

Activities At-A-Glance

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Questions to Explore										
Across All Episodes	10	K - 12	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Episode-by-Episode	11	6 - 12	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Phylum Fun for Young Children	14	K - 2	•	•		•	•	•	•	•
Wall Displays Can Grow on You	17	3 - 12	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
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See
www.shapeoflife.org
for information
about ordering the
complete set of *The*
***Shape of Life* DVDs.**

The Shape of Life Activity Guide

Explorations, activities, and lessons to accompany *The Shape of Life* video series for informal science educators, teachers, students, and families

Dear Educators and Parents,

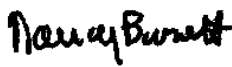
It's one of the greatest – and most perplexing – biological mysteries of all time. How did animal life emerge on Planet Earth? Now, thanks to a recent revolution in scientific understanding, it is a story that can at last be told. *The Shape of Life* television series chronicles this revolution, where breakthroughs in genetics, paleontology, and biology are enabling scientists to rewrite – with unprecedented detail – the rise of animal life on Earth. Clue by clue, scientists are piecing together how the first animals of Earth have led to the astonishing diversity of creatures we know today.

The Shape of Life is a celebratory tale that probes our most basic queries about our biological beginnings: What are animals? How did the diversity of animals that surround us come to be? Why do animals look, behave, and function as they do? How has this history been shaped by the raw genetic material available when animals first appeared? How did the opportunities and constraints of a few, simple body plans affect the process of evolution?

The activities and explorations contained in this companion to the television series make the messages of *The Shape of Life* relevant to learners of all ages. For additional activities, explorations, and information, follow the links on www.shapeoflife.org. Enjoy and learn!



Mark Shelley,
Executive Producer



Nancy Burnett
Executive Producer

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