



Tree of Life

Introduction

In *Tree of Life*, students will watch complex species develop from a simple common ancestor. Each group of students has its own game board and will construct the game pieces, which represent the species, from plasticine and other craft materials.

This activity aims to provide students with an understanding of common ancestry, showing how all life on Earth is related. Students will also learn about mutations, extinction, speciation, the timeline on which evolution occurs and how complex life has evolved from simpler forms.

Events that took place throughout millions of years are modelled in a visual and hands-on manner that can be completed within a class period.