

# Mutualism Defeats Natural Selection

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## Mutualism Defeats Natural Selection

Imagine you are on a tropical vacation, and you visit a coral reef one day. As you watch, a colorful striped fish swims up to a particular spot on the coral reef with its mouth wide open. Suddenly, little blue-striped fish dart out of the coral and swim right into its mouth. These little fish are eating the plaque off the fish's teeth. After its teeth get cleaned, the colorful fish swims away. Would you believe your eyes? Charles Darwin probably would not. His theory of natural selection says that organisms that are more fit for the environment would survive better than others. His theory does not have room for organisms helping each other; it says that in order to survive, organisms must only look out for themselves at the expense of others. However, the phenomenon you just witnessed directly contradicts this. In this essay, I will show you that Darwin's theory of natural selection is undoubtedly disproved by mutualism.

The relationship between the two fish that we talked about is an example of mutualism. What is mutualism? Mutualism is a relationship between two or more organisms of different species in which all benefit from the association. It is an example of God's glory, as well as a roadblock for evolution. The colorful striped fish, which is called the Oriental sweetlips, has many teeth. If not cleaned, their teeth will rot and fall out. Humans clean their teeth by



brushing them and dogs chew on bones to clean them. But how would a fish clean its teeth? As a solution, the Oriental sweetlips goes to a "cleaning station" in the coral reef. It opens its mouth and lets blue-streaked

wrasses swim right into it and eat off all the problem-causing materials on its teeth. Amazingly, the Oriental sweetlips will not eat the blue-streaked wrasse, no matter how hungry it is. This is a great example of mutualism. The blue-streaked wrasse gets fine meals, and the Oriental sweetlips keeps its teeth. The most incredible part is that the Oriental sweetlips knows exactly where to go to clean its teeth, and the blue-streaked wrasse knows that it is safe to go into the fishes' mouths. To explain this, macroevolutionists would say that the sweetlips' ancestors probably had no teeth. After thousands of generations, however, teeth began to form in a few of the ancestor's offspring. Now, in order for these teeth to avoid rotting and falling out, this new fish would have to develop the instinct for seeking out the wrasse, allowing the little fish to swim into its mouth, and not eating the little fish when it was done with its work. This instinct, of course, would have to evolve at exactly the same time that the Oriental sweetlips' teeth evolved. That's not enough, however. At the exact same time that the teeth and instincts evolved in the Oriental sweetlips, the blue-streak wrasse would have to independently develop the instinct to swim right into the Oriental sweetlips' mouth without fear of being eaten. (Wile, 2005, p. 309) Obviously, it is ridiculous to believe in all these coincidences occurring at the same time. It is significant evidence that the almighty God has designed this.

Another mutualistic relationship is the shark and remora. Remoras are fish that usually measure between one and three feet long. They have a sucker on their heads that is used to attach to sharks. The remora can move around on the host, removing parasites and loose flakes of skin, while benefiting from the protection provided by the shark. They will also eat the feces of sharks. Studies show that many sharks



understand the benefits a remora has on its life. They have been observed to slow down to allow remoras to attach themselves. Again, mutualism is a witness for its Creator.

There are many goby fish species that coexist with shrimp, in one of nature's most fascinating mutualistic relationships. The blind shrimp, as the name implies, cannot see well. All



day it digs a hole for hiding in. The goby uses the hole to hide from predators, and it acts as the 'eyes' for the shrimp, flicking its tail to warn the shrimp of danger.

During the day, the goby spends most of its time at the

hole entrance. Meanwhile the tireless shrimp excavates,

staying in constant contact with the goby with its long antennae. The goby eats small fish, while the shrimp feeds on worms it unearths during its work, so the two species do not compete for food. During the night the goby and shrimp rest together in the burrow. How would the two species know how to find each other and make an ingenious way of protecting themselves? Nature and random chance could not have done this. It had to be the work of an amazing creator.

Sea anemones and clownfish also have a unique relationship. Sea anemones are animals that live in the water. They do not move but stick on to a hard surface. They have tentacles

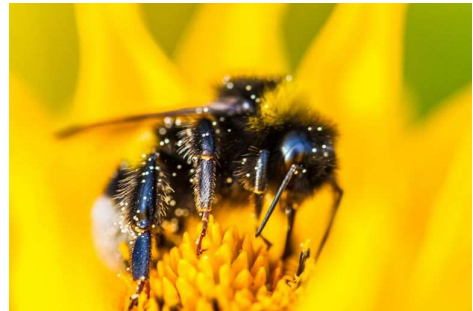
that, at their will, eject a powerful poison that paralyzes the fish. They will then devour the paralyzed fish. But when a clownfish touches the tentacles, it will not get stung. Why is that? Even today we do not know, but most scientists believe



that the clownfish has a mucus on its scales that resembles the sea anemones, so the

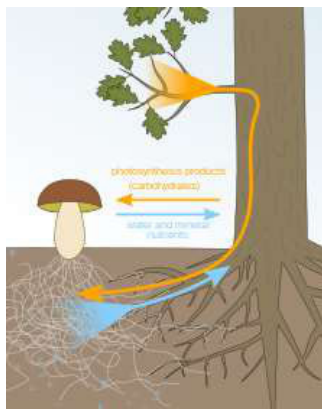
anemones will think that the clownfish is itself. When the clownfish is attacked by predators, it will hide inside of the sea anemones. Many times, the predator will chase after the fish, resulting in its own death. Also, clownfish tend to lay their eggs near sea anemones so they will not be eaten. Studies have shown that the movement of the clownfish in the sea anemones scares away butterflyfish, a predator of sea anemones. The clownfish benefit by getting protection for itself and its eggs, and the sea anemones get protection and food. How could the clownfish know that the sea anemone would not kill it?

Not only are there mutualistic relationships between animals but there are also mutualistic relationships between plants and animals. For example, many plants rely on bees to pollinate them. The queen bee lays thousands of eggs, which means there are a lot of offspring to feed. For them, the relationship between bees and flowers is important. The only food they eat is pollen. Flowers attract bees with their bright colors and fragrant smells. Attracted bees land on flowers and collect pollen. The pollen is gathered into pollen sacks on bees' legs. That way, the bees will not be hungry. Flowers will also benefit because when bees collect pollen on their legs, they will cross-pollinate the flowers. That way, they both benefit. According to evolutionists, plants existed long before animals. If that was true, then how would the plants cross-pollinate? They would have died out because of the lack of reproduction. On the other hand, the Bible states in Genesis 1 that God created "seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds" on the third day. Subsequently, in Genesis 1:20, God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of



the sky.” That was the fifth day. This would have worked because the flowers and bees were created two days apart.

Charles Darwin said, “If it could be proved that any part of the structure of any one species had been formed for the exclusive good of another species, it would annihilate my theory, for such could not have been produced through natural selection.” Nearly 80% of all plants with root systems participate in a symbiotic relationship called mycorrhiza. In this



relationship, the fungi will give nutrients to the plant in exchange for food. In laboratories, scientists found that these fungi would absorb extra minerals when they are plentiful and release them into the roots of the plant when the minerals are scarce. (Wile, 2005, p. 120)

This proves that some organisms were formed for the good of another species. The fungus doesn't keep the minerals for itself, but it gives it to the tree. According to Darwin, this would “annihilate my theory, for such could not have been produced through natural selection.”

Those are just a few examples of mutualistic relationships. In nature, you can see mutualism everywhere. Charles Darwin's theory of natural selection failed to explain how this could happen. Therefore, the phenomenon of mutualism gives overwhelming evidence that the natural selection theory is wrong. Only God can make such an ingenious design.

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