PLANTIntroduction to Human Evolution and the Emergence of Early Humans

Introduction to Human Evolution

Welcome to our journey through time, exploring the fascinating world of human evolution! In this worksheet, we will discover the major stages of human evolution, from the emergence of early hominins to the development of modern humans. Get ready to uncover the secrets of our ancestors and learn about the significance of human evolution in understanding our place in the natural world.

Foundation:

What is human evolution? Draw a simple diagram to show how humans have changed over time.

Core:

Write a short paragraph explaining the concept of human evolution and its importance in understanding our species.

Extension:

Research and write about the different theories of human evolution, including the "Out of Africa" theory and the "Multiregional" theory.

Early Hominins

Let's travel back in time to the emergence of early hominins, such as Sahelanthropus and Orrorin. These early humans were characterized by their bipedalism and primitive tools.

Foundation:

Match the following early hominins with their characteristics:

- Sahelanthropus: _____
- Orrorin: _____

Core:

Describe the significance of the discovery of Lucy, a 3.2 million-year-old Australopithecus afarensis fossil.

Extension:

Analyze the fossil evidence of early hominins and discuss the implications for our understanding of human evolution.

Homo Habilis and Homo Erectus

As we continue our journey, we come across Homo habilis and Homo erectus, two species that played a crucial role in human evolution.

Foundation:

Complete the following timeline:

- Homo habilis: _
- Homo erectus: _____

Core:

Explain the significance of the discovery of Olduvai Gorge, a site in Tanzania containing some of the oldest known stone tools.

Extension:

Evaluate the impact of climate change on the evolution of Homo erectus and their migration out of Africa.

Homo Sapiens

Finally, we arrive at the emergence of Homo sapiens, our own species.

Foundation:

Draw a picture of a Homo sapiens and label their key characteristics.

Core:

Write a short essay on the significance of the emergence of Homo sapiens and their impact on the environment.

Extension:

Research and discuss the genetic differences between Homo sapiens and other human species, such as Neanderthals.

Fossil Record

The fossil record provides a unique window into the history of human evolution.

Extension:

Analyze the fossil record of human evolution and discuss the challenges of interpreting fossil evidence.

Human Migration

Human migration has played a significant role in shaping our species.

Foundation:	
Complete the following map:	
 Africa: Asia: Europe: 	

Core:

Explain the significance of the "Out of Africa" theory and its implications for our understanding of human migration.

Extension:

Evaluate the impact of human migration on the environment and the development of different cultures.

Human Culture and Society

Human culture and society have evolved significantly over time.

Foundation:

Draw a picture of a human society and label their key characteristics.

Core:

Write a short essay on the significance of language and social structures in human evolution.

Extension:

Research and discuss the impact of cultural exchange and diffusion on human evolution and development.

Ethics and Human Evolution

The study of human evolution raises important ethical questions.

Foundation:

What are some of the ethical implications of human evolution? Write a short paragraph explaining your thoughts.

Core:

Evaluate the impact of human activity on the environment and the responsibility to preserve cultural heritage.

Extension:

Research and discuss the role of human evolution in shaping our understanding of ethics and morality.

Review

Let's review what we've learned about human evolution!

Foundation:

Complete the following quiz:

- What is human evolution? _____
- Who was Lucy? _

Core:

Write a short essay summarizing the major stages of human evolution.

Extension:

Evaluate the significance of human evolution in understanding our place in the natural world.

Conclusion

Congratulations on completing our journey through human evolution! Remember, the study of human evolution is an ongoing process, and there is always more to discover.

Foundation:

Draw a picture of your favorite human ancestor and write a short paragraph explaining why you chose them.

Core:

Write a short essay reflecting on what you've learned about human evolution and its significance in understanding our species.

Extension:

Research and write about a current topic in human evolution, such as the discovery of a new fossil or the impact of climate change on human populations.