THE WRONG THEORIES OF EVOLUTION

There were many wrong theories of evolution before Darwin published his discovery but not all of them were down to religion. 19th century rising French botanist Jean-Baptiste Lamark had his own theory of evolution: A characteristic of an organism strained becomes bigger and stronger, whereas if it is not strained it dies out. The characteristic that is improved by strain is passed down the genes to its offspring. This was called THE INHERITANCE OF ACQUIRED CHARACTERISTICS.

EXAMPLE OF LAMARK'S THEORY:



Why was Lamark's theory wrong?

His theory could not reason every organism on Earth as it suggests that everything will gradually become more complex and simple organisms would disappear. That is not true because simple organisms are still around today. On the other hand, <u>Darwin's theory</u> accounts for both complex and simple organisms so it's proof for everything.

EVIDENCE FOR EVOLUTION

Fossils

Plichippus

Merychippu

Echippus

FOSSILS are the remains or imprints of dead organisms in rocks and land. They show much- or how little- organisms have changed over time. For instance enough fossils of horses have been found to cover their main stages of evolution throughout 60 million years of existence:

> What are the disadvantages about using fossils as evidence for evolution?

Not all types of organism produce a fossil when they die so there are some gaps when trying to prove the main stages of evolution for particular species. This may be due to:

The organism is unable to fossilize Movements of the Earth destroying it The fossils simply have not been discovered yet The horse is only one of a few exceptions that scientists have found a fossil for every main stage of its evolvement.

Similarities between organisms

In his studies. Darwin realised that the embryos of completely different animals looked the same until a few weeks of conception. These similarities suggest an ancestral link between living organisms and that they could have the same origins.







Sudden Adaptions

These also support Darwin's theory because they explain that living things evolve to adapt to their environment over time. For example moths were mainly white to camouflage in the birch trees, until the Industrial Revolution where the trees blackened with soot. Therefore those moths with a black mutation survived better and were more likely to reproduce. Over time the majority of moths were born black because the white ones were poorly adapted to their new environment.