

Living Fossils

LS-3. Explain how variations in structure, behavior or physiology allow some organisms to enhance their reproductive success and survival in a particular environment.

LS-4. Explain that diversity of species is developed through gradual processes over many generations (e.g., fossil record).

Before Viewing: In the space to the left of each statement, place a check mark (✓) if you agree or think the statement is true.

During or After Viewing: Add new check marks or cross through those about which you have changed your mind

- _____ 1. Coelacanths are prehistoric fish that live today in the Indian Ocean off the coast of Indonesia.

- _____ 2. The Coelacanth has survived for many millions of years because many of its physical characteristics have changed to make it more adaptable.

- _____ 3. Coelacanths look very different now from how they appeared in the ancient past.

- _____ 4. Cockroaches are generalists because they can adapt well to many habitats.

- _____ 5. Generalists have a better chance of surviving millions of years than species that adapt only to a specific environment.

- _____ 6. Dinosaurs had hollow bones just like the birds of today.

- _____ 7. Both dinosaurs and birds used feathers to fly.

- _____ 8. Archaea are microbes that live in extreme heat such as deep sea vents.

- _____ 9. Horseshoe crabs have a unique immune system that scientists think may have helped them survive when other organisms became extinct.

- _____ 10. Fossils have been used to link the ancestry of birds to dinosaurs.