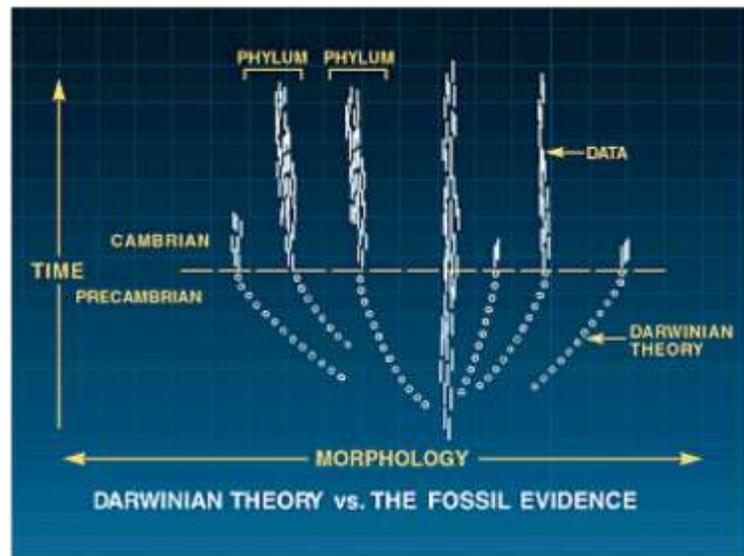
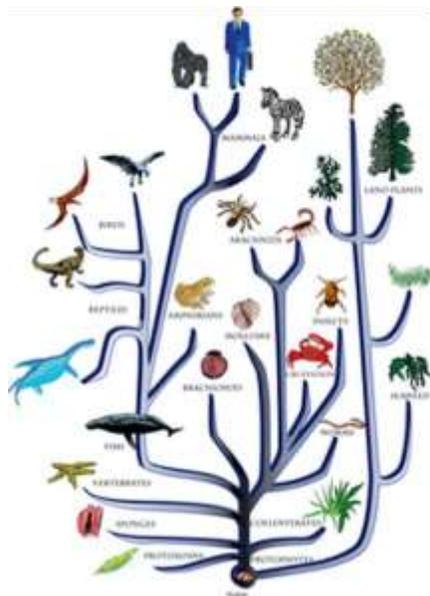


# The Fossil Record

One of the central predictions of Darwin's Theory of Evolution is that the mechanism of natural selection must work gradually on small incremental variations. This means that the fossil record should show a history of generally stable life forms with small variations that accumulate in rare cases into more significant changes and ultimately into new forms of life. However, what is actually observed in the fossil record is the exact opposite.

In the fossil record, new life forms appear suddenly with no evidence of precursors or ancestors (i.e. biological "[saltation](#)"). One well-known example of this is the Cambrian Explosion. As shown in the diagram below from [Evolution News](#), the actual fossil record from the Cambrian Explosion is completely at odds with Darwinian Theory. The fossils predicted by Darwinism are completely missing from the record.



The Cambrian Explosion and its refutation of Darwinism is discussed extensively in Stephen Meyer's book "[Darwin's Doubt](#)". In the book, Meyer also touches upon other discontinuities in the fossil record, including the [Ordovician Radiation](#), and the [Devonian Explosion](#) of plants (which is actually more "explosive" than even the Cambrian Explosion).

Some other examples of explosive discontinuities in the fossil record include the [Avalon Explosion](#), the [Permian Extinction/Explosion](#), and the [Jurassic Mammal Explosion](#). As explained by biologist Günther Bechly in his [series on the Ediacaran organism \*Kimberella\*](#):

Honest scientists cannot any longer ignore this substantial conflicting evidence. The fossil record speaks clearly and cries out loud: the history of life on Earth is a history of saltations. There is a reason why scientists called these abrupt appearances “explosions” or even “Big Bangs” of life. Guess which model better fits this evidence, Darwin’s theory of gradually “climbing mountain improbable” (a metaphor offered by Richard Dawkins) or rather intelligent design theory? It is not a difficult choice, unless your world view dictates what kind of theories are allowed.

Another example of the fossil record falsifying Darwinism is the whale fossil record. This has long been promoted as an icon of Darwinian evolution, but in fact has been [refuted](#) many times.

The pathetic responses of Darwinists to the evidence in the fossil record is perhaps best exemplified by [Berra’s Blunder](#), in which Darwinian evolutionist Tim Berra maintained that you could see evolution in action by observing how Corvettes changed from 1953 to 1955. The obvious response to this is that Corvettes are actually examples of intelligent design, not Darwinian evolution. Yet many Darwinists continue to [perpetuate Berra’s Blunder](#), even to the present day.