



Why do we age? Why cooperate?
Why do so many species engage
in sex? Why do the tropics have so
many species? When did humans
start to affect world climate?

'Sherratt and Wilkinson have written a book that will help everyone better understand where scientific ideas come from and how observation and imagination interact to create the questions on which science is based ... Buy it for yourself and three or four for friends and relatives. It will help our entire field.'

Trends in Ecology and Evolution

This book provides an introduction to a range of fundamental questions that have taxed evolutionary biologists and ecologists for decades. Some of the phenomena discussed are, on first reflection, simply puzzling to understand from an evolutionary perspective, whilst others have direct implications for the future of the planet. All of the questions posed have at least a partial solution, all have seen exciting breakthroughs in recent years, yet many of the explanations continue to be hotly debated.

Big Questions in Ecology and Evolution is a curiosity-driven book, written in an accessible way so as to appeal to a broad audience. It is very deliberately not a formal text book, but something designed to transmit the excitement and breadth of the field by discussing a number of major questions in ecology and evolution and how they have been answered. This is a book aimed at informing and inspiring anybody with an interest in ecology and evolution. It reveals to the reader the immense scope of the field, its fundamental importance, and the exciting breakthroughs that have been made in recent years.

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