

12th February 2009 is the 200th anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin. Scientists, Humanists and Atheists everywhere will celebrate his birth in a variety of ways. Darwin's voyage on the Beagle to the Galapagos Isles prompted the research that eventually led to the publication of 'On the Origin of Species', setting out his theory of evolution by natural selection. He concluded the book with this observation on his theory:



"There is grandeur in this view of life, with its several powers, having been originally breathed into a few forms or into one; and that, whilst this planet has gone cycling on according to the fixed law of gravity, from so simple a beginning endless forms most beautiful and most wonderful have been, and are being, evolved."

As we celebrate Darwin's achievements, Creationists refuse to accept evolution, believing that all life originated with a magic trick performed by God in seven days, a few thousand years ago, despite all the evidence to the contrary. Some have been teaching schoolchildren this nonsense; if you hear of any examples, we'd like to know about them.

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