Evolutionary activities
for high schools

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Dear colleagues,

in this collection we present ten activities developed for high school students to promote awareness of the basic concepts of evolution, and thus facilitate a better understanding of a wide range of biology topics.

Evolutionary thinking, as suggested in a famous quote by Theodosius Dobzhansky, is crucial for understanding a great diversity of complex biological processes. However, an evolutionary perspective is rarely introduced in high schools and it is often difficult to find suitable materials that introduce evolution while covering the topics required by the official teaching curriculum.

The evolutionary activities introduced here can be used directly in classes, at seminars, or during hands-on activities. They cover a wide range of topics and consist of many different activities with various time requirements, from short reading activities to plant-growing projects spanning several weeks. Each activity comprises Teaching Notes and printable Student Sheets, together with other printable material when applicable. Most of the activities can be incorporated into the classes with minimal effort from the teacher. However, for the best experience, it is important that the teacher actively participates in the activities and checks whether all students understand the instructions correctly.

All activities were developed and tested at the C.S. Lewis Bilingual High School in Bratislava, written up and published with the support from the ESEB Outreach Initiative. The production of the English version was supported by IST Austria. We are happy to answer any questions and would appreciate any feedback or suggestions at evolucia.pre.skoly@gmail.com.

We hope you will enjoy the collection and find the activities useful for your biology classes.

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