that!) Of course, everything is always very secure. 

Thank You

Thanks to those of you who helped with our recent request for funds. Progress has been made, but there is still a ways to go. Please don't stop helping and praying! If you haven't yet taken the opportunity to help us stand in the gap for students and adults who are being devastated by evolutionary teaching, now would be a good time!

Upcoming Events

N = Nutting J = Johnson S = Stepanek G = Galbraith

- 9/12-19, **ICR Yosemite Tour**, Danielle Perez, (214) 615-8300, N
9/14-15, **Plymouth, MN**, Twin Cities Creation Society, Byron Twiss, (612) 730-9890, J
9/15, **Minneapolis, MN**, Redeemer School, Byron Twiss, (612) 730-9890, J
9/18-20, **San Mateo, CA**, Spiritual Development Weedend, Paul Esswein, (650) 342-0959, S
9/22-12/8, **Grand Junction, CO**, Christ Conservatory, Beth Stobbetten, (970) 314-7491, J
9/23-25, **Newman Grove, NE**, Fellowship Bible Church - NE, Scott Carlson, (402) 447-6322, J
9/25-26, **Mesa, CO**, Camp Hope 5-6th Graders, Bob Shaver, (970) 242-7970, N
9/27, **Montrose, CO**, Calvary Chapel - Montrose, Michael Shaver, (970) 240-9099, N
9/27-28, **Grand Island, NE**, Wood River Mennonite Church, Darrell Holzinger, (308) 380-6837, J
9/30-10/2, **Norfolk, NE**, Christ is King, Dale Taylor, (402) 841-0887, J
10/3, **Montrose, CO**, Calvary Chapel - Montrose, Michael Shaver, (970) 240-9099, N
10/3-4, **Chadron, NE**, Chadron Berean Church, Daniel Williams, (308) 432-4272, J
10/4-5, **Liberal, KS**, Emmanuel Southern Baptist Church, Wyatt Carpenter, (620) 624-5952, S
10/4-6, **Grand Junction, CO**, Church on the Rock, (970) 242-7625, N, G
10/6-8, **Ulysses, KS**, Celebration Baptist Church, Kevin Ross, S
10/11, **Fruita, CO**, Monument View Bible Church, Jan Bradford, (970) 858-3954, J
10/11-12, **Tribune, KS**, First Baptist Church - Tribune, Mark Randolph, (620) 376-4488, S
10/15, **Grand Junction, CO**, Combined Schools Seminar, Contact: Messiah School, (970) 245-2838, J, S, N
10/25, **Farmington, MN**, The River Community, Michael Ambrust, N
10/27-30, **Minneapolis, MN**, University of Minnesota, Grant Buse, (612) 644-0422, N
10/31, **Minneapolis, MN**, Maranatha Christian Fellowship, Grant Buse, (612) 242-8272, N
11/1, **Balaton, MN**, Skandia E-Free Church, Joe TutttMary Eisfeld, S
11/1, **South St. Paul, MN**, Miracle Center, Dr. Tom Jestus, (651) 457-4338, N
11/3-5, **Mankato Homeschoolers**, Johnathan Bislew, (612) 644-0422, N
11/3-5, **Mankato State**, Jonathan Bislew, (612) 644-0422, N
11/4-5, **St. Michael, MN**, Northwest Bible Church, Brad Selley, (763) 416-7700, S
11/7, **Youth for Christ - Blue Earth, MN**, Aaron Evanson, (507) 402-9388, N
11/8, **Mankato, MN**, Grace Baptist Church, Nate Johnson, (507) 388-9355, N
11/9-12, **DeKalb, IL**, Northern Illinois University, Tom May, (815) 519-5214, N
11/13, **Fruita, CO**, Monument View Bible Church, Jan Bradford, (970) 858-3954, J
11/14-15, **Burlington, IA**, 1st Assembly, Karen Brownlee, (319) 208-0878, N

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