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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WHERE DARWIN GOT IT RIGHT: Creation Museum's New 'Natural Selection' Exhibit Examines Areas Where Creationists Agree with Famed Evolutionist

PETERSBURG, Ky., February 24, 2009 – While creationists strongly disagree with Charles Darwin's ideas about all of life evolving from a single organism (macro-evolution), his theory of natural selection meets with more widespread acceptance regarding how species adapt and change over time (but, as we observe, only within their own kind). Such changes, though, are not evolution in the "molecules-to-man" sense. Answers in Genesis' Creation Museum near Cincinnati will open a new exhibit on March 15 to help explain what natural selection can and cannot do, and how this is supported biblically and scientifically.

"Evolutionists use natural selection as evidence for evolution, believing that given enough time (millions of years), natural selection could account for the larger changes required for molecules-to-man evolution," founder and president Ken Ham explains. "Our new exhibit will clear up the differences between natural selection and what would be required for evolution to occur in the molecules-to-man sense – for example, reptiles to birds – as one kind of animal turns into a totally different kind."

The exhibit, entitled "Natural Selection is Not Evolution," includes an aquarium that resembles a real cave. This cave aquarium will feature live blind cavefish, showing how natural selection allows organisms to possess characteristics most favorable for a given environment – but again, it is not an example of evolution in the molecules-to-man sense.

There is also a series of wall displays with professionally produced models that examine, among many things, antibiotic-resistant bacteria (which are commonly cited as an example of "evolution in action"). Instead, the Creation Museum exhibit will point out how antibiotic resistance in bacteria points away from macro-evolution, rather than toward it. The new display also contrasts evolution's "tree of life," showing that all organisms have descended from one single-celled creature, with the "Creation Orchard," which illustrates the family tree of each original kind of created plant or animal life of Genesis chapter 1.

A display entitled "Three Blind Mice" will show the devastating effects of mutation and how natural selection works to preserve animal kinds. A dog skull display will demonstrate how natural and artificial selection has led to variation within the dog kind. The exhibit will also include a mounted display of Darwin's finches based on Darwin's own studies and observations from the Galápagos Islands.

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The new exhibit is located near the museum's popular presentation regarding geologic evidence for a global flood. Its proximity to the flood geology room in the museum was deliberate, as this exhibit also lays the groundwork to understand how Noah could fit representatives of all the animal kinds (not species) on the Ark.

"I think one of the reasons evolutionists give creationists such a hard time is that they don't think we believe in good science, which we absolutely do. In fact, we have several full-time staff with earned doctorates. I've read and heard many news reports and columns stating that creationists don't believe in natural selection and that is simply not true," Ham said. "Our new exhibit will help to explain these valid theories and show that we agree with the proven science of these processes. Most people don't realize that speciation is not evolution – it has nothing to do with changing one kind of animal (e.g., fish) into a totally different kind of animal (e.g., amphibian).

"Our area of disagreement with the evolutionists comes when they start using bad science to state that natural selection could eventually lead from one plant or animal kind changing into another, finally making the leap to humanity," Ham continued. "Not only is this in direct contradiction with the Bible, which states that God created all the various kinds of plant and animal life, including humans, but it also has no scientific validity.

"Many Christians are surprised when they learn that valid observational science confirms the biblical accounts of creation and Noah's Flood," Ham added. "Our mission at Answers in Genesis and the Creation Museum is to spread that message in order to uphold all of Scripture and therefore reach non-believers with the Gospel, which is based in this history in Genesis."

In addition to the new museum exhibit, regular daily speaking events at the Creation Museum will include a focus on Darwin during the rest of this month (February is the anniversary of his birth 200 years ago), featuring topics such as the faulty science behind evolution – and its evil fruits in society. Answers in Genesis just concluded two national seminars, "Answers for Darwin," which were attended by several thousand individuals on both the East and West Coasts. The ministry's worldview magazine, "Answers," has published a special issue that examines Darwin's place in science and society, with articles available for download from the ministry's highly trafficked Web site at <http://www.answersingenesis.org/get-answers/features/year-of-darwin>.

The Creation Museum, located near the Cincinnati Airport, is a ministry of Answers in Genesis, a nonprofit Christian organization dedicated to confirming the validity of the Bible from the very first verse. Since its grand opening on May 28, 2007, the museum has seen more than 645,000 visitors, way above anticipated crowds.

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Note to Editors: For more information about the Creation Museum or Answers in Genesis, please visit www.creationmuseumnews.com. To arrange an interview with Creation Museum representatives, please contact Melany Ethridge of A. Larry Ross Communications at 972.267.1111 or Melany@alarryross.com.