

Science Magazine

COMPETITION RESULTS

Last month's **Evolution Special** asked for the changes **you** would like to see humans evolve.

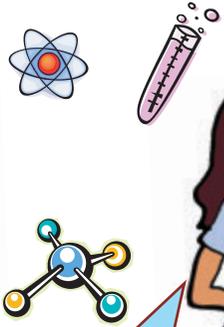
The winning ideas are:



Instead of getting fatter when we eat too much, our bodies could make oil to drain off and use for fuel
(Caz, Bristol)

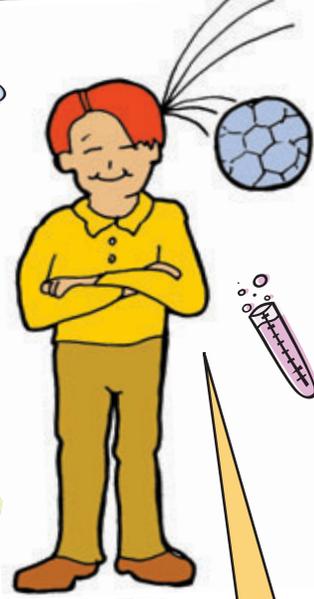


I'd like humans to have a detachable third eye so I can see what I look like without a mirror
(Matt, Newcastle)



Humans need a button to switch off the pain when they hurt themselves
(Samira, Manchester)

We need 'grip anything' skin on our hands and feet. Then we could climb up walls – just like lizards!
(Erin, Worcestershire)

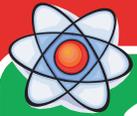


I'm always bumping my head. We need a layer of fat under the skin on our heads – like a cushion!
(Jack, Grimsby)

Talk about each idea:

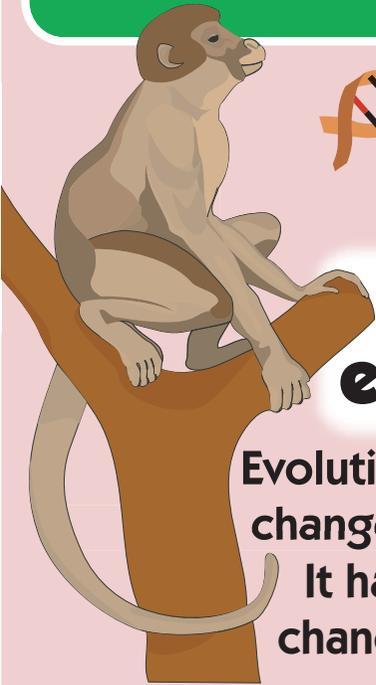
- Is it a good one?
- Would you like this feature on **your** body?

Read on to discover more about **evolution!**



A **Science Magazine** recently chose its Top Ten science achievements of 2005. The winner was:

evolution research!



What is evolution?

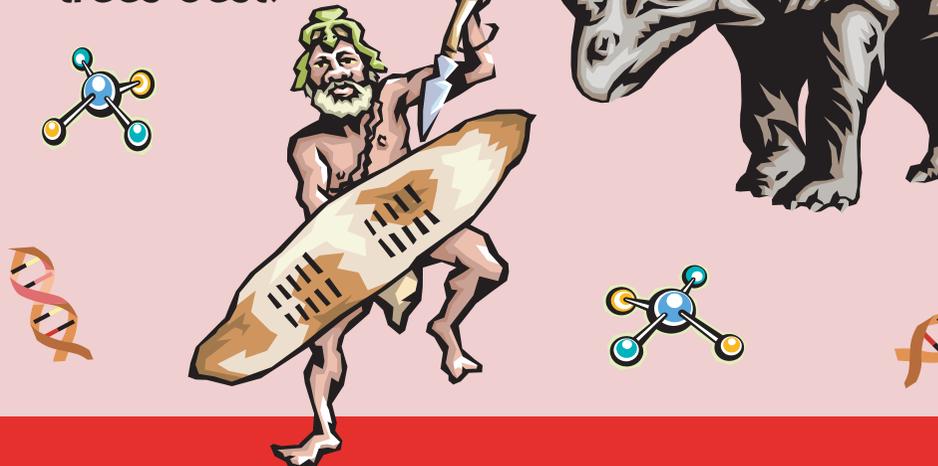
Evolution is a gradual change in living things. It happens by chance.

Babies are not usually exact copies of their parents. Some of their features are slightly different. For example, a baby monkey might grow up to have longer arms than its parents, so it would be better at climbing trees.

Why evolve?

Changes to habitats often trigger evolution.

Millions of years ago, our ancestors – apes – lived in forests. Then the forests died and were replaced by grassland. The apes who could run fastest survived, not the ones who climbed trees best.



Why study evolution?

- To help us understand – and fight – diseases
- To learn about who we are and where we've come from

Evolution – over to you!



Imagine you could control evolution. Design a new feature you'd like humans to evolve to help us to survive more easily.

The new feature I would like to see humans evolve is...

This feature would make it easier to survive because...

Here is a picture of a human with this new feature...

