

Plants

- Plant-pollinator coevolution
 - Plants have become more effective at attracting specific pollinators
 - Pollinators have become more effective at exploiting specific plant resources and becoming better pollinators
 - The features of the flower can often tell us about the type of animal that pollinates it
 - Fruits develop from the pollinated flowers
 - The embryo will grow to become a fruit
 - An embryo plus stored food inside a protective seed coat
 - The wall of the ovary typically grows to form some kind of fruit
 - Fruit structure can tell you a lot about its seed dispersal
 - Spiny ones hitch rides on animals, feathery ones are carried by the wind, fleshy fruits are eaten and the seeds come out in waste material from other animals
 - Animal dispersed seeds/fruits
 - Are colorful and noticeable
 - Taste good
 - Are usually nutritious for the animal
 - Fruits and flowers have benefitted angiosperms greatly
 - Ability to use other organisms as pollinators makes reproduction much more efficient
- Angiosperms have a huge economic importance
 - Domesticated for fruit and nonflowering, vegetative parts
- Plant domestication
 - Before agriculture humans were nomadic hunters and gatherers
 - Shift to agriculture took place gradually around 8-12k years ago
 - Why the shift to agriculture?
 - Changing climate
 - Increase in population size
 - Could have come around by accident from manure piles
 - Domestication is a relationship between two species where one species exercises substantial control over the other in terms of...
 - Breeding (when they breed and with whom)
 - Morphology (physical appearance)
 - Genetic makeup
 - The timeline of domestication of plants and animals matches the shift from the hunter/gatherer lifestyle to agriculture
 - What did early farmers want in plant crops?
 - Increase in seed/fruit size
 - Decrease in seed/fruit coat thickness
 - Loss of seed dispersal mechanisms
 - Annual plants: only live for one year, grow quickly, and produce seeds quickly