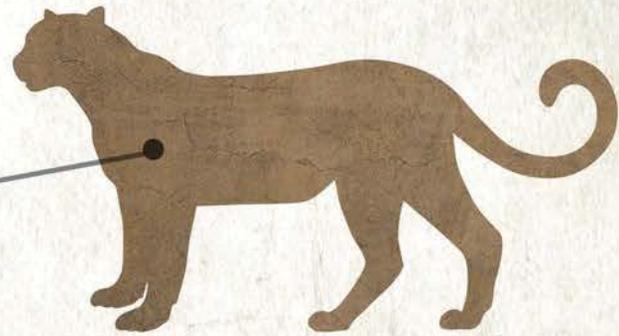
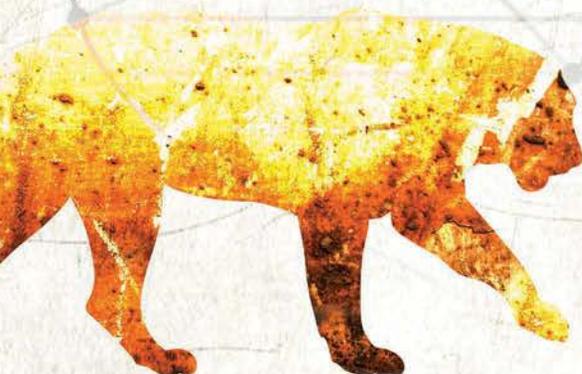
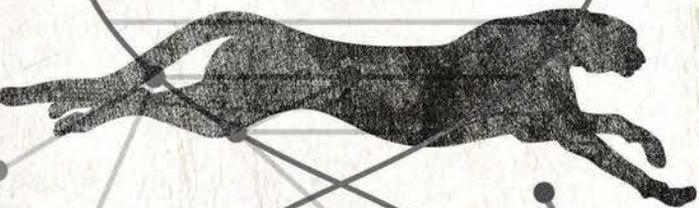
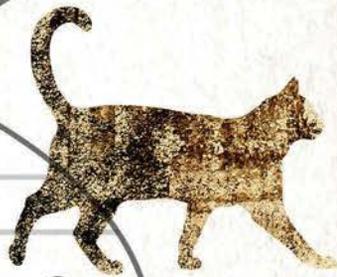




how many animals were on the ARK?



Understanding the Animal Kinds

general editor: Craig Froman

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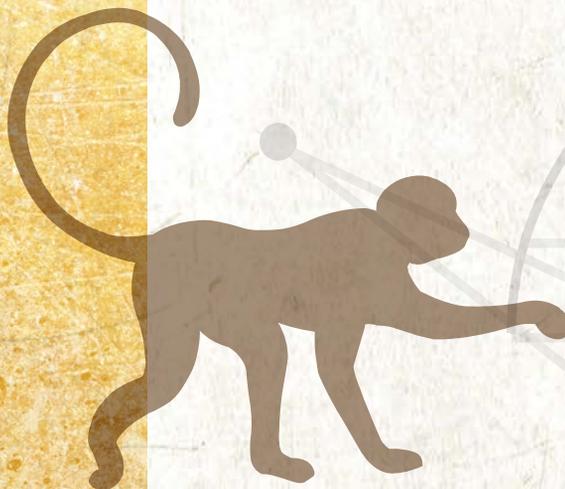
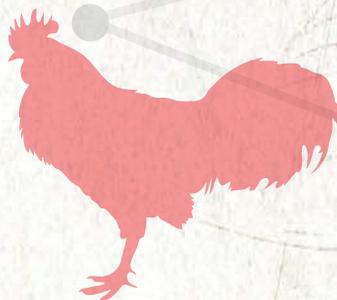
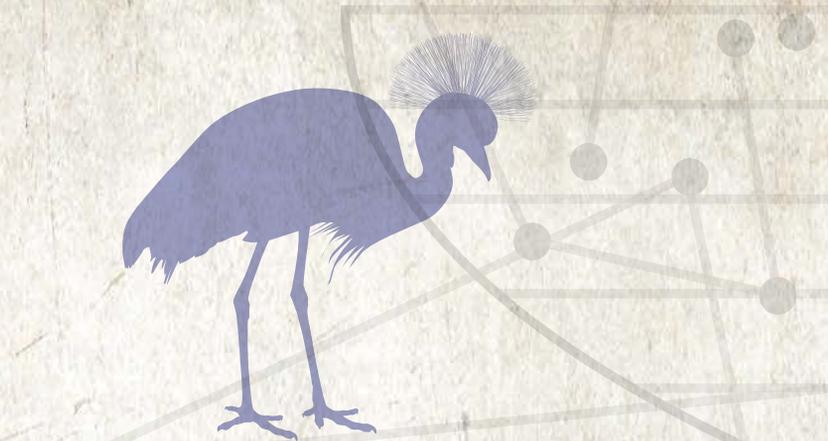
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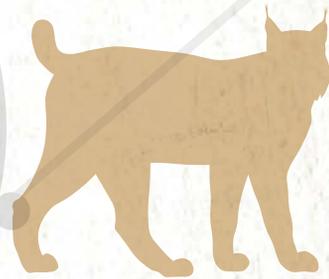
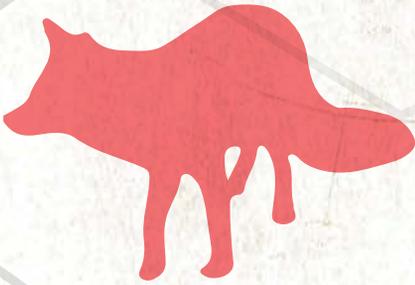
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Introduction

by Ken Ham

We have all seen the images of the bathtub Noah's Ark with giraffes sticking their necks out of the windows, and a few other pairs of animals hanging out with Noah, all with big grins on their faces. Something about it seems sweet, but more from a fairytale than a real account of faith and survival. How could an ancient boat carry millions of animal species in order to repopulate the entire planet across such wild waves of water? Is that even scientifically possible?

Most children and teens in today's church learn about the "real" things of science—things that can be physically analyzed and touched (i.e., fossils, rocks, etc.)—from an evolutionary framework. It's no wonder, then, that these young people believe that the Bible's history is wrong, thus leading many of them to conclude that the Bible is irrelevant and untrustworthy. That's one reason America's Research Group conducted research on what people in America believe about the Bible. On the subject of Noah's Ark, 86 percent of those in their 60s believed that Noah's Ark was actually built, but only 52 percent of those in their 20s believed this.





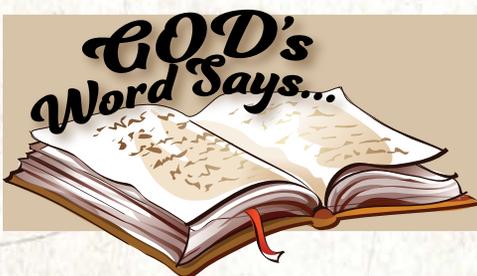
Noah's Ark

Yes, the real Ark had to carry considerably more animals than a few giraffes and elephants, and with cages and pens enough to keep them safe, along with food for Noah, his family, and all these animals for this long journey, tools, other provisions, seeds, and more. Well, don't scientists tell us there are anywhere between 2 or 3 million species or maybe more on earth? How could 8 people possibly care for that many animals and birds, and how could any boat ever carry them for a year or more?

You're about to take a journey back to the powerful Flood that reshaped the earth, and discover some of the mysteries of God's remarkable creation. And you will also see how some terms that scientists use actually make things

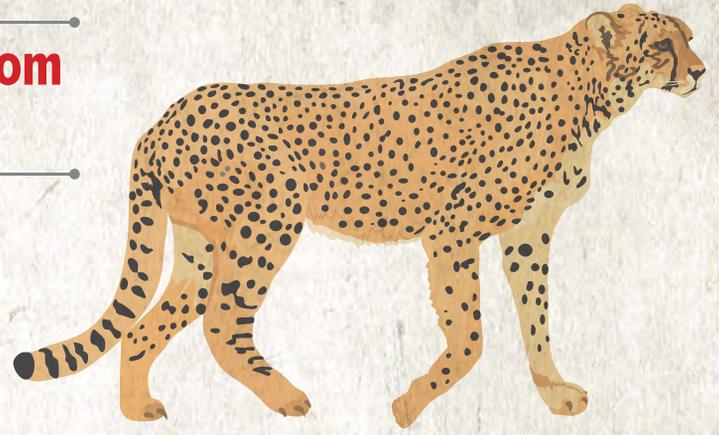
seem much more difficult and confusing than they need to be. Just how many animals did Noah and his family actually carry on the Ark? We don't know the exact number, because some have become extinct, but you'll find it's not really as many as some might think.

Fewer and fewer people seem to believe in the historical truth of the Bible, and the accounts of history in the book of Genesis are being questioned more each day, even by people in the church. This book was written to help answer some of the questions and concerns of those who can't quite seem to grasp the whole truth of Noah's Ark, and to strengthen the faith of those who already do.



By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith. (Hebrews 11:7)

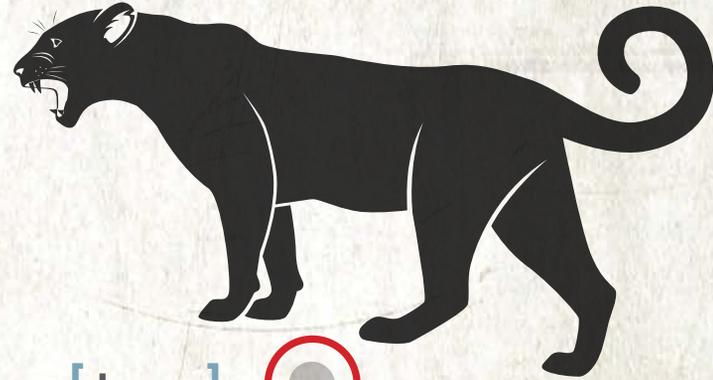
1 Did all animals really come from a single animal long ago?



[Cheetah]



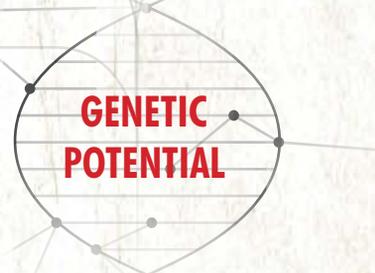
[Lion]



[Jaguar]



[House Cat]



**GENETIC
POTENTIAL**



[Original Created Cat Kind]

CATS ARE...CATS! According to Genesis 1, God made each type of creature “according to its kind.” Within their DNA, God placed the potential for tremendous variety, including new species. But every species belongs to its original kind—cats are still cats, and dogs are dogs.

WHAT EXACTLY IS A “KIND”? Our world is filled with a tremendous variety of life. And its origin is no mystery. The Bible says God created every kind of living thing on Days Three, Five, and Six of Creation Week. Ten times in Genesis 1 the phrase “according to its [or their] kind” is used in connection with different types of plants and animals. The word *kind* is used again in Genesis 6 when God instructed Noah to take two of every kind of land animal onto the Ark (and seven pairs of some); and in Genesis 8 God commanded these animals to reproduce after the Flood.

Since two of each kind of land animal (and seven pairs of some) were brought aboard the Ark for the purpose of preserving their offspring upon the earth (Genesis 7:3), it seems clear that a “kind” represents the basic boundary of a living thing. That is, the offspring of a living thing is always the same kind as its parents, even though it may have different features.



[STANDARD POODLE + LABRADOR = LABRADOODLE]

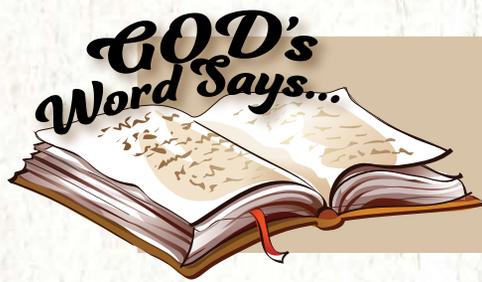
GONE TO THE DOGS! Dogs exhibit tremendous variety. Yet diverse breeds of dogs can produce offspring with each other—indicating that all dogs are of the same kind. Dogs will not interbreed with cats, however, since they are a different kind. Modern breeding research therefore confirms the biblical concept of animal and plant kinds.





ZEBRA + DONKEY = ZONKEY

Creation researchers have found that “kind” is often at the level of “family” in the modern way we classify animals. For example, zebras, horses, and donkeys all belong to the family Equidae and can mate with each other to form hybrid animals such as mules (from a donkey and horse) and zonkeys (from a zebra and donkey).

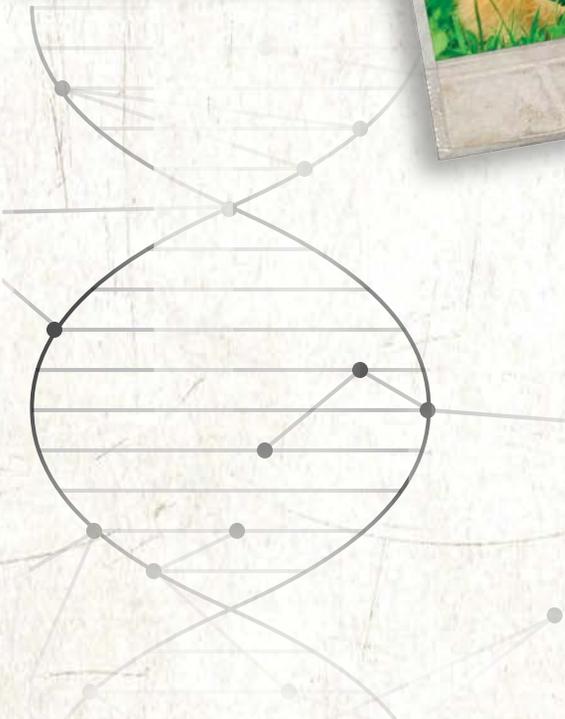
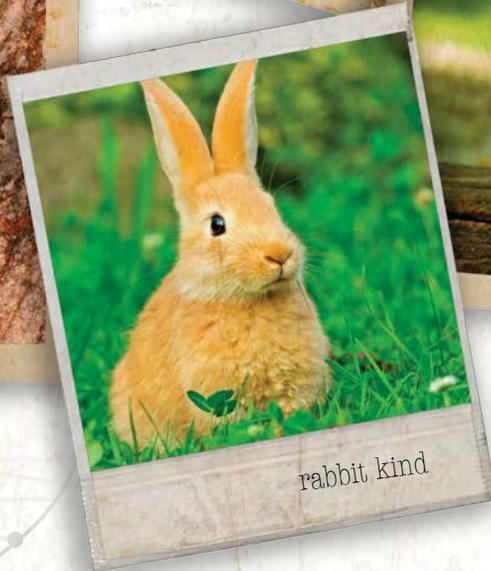
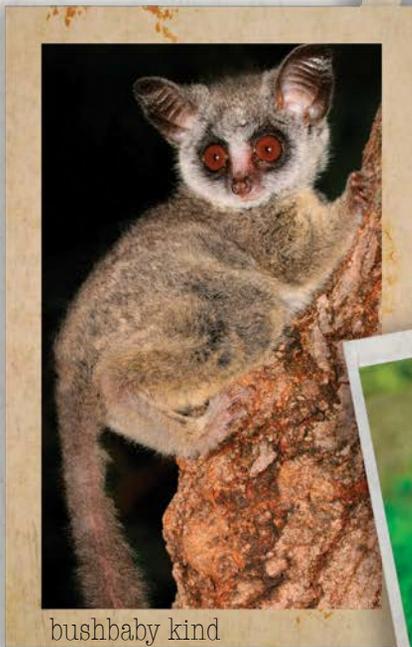


And God made the beast of the earth according to its kind, cattle according to its kind, and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.
(Genesis 1:25)

God placed the potential for tremendous variety within the original created kinds. This original created genetic diversity, in addition to mutations and other mechanisms after the Fall (such as natural selection), led to the great diversity of living things we see today.

BARA-WHAT? A modern field of study, called baraminology (from the two Hebrew words *bara*, meaning “created,” and *min*, meaning “kind”), attempts to classify fossil and living organisms into their original created kinds (or baramins). As creation scientists, we are not ashamed to stand on the foundation of God’s Word for our research and understanding of living things. More on this later in the book!

$$[\text{BARA} + \text{MIN} = \text{BARAMINOLOGY}]$$

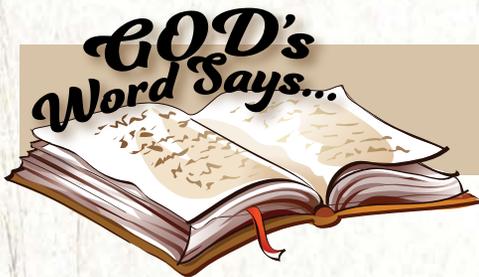


SO REMEMBER! Genesis 1 repeats ten times that God created creatures separately according to various “kinds.” Today’s species show the potential variation that God designed within the original kinds, but this variety remains limited—cats are still cats, and dogs are dogs.

2 Who is Carl Linnaeus, and what did he have to do with animal kinds?



The familiar system of scientific naming was developed by a creationist and biologist, Carl Linnaeus (lih-NEE-us), who developed the “two-name naming system” (or if you prefer, “binomial nomenclature!”). Each kind was given a broader name, the genus, followed by a more specific species name (e.g., *Homo sapiens* for human beings). The broader genus name is given first and capitalized, followed by the narrower species name in lower case, both in italics. This works with mountain lions as well: *Puma concolor*!



All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of animals, another of fish, and another of birds. (1 Corinthians 15:39)

Scientists recognize that biological classification involves several types of grouping techniques. One is recognizing and naming the true scientific species. Many scientists still use the system devised by Linnaeus in the 1700s, which is based on the ability to interbreed, as the primary basis for assigning genus-species scientific names. The part of biological classification that emphasizes giving proper scientific names to organisms is called “taxonomy.”

ORDER TO GO! Carl Linnaeus truly saw order in nature. He deeply valued God's Word and believed the Bible when it stated that God was the Creator of all things.

Linnaeus also gave us a series of taxonomic ranks for grouping created kinds into a series of categories that you may be familiar with: family, order, class, phylum (or division in plants), and kingdom. Examples illustrating Linnaeus' classification are shown on the next few pages. Those who believe in evolution tried to pirate Linnaeus' system, substituting made-up common ancestors for the variation in God's creatures.

Linnaeus laid a firm foundation on which other scientists could build. Scientists could apply his rules for naming plants to animals, too. For instance, all cats belong to the family Felidae. Scientists give a separate name for each species of cat. The jaguar is *Panthera onca*; mountain lion is *Puma concolor*; and leopard is *Panthera pardus*.

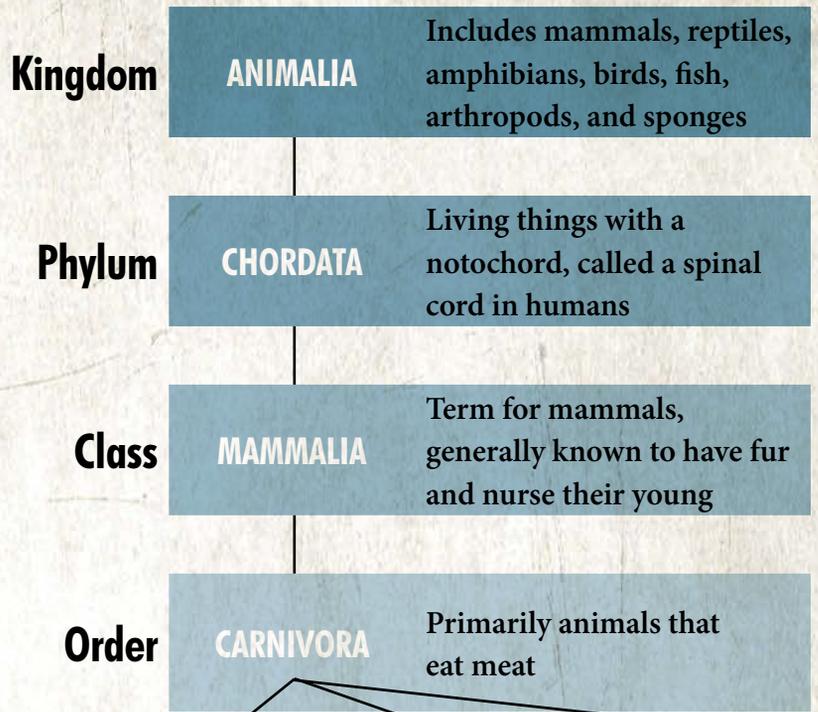
YOU CALL A MOUNTAIN LION A WHAT?

The biological classification goes from the general to the specific. Each plant and animal has a unique name that is shared by no other. The classification for mountain lion, *Puma concolor*, is:

MOUNTAIN LION	
Kingdom	Animalia
Phylum	Chordata (animal with a nerve cord)
Class	Mammalia (mother provides milk for the young)
Order	Carnivora (eats flesh)
Family	Felidae (cat)
Genus	<i>Puma</i> (an Inca name)
Species	<i>P. concolor</i> (one color)



TAXO-WHO? The taxonomic rankings shown in the chart were first suggested by Linnaeus in the 1700s, and are still often used by scientists today. Taxonomy is just a fancy word for sorting or classifying living things. And classification is simply the practice of sorting similar subjects together. A good classification system of animals and plants should start with the account of Creation in Genesis.





SO REMEMBER! Carl Linnaeus believed his classification idea simply showed the order that God had already put in nature when He created the universe. Linnaeus always spoke of the species as “the created kinds,” though creation scientists today know that the level of “family” is a better approximation of kind. Linnaeus developed a way to name plants and animals so that each living thing would have a unique — one-of-a-kind — name, and it’s still used today!

CLASSIFICATION SYSTEMS A garden, orchard, or huge field of small bushes might be used to represent a good classification system for a creationist. This would show many separately created kinds, each showing variation within its kind. Evolutionary beliefs about classification are usually represented as a “tree of life.” This evolutionary tree (quite different from the one in Genesis!) is meant to suggest continuity among all living things. With gradual changes progressing along branching lines of descent, it moves from one common ancestor to the multitude of separate species (“branch tips”) they show today.

Let’s look at mammals, for example, a group defined as animals that nourish their young on milk (from mammary glands). Whether they run (horses), swim (whales), fly (bats), or burrow (moles), or whether they are large (elephants) or small (mice), each mammal is 100 percent mammal. So within the mammalian class or “box” are smaller “boxes,” mammalian subgroups separated from each other by features considered to have less significance than milk production. Some types of these subgroups include those with membranous wings (bats, order *Chiroptera*), swimming mammals with blowholes (whales and dolphins, order *Cetacea*), and hoofed animals (ungulates) with an odd number of toes (e.g., horses, order *Perissodactyla*).

