

# Download Modern Phylogenetic Taxonomy Answer Key

A phylogenetic tree or evolutionary tree is a branching diagram or "tree" showing the evolutionary relationships among various biological species or other entities—their phylogeny (/f a ? l ? d ? n i /)—based upon similarities and differences in their physical or genetic characteristics. All life on Earth is part of a single phylogenetic tree, indicating common ancestry. In the 13th century the category of reptile was recognized in Europe as consisting of a miscellany of egg-laying creatures, including "snakes, various fantastic monsters, lizards, assorted amphibians, and worms", as recorded by Vincent of Beauvais in his *Mirror of Nature*. In the 18th century, the reptiles were, from the outset of classification, grouped with the amphibians.

**Types of Clades.** A clade is a group of species used in cladograms (and phylogenetic trees), which consists of one ancestor and all its descendants. The term clade comes from the Greek word *klados* ...page 6

Page 6 6 Activity - Part B. 1. Next, have students work as a class or in groups to develop more meaningful classifications for the shoes. 2. Tell students to think about what the shoes have in common and what