

Brookwood High School

2011 Summer Reading

Course name: AP Biology

Objective: To be introduced to a broad range of topics that we will cover this year and that relate to the theory of evolution

Lists of titles: *Survival of the Sickest* by Sharon Moalem

Your Inner Fish by Neil Shubin

Special instructions or assignments: Read the directions below

Assessment: For each of the questions, construct a 2-3 paragraph response (6-8 sentences per paragraph) to be turned in **ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL**. You may download this sheet and type your response or you may write the answers on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Explain the role of “trade-offs” that are discussed within *Survival of the Sickest*. How do these trade-offs relate to evolution? Cite specific examples from the book within your response.
2. Describe the aquatic ape theory that is referenced by Moalem in *Survival of the Sickest*. Do you agree or disagree with this theory? Explain your reasoning.
3. What was the evolutionary significance of Shubin’s fossil discovery? What were some characteristics that made it unique?
4. The book *Your Inner Fish* focuses on many discoveries in genetics that have been made. Provide a detailed explanation in regards to the genetic discoveries that you think are the most significant in contributing to our understanding of evolution.
5. After reading both books, how would you describe the theory of evolution to someone who has never heard about the theory? Provide a detailed description using some of the concepts from the books to assist with your explanation.