

# Evolutionary Theories

Theory	Main point	Rebuttal
Inheritance of acquired characteristics (Lamarck)	<b><i>The environment causes new traits, and those traits are then passed down to offspring.</i></b>	<b><i>Acquired traits cannot be passed down to offspring.</i></b>
Natural selection (Darwin)	<b><i>Selection allows only those with the best traits to survive.</i></b>	<b><i>Selection does not produce new traits.</i></b>
Mutation theory of evolution (De Vries)	<b><i>Mutations cause new traits.</i></b>	<b><i>Mutations do not make new genes. Most mutations are harmful.</i></b>
Mutation-selection theory (Neo-Darwinism)	<b><i>Mutations produce new traits, and selection allows the best of those to survive.</i></b>	<b><i>Too many mutation/selection events must occur at just the right place and time; selection works against partially evolved organisms.</i></b>

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# Evolutionary Family Trees

