

9-GY7 Hominid evolution

Apes: there were loads of different apes and some of them just couldn't adapt to the Earth, their environment, so they died out, and then some apes are still here now and there are monkeys. But then I think some of them were more clever and had more abilities to do stuff so when they had children they became, like, humans and then obviously they learned how to write, how to talk and do languages. That probably took about a million to a billion years, probably.

Claim(s)

There were more kinds of ape and monkeys than currently exist on Earth, but many others have become extinct.

Apes and humans share a common ancestor.

Any challenges to the expressed claim?

Anything to disagree with?

Any clarification needed?

Question(s).

Why would it be impossible for gorillas and orang-utans to interbreed?

Would it be possible for a gorilla to be trained to think and behave like a modern human?

Is it possible for chimpanzees to develop into people?

Note: See the PDF [Representations](#), in particular the cladogram that summarises hominid evolution. The time line on the cladogram indicates the most recent common ancestor (MRCA) of modern apes and modern humans to have lived about eight million years ago.

The 'ascent of man' image seems to be very frequently responsible for the mistaken idea that apes changed into humans in an individual linear fashion, rather than by species branching.

