

More Mechanisms of Evolution Practice

- **Natural selection:** Nature selects which traits are more beneficial to a species' survival
- **Gene flow:** Organisms will migrate in (immigration) or out (emigration) of populations.
- **Genetic drift:** A population will experience a loss of diversity either through a natural disaster (bottleneck effect) or the start of a new population (founder effect).
- **Sexual selection:** Certain traits will make individuals more likely to attract a mate and reproduce.
- **Mutation:** A new allele will arise, which will change the allele frequencies and potentially have other effects.

Directions: Read the following descriptions and determine which mechanism of evolution is being described.

Description	Mechanism of Evolution
In a population of agouti rabbits (which are normally varying shades of brown or tan), one family has a litter of babies that are all pure white.	
Some lizards have adapted the ability to shoot blood from their eyes and scare away predators, allowing them to survive longer and reproduce more.	
Lions fight with one another on the African savannah, and the winner is allowed to take control of the pride and reproduce with all the lionesses.	
A group of English colonists become shipwrecked on the remote island of Nauru in Micronesia. Over time the colonists and native Nauruans intermarry and have children.	
Different populations of parrots are constantly migrating between different regions of the continent as the seasons change, allowing them to share their gene pools regularly.	
After an earthquake, only a few individuals in a population of wolves survive to repopulate Yellowstone National Park.	
In peacocks, males with larger and more colorful tails are more likely to attract a receptive female during mating season.	
Two primate parents recently gave birth to a baby that has two thumbs instead of only one like usual.	
Hummingbirds have beaks of varying lengths, but only birds with long, thin beaks are best adapted to reaching the nectar of the flowers that are most common in their environment.	
A small cluster of zebra mussels from the Caspian Sea are accidentally transported to Lake Michigan on a ship and start a new colony.	