



Yeti is Yogi claims evolve, as Aussie roos get a fifth wheel, giraffes found to be brilliantly designed and shocking finds about electric eels make more creation based predictions possible, while the Creation Guy John Mackay is in Kiwi land addressing a conference today on just how great Jesus our Creator and Saviour really is, and the rest of the team is looking forward to a teaching time in Tassie soon, so enjoy Evidence News 12/14 with EDitorial COMmentary and become a regular financial supporter today [CLICK](#).

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1. **YOGI YETI ... BEAR FACTS ABOUT BIGFOOT**, according to articles in Science (AAAS) News 1 July 2014 and *Biology Letters* 2 July 2014, doi: 10.1098/rspb.2014.0161. Two years ago scientists at University of Oxford, UK and the Museum of Zoology in Lausanne, Switzerland put out a request for any samples of hair which people claimed to be from creatures known as Bigfoot, Sasquatch, Yeti, Abominable Snowmen and any other mysterious elusive, hairy, humanoid creatures believed to live in remote mountainous places.

They received 57 samples from various places, including Washington, Texas, Oregon, Russia, India and Bhutan. Thirty samples had enough DNA to enable species identification using a gene for 12S RNA. One turned out to be human hair, and all others were all from known species of animals: bears, horses, dogs, wolves, cattle, raccoons, deer

and a porcupine. The most intriguing find was that two samples from India and Bhutan had a 12S RNA gene that was a match for polar bears. However, the hairs were not white. The India hairs were golden-brown, and the hair from Bhutan was reddish-brown in appearance. Bryan Sykes, a geneticist at Oxford University, hopes to follow up this finding to see if Himalayan bears are a hybrid species with polar bears.

Link: [Science](#)

ED.COM. Having been in Alaska where hybrids between polar bears and brown bears are well documented, it doesn't surprise this editor or our team that other bear species show evidence of being closely related to polar bears. Since polar bears are actually 'degenerate' bears that have lost their black (they are still totally black under all that 'translucent hair') so we await with interest the follow up study on bear genetics. However, this one gene does provide more evidence that all species of bears, whether they live in the Himalayas or Arctic coastlines, are descended from one created kind, whose descendants have spread out over the earth fairly recently. (Ref. *Ursus maritimus*, genetics)

**2. ELECTRIC FISH CONVERGE**, according to reports in ScienceDaily 26 June 2014, ABC News in Science 27 June 2014 and *Science* vol. 344, p1522, 27 June 2014, doi: 10.1126/science.1254432. A team of scientists from a number of institutions in USA have assembled the genome of the electric eel *Electrophorus electricus* and identified the genes and biochemical pathways involved in the growth and development of electric tissues. They then looked for similar genes in other electric fish and compared them with the electric eel. There are six different fish that have an electricity producing organ, but they are far apart on the evolutionary tree. Therefore, the researchers claim electric organs "are a distinct vertebrate trait that has evolved at least six times independently. The taxonomic diversity of fishes that generate electricity is so profound that Darwin specifically cited them as an important example of convergent evolution".

The new study revealed that all electric fish have the same genes and biochemical pathways to build the electric organ. One of the scientists, Jason Gallant, a zoologist at Michigan State University, explained: "The surprising result of our study is that electric fish seem to use the same 'genetic toolbox' to build their electric organ". The research team concluded their report: "Our analysis suggests that a common regulatory network of transcription factors and developmental pathways may have been repeatedly targeted by selection in the evolution of EOs, despite their very different morphologies. Moreover, our work illuminates convergent evolution of EOs and emphasizes key signaling steps that may be foci for the evolution of tissues and organs in other organisms". (EOs are electric organs)

Links: [ABC](#), [ScienceDaily](#)

ED.COM. Notice they have to use the language of creation, e.g. "use the same genetic toolbox to build ..." when describing their findings. Once again we see evolutionists hiding behind the excuse of "convergent evolution" to explain away a problem with evolutionary trees. The researchers' claim that genes and biochemical pathways for electric organs were "repeatedly targeted by selection" does not actually explain anything. Biological structures and processes can only be targeted by selection if they already exist. You cannot select for something that doesn't exist. What this study really shows is that there are certain biological components and processes needed for cells to produce electricity, and therefore, all electric fish have them, along with the genes that code for them. From this study we see that electric fish are a good example of the creation-based principle that each kind of living thing is a unique combination of non-unique parts. This is exactly what you expect to result from living things being created as separate fully functional kinds, that have since reproduced after their kind, just as Genesis tells us God did. (Ref. ichthyology, electrocytes, genetics)

**3. FIVE LEGGED KANGAROO WALK** reported in Science (AAAS) News 1 July 2014 and ABC News in Science 2 July 2014. Kangaroos are renowned for fast hopping on their two back legs. However, when they are moving about slowly as they graze they place their front legs and tail on the ground, like a tripod and swing their back legs forward. It has always been assumed the tail was simply a prop or strut to provide balance and hold the body in place. Terry Dawson, of the University of New South Wales, and colleagues have measured the amount of force exerted by the tail and legs as they walk by getting kangaroos to walk along a path that had force detectors embedded in it. They found the tail could exert as much force as the back legs, and when the back legs were being lifted forward, it was the tail that provided the propulsion, with the front legs acting as struts. Max Donelan, a biomedical engineer at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, Canada, who was also involved in the study, explained: "We found that when kangaroos are walking pentapedally—which they spend more time doing than hopping—they use their tail just like a leg". (Pentapedally means to walk on five feet.) These results fit with previous studies of the muscles of the legs and tail,

which show that the muscles in the hind legs and tail have many mitochondria – intracellular power generators that enable muscles to efficiently burn fuel using oxygen. The forelimb muscles have far fewer mitochondria, making those muscles less energy efficient. Researchers suggest that using tails for walking enable Kangaroos to reduce the size and weight of front legs, which made hopping more efficient as they evolved.

Links: [ABC](#), [Science](#)

ED. COM. Another chicken-and-egg problem for evolutionists – what came first: tiny forelegs or walking tails? Either by itself is of no advantage to an already existing quadruped that can get around perfectly well on four legs. Furthermore, since we have personally excavated fossil roos including the giant ones, there is no evidence, fossil or living, that kangaroos were ever anything but roos, in all their enormous variety from today's giant reds down to tiny potoroos. Let's be honest ... it truly is more logical to believe the kangaroo body plan is the result of creative intelligent plan and purpose, designed by a Creator who knew how to best make an animal that hops and walks, and so gave it the appropriate limbs and tail, with the appropriate muscles. Goo to Roo by way of evoluzoo is and always will be nonsense. (Ref. macropods, marsupials, locomotion, gait)

**4. UPRIGHT WITH GIRAFFES**, as reported in BBC News and Sciencedaily 3 July 2014. Giraffes not only have long necks, but also long thin legs that don't seem robust enough to support their weight. Christopher Basu of the Royal Veterinary College, London explained: "Giraffes are heavy animals (about 1,000kg), but have unusually skinny limb bones for an animal of this size. This means their leg bones are under high levels of mechanical stress". Basu and colleagues measured the forces that giraffe legs can stand, using legs of giraffes that had died in captivity and applying force with a hydraulic press to simulate body weight.

They found the legs remained upright and stable with no additional support, even when subjected to greater forces than the giraffe's body weight. It seems a long strong elastic ligament, named the suspensory ligament, provides the extra strength and stability needed to prevent the legs from collapsing. The bones in the giraffe's legs have a deep groove running along their length to house this ligament, which is also thought to prevent the foot joints from overextending and thus also protect the feet from collapsing. Because the ligament is made of strong elastic tissue, rather than muscle, it provides passive support, which means giraffes do not need to use much muscle power simply to stay upright. Basu said he would "like to link modern giraffes with fossil specimens to illustrate the process of evolution. We hypothesise that the suspensory ligament has allowed giraffes to reach large sizes that they otherwise would not have been able to achieve".

Links: [BBC](#), [ScienceDaily](#)

ED. COM. WE PREDICT that the fossil record will illustrate that members of the giraffe family have always had such a bone groove and ligament and that prediction is creation based. Likewise if the suspensory ligament had to evolve by chance, you don't need to answer the old query ... how sufficient numbers of half-evolved giraffes, without suspensory ligaments, could have avoided falling over and breaking legs whilst waiting for the right genes to evolve and be passed on to the next generation of increasingly taller giraffes. The giraffe has been used by atheist sceptics like Richard Dawkins as an example of bad design, and therefore, evidence against creation. However, as this study shows, the more we study the strange and wonderful creatures in this world, the more evidence we find for clever design and forward planning.

This research, and the actual results, not the researchers evolutionary interpretation, reminds us how science really works – we see something odd, we do more research to find out how it works. Writing things off as bad design and accidents of evolution, just because we don't understand them, is not science. The true scientific approach to the world around us is based in the fact that man was created in the image of God, with understanding and a creative mind and told to rule over the earth and in order to do this we need to study it in a systematic way. Furthermore, it is worth studying because it was created by God, who does not change, and who has set up the world to function in consistent and logical ways. (Ref. anatomy, mammals, wildlife)

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