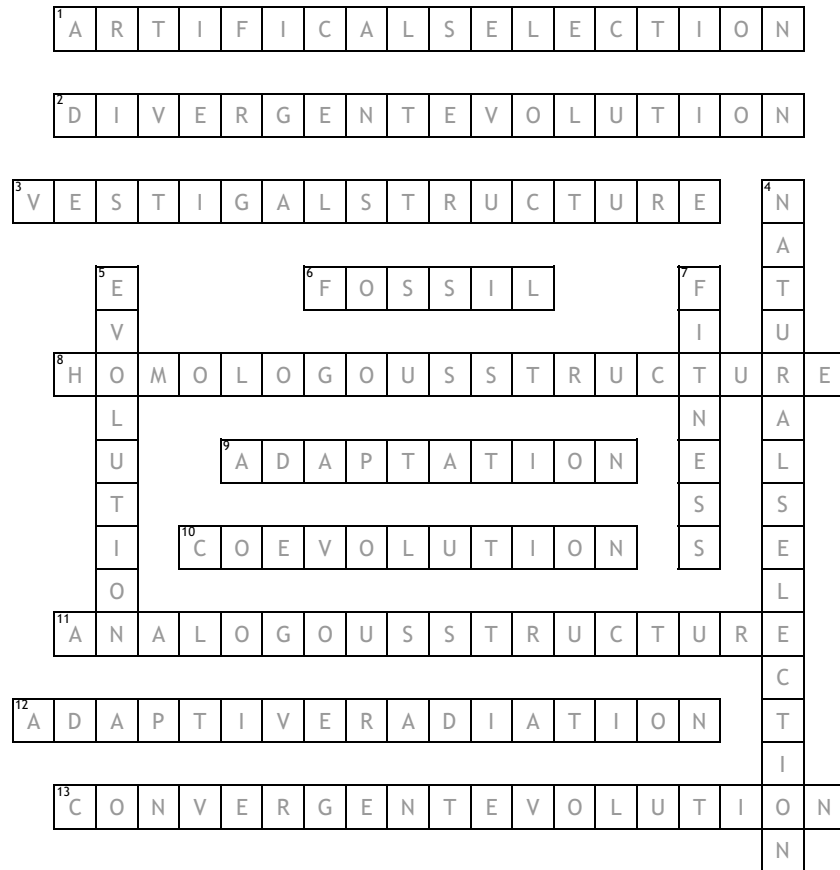


THE THEORY OF EVOLUTION AND NATURAL SELECTION



Across

- the intentional breeding of plants and animals
- the accumulation of differences between groups which can lead to the formation of new species
- a structure in an organism that has lost all or most of its original function in the course of evolution
- any preserved evidence of life from a past geological age, such as the impressions and remains of organisms
- structures derived from a common ancestor or same evolutionary or developmental origin
- a trait with a current functional role in the life of an organism that is maintained and evolved by natural selection
- the influence of closely associated species on each other in their evolution
- similar form or function, but that were not present in the last common ancestor of those groups
- the diversification of a group of organisms into forms filling different ecological niches
- the process whereby organisms not closely related, independently evolve similar traits

Down

- any characteristic of an individual that allows it to survive to produce more offspring
- change in the heritable traits of biological populations over successive generations
- the genetic contribution of an individual to the next generation's gene pool relative to the average for the population