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Crash Course Biology #11: Intro to Evolution: What We Can Learn From a Giraffe's Neck

Name: _____ Date: _____

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1. Blue whales breathe _____ even though they live in water.
2. The ancestors of whales had four legs and a mouthful of _____.
3. Over generations, whales developed _____ tails and lost their hind legs.
4. The process through which organisms change over time is called _____.
5. Evolution happens through _____ changes in populations over time.
6. The term used in science to describe the passing of traits from parents to offspring is _____.
7. Charles Darwin described evolution as "_____ with modification."
8. Genetic _____ are random changes in DNA that can be passed to offspring.
9. An example of an adaptation is the peppered _____, which changed color due to pollution.
10. The _____ nerve in giraffes takes an inefficient five-meter detour from the brain to the larynx.
11. Structures inherited from a common ancestor but used for different purposes are called _____ structures.
12. The study of where organisms live now and where they lived in the past is called _____.
13. The _____ still has remnants of hips, a leftover trait from its legged ancestors.
14. Some organisms, like brewer's yeast, can switch between _____ and multicellular forms.
15. All organisms on Earth share a _____ ancestor.

Crash Course Biology #11: Intro to Evolution: What We Can Learn From a Giraffe's Neck – KEY

1. Blue whales breathe *air* even though they live in water.
2. The ancestors of whales had four legs and a mouthful of *teeth*.
3. Over generations, whales developed *fluked* tails and lost their hind legs.
4. The process through which organisms change over time is called *evolution*.
5. Evolution happens through *heritable* changes in populations over time.
6. The term used in science to describe the passing of traits from parents to offspring is *inheritance*.
7. Charles Darwin described evolution as "*descent* with modification."
8. Genetic *mutations* are random changes in DNA that can be passed to offspring.
9. An example of an adaptation is the peppered *moth*, which changed color due to pollution.
10. The *laryngeal* nerve in giraffes takes an inefficient five-meter detour from the brain to the larynx.
11. Structures inherited from a common ancestor but used for different purposes are called *homologous* structures.
12. The study of where organisms live now and where they lived in the past is called *biogeography*.
13. The *snake* still has remnants of hips, a leftover trait from its legged ancestors.
14. Some organisms, like brewer's yeast, can switch between *unicellular* and multicellular forms.
15. All organisms on Earth share a *common* ancestor.

15 Questions

Answer Key Included

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