

Think Believe

Discover Creation...Worship the Creator

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Train Your “Cubs” for Survival

by Mary Jo Nutting

In July, we were in Montana to teach two weekend creation family camps at Glacier Meadows Lodge and teach a church seminar in Chester, MT, in between. Since we had a couple of days off between seminars, we decided to take the opportunity to do some hiking in Glacier National Park.

On the way to one of the hiking spots, we came across a “once in a lifetime” show. A mama bear was trying to teach her three cubs to swim across a river. She swam part-way out into the water again and again but the cubs would not follow. So back to shore she would go. Occasionally we’d see her up on the shore with the cubs following. Then she would try another spot – or return to the same spot. I can only imagine what she was telling them, but she was very persistent in her efforts.

Finally, two of the cubs followed her across the river, but we could hear the third bawling loudly on the other shore. So back across she went. However, instead of staying put on the shore, the two cubs that were already safely across followed her back – one swimming in the water and one jumping on her back for a ride! At this point you would think any mother would lose her patience or just give up, but not this mama. She continued working with those cubs until she finally succeeded in getting all 3 cubs safely across the river.

Reflecting on this experience, I am reminded of how important it is to be diligent and persistent in teaching our “cubs” the knowledge and skills they need to survive in the hostile environment in

which they live. There are many dangerous “rivers” which young people need to learn to navigate in order to survive and thrive in this world with a vibrant faith. Students need careful and persistent teaching to learn to “swim” safely through the currents of popular philosophies and teachings.

There are so many dangers and obstacles to faith. Some of these are just natural hazards of living in a fallen world; others are dangers arising from our own sin nature. However, some are traps which are laid for the purpose of demolishing the faith of students and causing them to fall. (See the Director’s Column on page 4 regarding deception.)

In our experience, evolution is one of the major philosophies destroying the faith of unprepared Christian youth. It permeates our society and underlies many of the other destructive philosophies and obstacles to faith. Schools, textbooks, museums, national parks, the media, and even many churches present evolutionary philosophy as though it were scientific “fact.” As a result, many students begin to doubt or even reject the plain teaching of the Word of God. This can lead to

succumbing to ungodly thinking, destructive lifestyles, or even to out-and-out rejection and mocking of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

Scripture warns: “Beware lest anyone cheat you [literally, plunder or take you captive] through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.” (Colossians 2:8, NKJV) It also says, “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith ...” (1 Peter 5:8)

If we as parents, grandparents, and mentors really believed that there was a lion seeking to devour our children, would we be complacent or would we do everything in our power to protect them? Like the mama bear in Glacier National Park, we must be diligent and persistent in guarding our children and training them well for life on their own “in the wild.” (See our website for resources to help train your “cubs.”) **AOI**

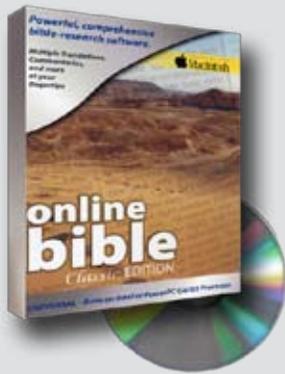


Photos by Dave Nutting

Resources Make Crucial Gifts



It was one creation book (**Evolution, The Fossils Say No**) that set us on the path to discover the truth of God's Word regarding Creation. Therefore, we see the importance of creation resources. This year, give gifts that can bring eternal rewards and strengthen youth and adults in the faith. Here are our top choices for Christmas 2010. You can get more details on our web:



Online Bible – 2010, Choose PC or MAC version! 70 translations of the Bible, many foreign versions, 45 commentaries, 12 creation books, + + +. Self contained. No internet needed. Special **\$25**



Answers Books
Don't send your kids to high school or college without first going through these with them! Each of the 3 volumes answers 25-35 common questions about creation/evolution. **\$15** each.



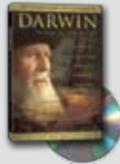
The Fossil Record The latest and up-to-date full color fossil book. GREAT! (10-Adult) **\$20**



Grand Canyon DVD A top Creationist Geologist shows how the layers and the canyon demonstrate the truth of the Bible. (10-Adult) **\$16**



Grand Canyon and Bryce/Zion Guide Books
What a gift! Both books are like taking a creationist guide with you. Full color, many foldouts. **\$15 ea.**



Darwin: The Voyage That Shook the World Theater quality! Subtitles in 23 languages. (10-Adult) **\$22**



Unlocking the Mystery of Creation 8.5 x 11 full color glossy is written so the whole family can understand it! **\$30**



Incredible Creatures That Defy Evolution
Elementary-adult. Live footage of creatures in action. Vols. 1, 2, or 3 **\$20** each.



AOI's The Hand of God
God wants to be found as evidenced by special patterns found in nature! (10-Adult) **\$5.00**



AOI's Discover Creation DVD set with 78-page color guide: 12 creation sessions with lots of high-quality visuals. Covers Fossils, Cavemen, Design, Relevance, Archaeology, Dinosaurs, Geologic Evidence, Age Issues, So-called "Proofs" of Evolution. Great for students, family, pastors, teachers, Sunday school, etc. (10-Adult) Special Price **\$50**



Given to Him – For those who love to worship the Creator! Wonderful music with breathtaking photography/DVD. (All Ages) **\$20**



Dinosaurs for Kids
The latest by Ken Ham. Packed with info from a Biblical perspective. **\$16**



Answers Books for Kids
Answers common questions kids (and adults!) ask. (Specify Vol. 1 or 2.) **\$8**



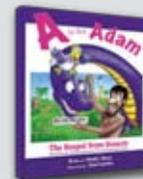
Dragons of the Deep
Water dwelling reptiles and fish capture the imagination of young and old! **\$16**



AOI's Discover Creation Adventure Kid's DVD Set
Creation presentations for kids packed with high-quality visuals. Set of 2 for **\$20**



D is for Dinosaur A curriculum book for teaching your children about Dinosaurs. Includes ABC's rhyme portion, coloring pages and info for you to teach your children. **\$16**



A is for Adam Same as D is for Dinosaur format, but focuses on presenting Genesis and the gospel message to kids. **\$16**



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The Peppered Moth Revisited

by Dave Nutting

Students, do you like being misled? Consider a classic “centerpiece” of evolution that has been taught for 50 years. Textbooks show photos of light and dark colored moths camouflaged on light and dark tree trunks. Texts and many teachers then tell a convincing story about the moths being “proof” positive for Darwin’s idea of natural selection and resulting evolution. The story goes like this:



Before the industrial revolution in Great Britain, a large number of light-colored “peppered” moths existed alongside a smaller number of darker “peppered” moths. After the industrial revolution, the light colored bark of the trees became darkened. It was noticed that the peppered moth population also shifted to a predominance of darker moths. Why? The dark moths, being better camouflaged on the dark tree trunks, were not seen by birds and consequently not eaten. They survived, whereas most of the lighter moths perished since they were easily spotted. The conclusion? This is natural selection or “survival of the fittest” at its best, showing evolution in action.

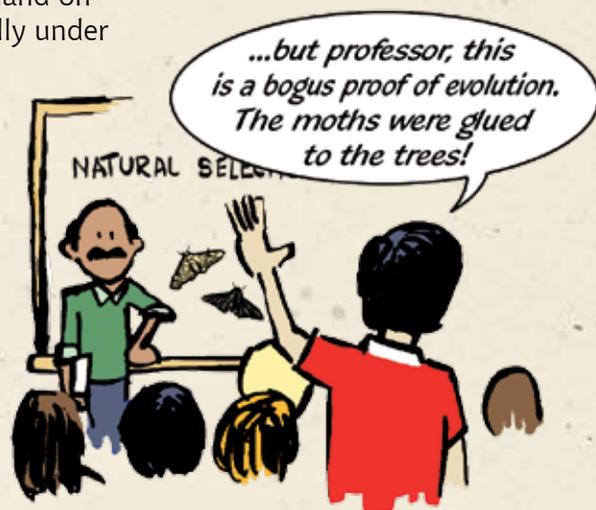
Convincing? Yes! ... True? Likely not! It certainly doesn’t “prove” evolution! Both varieties of moths were always present. There is no new “genetic stuff” – only color variations. The moths are still moths. It doesn’t explain how moths came to be in the first place or how “goo turned into you by way of the zoo” which involves going from no information to billions of encyclopedias worth of new genetic information.

Is it at least natural selection? Likely not! First of all, the moths

may be smarter than we give them credit for. They may have exercised habitat selection since they “preferred” trees which afforded better camouflage. Second, and most important, the classic textbook photos showing the moths on tree trunks are bogus! The moths are nocturnal so are not “naturally selected” by birds in the daylight. Also, they don’t normally land on the tree trunks but usually under the foliage. According to Jonathan Wells in **Icons of Evolution**, one researcher said that in 25 years of his research, moths were observed to land on the trunk only twice! So where do textbooks get the photos to illustrate this “classic proof of natural selection”? Good question! Wells reports that the

moths were placed, glued, and/or pinned to the bark of the tree, and then photographed!

Although some textbooks are quietly removing discussions of peppered moths, this classic textbook “proof” of evolution is still being taught even though it has been known to be wrong for 25 years! You can help get the word out. We posted this article to our website at <http://www.discovercreation.org/newsletters/PepperedMothsRevisited.htm>. Please forward this link/article to as many others as possible! **AOI**



Survival of the Fittest?

Natural Selection, or “survival of the fittest,” is the mechanism which is usually proposed to drive evolution. It seems obvious that those organisms, which are more “fit” in a particular environment or under particular conditions, will be those that survive. However, by itself, natural selection has no power to “create” anything. At best, all it can do is “choose” between organisms that already exist. Thus, it has no power to explain the origin of a new trait. Furthermore, since survival depends upon a whole suite of traits, selection for only

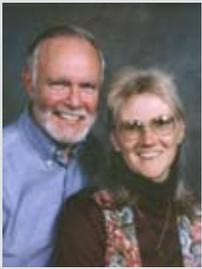


one particular trait would be rare. In addition, observations have shown that highly specialized organisms may have an advantage in a very specialized environment, but are much less likely to survive in less specialized environments or under changing conditions.

Thus, as an evolutionary force, natural selection does not seem to have what it takes to explain the origin or diversity of the vast array of organisms observed on this planet. For more information on the inability of both Mutation and Natural Selection to explain evolution, see www.discovercreation.org/newsletters/WhatstheEvidence.htm **AOI**

Director's Column

by Dave Nutting



Most atheists likely consider themselves to be “honest” atheists. Some atheists, however, openly say that a moral atheist is an oxymoron. **They actually suggest that deception is valuable.** Their claim is that since some animals use deception, why should the “human animal” be any different?

Speaking on the university campuses, I frequently hear the same false arguments. Sometimes, they are traceable to specific professors and sometimes to atheist websites. Some of those sites are so caustic and loaded with misinformation and half-truths that it's obvious whoever was writing them could not consider him/herself to be a moral atheist.

Here's the rub. Our Christian youth surf the internet and land on those pro-atheist and evolution sites. They may have

been directed there by teachers or “friends.” Lacking discernment to wade through the false arguments presented, some just believe and parrot the information back.

Mary Jo and I see this even in church youth groups and Christian schools. These web-surfers should ask, “How do I know if this site is written by an ‘honest’ atheist or by one who feels deception is valid? Why should I believe anything this site says if the underlying philosophy of the author (stated or unstated) is that it is OK to deceive?”

Keep in mind the evolutionary deceptions we reported on in T&B over the years: gill slits, yolk sacs, tails in human development, “convincing” pictures of transitions made from a few scraps of skulls. The Piltdown Man hoax in textbooks 40 years after it was known to be false. Embryonic similarity artwork was also still in books 100 years after it was known to be false.

Warning! Atheists are stepping up their attack. We hope you will prepare your children well. **AOI**

Creation Mountain Adventure If you missed a Creation Mountain Adventure at Redcloud this summer, you missed a great time of fun, facts, food, and fellowship. So mark your calendar and plan to bring the whole clan next year.

CALL FOR EARLY REGISTRATION DISCOUNT BY DEC.1

REDCLOUD FAMILY MOUNTAIN ADVENTURES

- REDCLOUD 1: JULY 31-AUG.5
- REDCLOUD 2: AUG.7-12

Dates for 2011

Upcoming Events

N=Nutting J=Johnson S=Stepanek

9/19-20, Casper, WY, Randy Wesnitze, 307-267-5363, S
9/21-22, Gillette, WY, Rocky Marquiss, 307-685-1115 (pending), S
9/23-24, Moorcroft, WY, Rocky Marquiss, 307-685-1115 (pending), S
9/24, O'Neill, NE, O'Neill Homeschool, Jenn Gonterf, 402-288-4325, J
9/26, Hot Springs, SD, Calvary Baptist, Matt Limb, 605-745-5663, S
9/26-27, Fremont, NE, Fremont Evangelical, Melinda Rathmothson, 402-480-5735, J
9/29, Pringle, SD, Black Hills Bible, Phil Shively, 605-745-6878, S
9/27-30, Hot Springs, SD, Cornerstone Bible Inst., 605-745-6878, S
9/29-10/1, New Castle, NE, Gospel Church, Chuck Myers, 402-355-1335, J
10/3, Crawford, NE, contact: Bill Bagley, 308-665-1140, S
10/3-4, Pipestone, MN, Faith Community, John Blosser, J
10/4-8, LaGrange, WY, Frontier School of the Bible, 307-834-2215, S
10/5-7, LaGrange, WY, LaGrange Bible, Tom Harves, 307-834-2248, S
10/6, Buffalo, MN, Buffalo Covenant, Mary Blosser, 763-6821, J
10/8, Buffalo, MN, Classical Conversations of Monticello Homeschool, Buffalo Covenant, Missy Olmscheid, 763-263-2781, J
10/10, Buffalo, MN, Buffalo Covenant, Mary Blosser, 763-682-1470, J
10/10-11, Lusk, WY, 1st Baptist, Matt Fox, 616-648-9628, S
10/11-14, DeKalb, IL, Northern Illinois U, Tom May, 815-753-1000, N
10/12-13, Harrison, NE, Matt Parker, 308-668-2206, S
10/15, U of WY, Laramie, WY, Todd Schmit, 307-742-9374, S
10/16, St. Cloud, MN, St. Cloud State, Atwood Memorial Center, 612-242-8272, N
10/17-18, Laramie, WY, Grace Baptist, Tom Schmit, 307-742-7988, S
10/18-22, Minneapolis, MN, U of MN, Grant Buse, 612-242-8272, N
10/19, Minneapolis, MN, Twin Cities Creation Assoc., AOI 970-523-9943, N
10/21, Minneapolis, MN, International Students Outreach, Grant Buse, 612-242-8272, N
10/23, Minneapolis, MN, Maranatha Christian Fellowship, Grant Buse, 612-644-0244, N
10/24, S St. Paul, MN, Miracle Center, Tom Jestus, 651-457-4338, N
10/25, Mankato, MN, Classical Christian School, Jonathan Bislew, 612-644-0422, N
10/26-28, Mankato, MN, Minnesota State U, Jonathan Bislew, N
10/29, Blue Earth, MN, Youth for Christ, Aaron, 507-402-9388, N
10/31, Mankato, MN, Maranatha Campus Church, Jonathan Bislew, 612-644-0422, N
11/14, Fruita, CO, Monument View Bible, Mark Fisher, J

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Has AOI's ministry impacted you? OOPS!

We gave an invalid email: Please send a note or email us a testimony for our website or to just encourage the staff. Proper email: (aoi@DiscoverCreation.org). Thanks!

Donations Needed!

Please support AOI to help young people trust fully in God's Word! We certainly need your help! Use the enclosed response form or donate online. You can also easily set up automatic monthly donations! Thank You!



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