



Unit Introduction

All of God's creation displays great diversity. Nature allows us to see and understand the intelligent mind of its maker. As diverse and as large as all creation is, everything God has done was done with a sense of order and organization. For this reason, it is no surprise that the scientific world seeks to do the same.

Taxonomy is the branch of biology that studies living things for the specific purpose of classifying them in an orderly manner. In this unit, we will explore the reasons, methods, and outcomes of classification.

In the modern days of science, it is very difficult to teach classification without the influence of secular theories of evolution. Finding helpful resources and teaching materials that are not rooted in evolution seem to be near impossible. This is the main reason for this unit: to provide resources and teaching materials not grounded in evolutionary theories.

The information in this unit does not present classification as a means to explore evolutionary history of species, but rather to reveal how it is used as a means to show similarities between species.

This unit is designed for grades 6 – 12 Biology, Life Science, and Ecology courses. It may take 10 – 15 class periods to complete all lessons, project labs, and assessments.

In this unit, students will be able to:

- Describe various methods of classification
- Write and explain the importance of using scientific names
- Organize and explain the various taxa levels used in classification
- Identify the determinants of relationship between species
- Identify the six kingdoms used in modern classification
- Create and read a cladogram and tree of life

