HAVE YOU EVER EATEN CORN BEFORE?

WELL 10,000 YEARS AGO, THERE WOULD'VE ONLY BEEN ABOUT 7 KERNELS ON YOUR COB.

This can be explained by artificial selection! However, there is something called natural selection that accounts for why the majority of the life in the world is the way it is.

NATURAL SELECTION ARTIFICIAL SELECTION

Changes of a population based upon their ability to survive and reproductive success. It can be seen as a process:

Individual organism has an advantageous characteristic that allows it to survive.



The advantageous trait is passed from generation to generation and evolution occurs.



Changes of a population based upon how it can benefit a humans needs (influenced by direct human interaction)

Certain individuals have more appealing traits that benefit humans.

Humans utilize certain methods involving technology or selective breeding in order to increase the occurence of this trait.

Microevolution, or evolution over a short time period occurs to benefit humans.



THE EVOLUTION OF CORN!



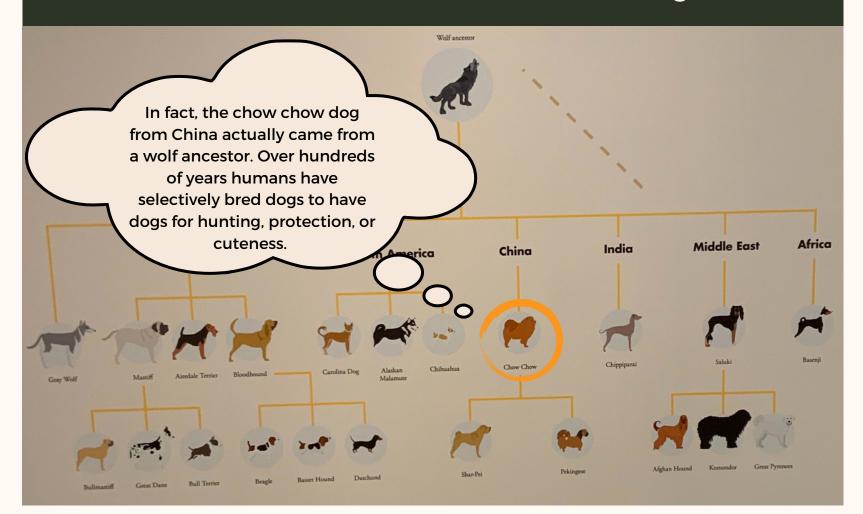
Wild teosinte progression to current day Maize photo credit: Terry Daynard

Wild Teosinte was naturally selected over thousands of years.

Maize is the result of artificially selecting wild teosinte for traits like larger ears and weaker hulls, eventually becoming maize.

Do dogs come from wolves?!

Yes! An example of Artificial selection can be how humans domesticated wolves to dogs.









 Goat farmers have recently recognized fainting goats as an official breed due to artificial selection.

True!

Fainting goats are selectively bred to induce a condition called myotonia congenita that causes goats to faint when they perform any extraneous activity. This prevents them from escaping.¹

2. Natural Selection only occurs with traits that are significant, noticeable physical changes.

False!

Charles Darwin found that any genetic change that allows an organism to survive and reproduce successfully will be inherited throughout generations. For example, squirrels are able to travel so fast because the gene for speed has been naturally selected throughout generations.²

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Sources::

- 1.10 Interesting Facts About Natural Selection. WorldAtlas. https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/10-interesting-facts-aboutnatural-selection.html.
- 2.Sheila Prakash | Jan 28 2008. How things work: Fainting goats. The Tartan. 2008 Jan 28 [accessed 2021 Dec 9]. https://thetartan.org/2008/1/28/scitech/htw

Photo credit: Terry Daynard (Wild Teointe to Maize Progression Photo) UMMNH ("Wolves to Dogs" Exhibit Photo)

