

BIO1300 The Human Animal
Topic 2: Primate and Humans
Key Words

The human timescale
Precambrian Era
Paleozoic Era
Mesozoic Era
Caenozoic Era
Evolution of bacteria
Prokaryote
Cyanobacteria
Photosynthesis
Atmospheric oxygen
Eukaryote
Multi-cellular life
Cambrian explosion
Land plants
Land animals
Terrestrial vertebrates
Amniotic egg
Pangea
Age of dinosaurs
Asteroid impact
Age of mammals
Early humans
Homonin lineage
Geological timescale
Permian period
Triassic period
Jurassic period
Cretaceous period
Tertiary period
Quaternary period
Species
Biological definition
Viable and fertile offspring
Mule
Male donkey
Female horse
Kingdom Animalia
Phylum Chordata
Class Mammalia
Order Primate
Family Hominidae
Genus Homo

Species sapiens
Primate ancestor
Arboreal
Pen-tailed shrew
Primate evolution
Small bodied and brained
Prosimian
Large bodied and brained
Simian/anthropoid
Old-world monkey
New-world monkey
Hominids
Family Hominidae
Great Apes
African apes
Asian apes
Homonins
Sub-Family Homininae
Humans
Common ancestor
Brachiation
Dexterity of hands and arms
Primate hand
Loss of claws
Evolution of nails
Opposable thumb
Opposable big toe
Toilet claw
Primate characteristics
Reduced snout
Decreased olfaction
Increased visual acuity
Number of teeth
Diversity of teeth
Heterodonty
Incisors
Canines
Pre-molars
Molars
Primate vision
Binocular vision
Depth perception
3D vision
Occipital lobe of brain
Bipedalism
Thinning of African forests

Greater time on ground
Advantage of distance vision
Freeing of hands for tool use
Skeletal changes
Foramen magnum
Sagittal crest
Brow ridges
S-shaped spine
Shorter arms
Wide pelvic girdle
Humerus orientation
Delicate hand bones
Toe pointing forward
Human lineages
Sub-Family Homininae
Sahelanthropus tchadensis
Bipedal
Small brain volume
Orrorin tugenensis
Bipedal vs. arboreal
Ardipithecus ramidus
Complete skeleton
Australopithecus afarensis
Fully bipedal
Lucy
Footprints in volcanic ash
Larger brain
Paranthropus sp.
Humid habitats
Tool use
Homo characteristics