



# CCM – Conflated & Misunderstood Terms Vol 1: Evolution – Meme Gallery

Communication is the cornerstone of any successful relationship. That relationship could be intimate, interactions with a colleague, a friendship, or dialogue with some random you meet on the internet.

Misunderstandings are inevitable. The same communication can also be the thing that destroys relationships. It is even easier to misinterpret what someone is saying

When talking with people online it is important to ensure that you communicate in a way that isn't going to result in walls going up. Putting people in a defensive position is never conducive to a decent dialogue. Without the benefit of being in person and being able to understand the mode of someones speech, and take the cues from their tone of voice it is even more imperative we reduce ambiguity and use correct terminology.

If you were talking about a sports team you wouldn't call the Red Sox the Red Jumpers and expect someone to know what you meant right? In fact if someone is passionate about the Red Sox, getting their name wrong might annoy them.

The same can be said for both religious and scientific terminology.


The Conflated and Misunderstood Terms series started with [EVOLUTION](#).

It just so happened that [Lord Cropes](#) had a selection of memes that fitted the article.

**Common Creationist Misconceptions**  
**No. 5**

**“Evolution can’t explain how life started!”**

The theory of evolution doesn’t explain how life on Earth started because it doesn’t attempt to.



Evolution on Earth is a fact whether it started in the sea, was seeded by aliens or created by God. The theory that explains the diversity of life remains unchanged.

CROPES

### Common Creationist Misconceptions

No. 8

## “Evolution is just a theory”

*Evolution is a fact.*

The explanation of this fact is called the *theory* of evolution. Scientific theories are based on lines of evidence, enable valid predictions, and have been tested in many ways.

Theories are the single highest level of scientific achievement.

In contrast, the common definition of theory means an untested idea. These conflicting definitions often cause unnecessary confusion about evolution.

Therefore, saying, “evolution is just a theory”, highlights your ignorance of science.

*If you wish to appear credible, don't do it.*

### Common Creationist Misconceptions

No. 15

## “Animals produce after their own kind. A dog won't ever produce a cat”

A dog producing a cat is magic, not evolution.

If you are going to ignore modern taxonomy then you need to define what a “kind” is.



Is a tiger “cat kind”? Why?



Is a fox “dog kind”? Why?



What kind is a hyena?

### Common Creationist Misconceptions

No. 22

## “Micro evolution isn't evolution, it's adaptation”

### MICRO EVOLUTION



NO CHANGE OF “KIND”

Creationists have no problem with this.

### MACRO EVOLUTION



CHANGE OF “KIND”

Creationists believe that this is impossible.

It's exactly the same process. It's called evolution.

### Common Creationist Misconceptions

No. 23

## “If evolution had been proven, it would be a law, not a theory”

*No. That's not how it works.*

Scientific theories explain how something behaves.

For example, the theory of general relativity explains how an apple falls to the ground due to the curvature of spacetime.

Scientific laws describe how much something behaves.

For example, gravitational law tells us how an apple is related to the ground as it falls.

*Theories do not become laws. Ever.*

## Common Creationist Misconceptions

No. 41

### “Evolution is not science”

*The study of evolution is science.*

*Science is defined as, “the intellectual and practical activity encompassing the systematic study of the structure and behaviour of the physical and natural world through observation and experiment.”*

*Whether it's through biology, genetics, paleontology, molecular biology or anthropology, the study of evolution fits the definition perfectly.*

*Your wish for it not to be science really is simply a wish.*

## Common Creationist Misconceptions

No. 79

### “Evolutionists now believe they were created by aliens”

In 2009 Professor Richard Dawkins said that it was possible that an alien race could have evolved and then seeded the Earth with life.

“possible” ≠ “believe”

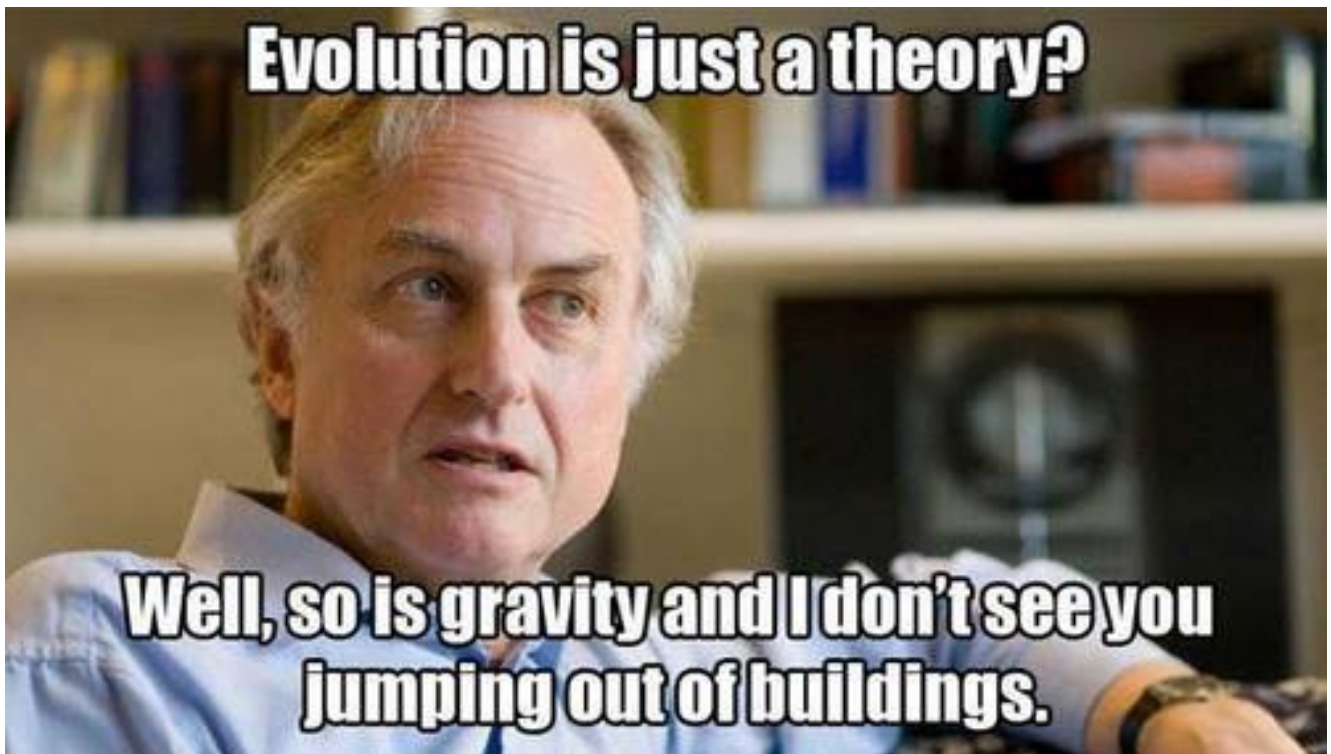
“Richard Dawkins” ≠ “evolutionists”



Scientific Theory (sometimes referred to simply as a Theory)

*A well-substantiated explanation of some aspect of the natural world. The explanations are acquired through the scientific method. The evidence is repeatedly tested and confirmed. Scientific Laws are written, and a theory is compiled to explain them. A Scientific Theory can also be used to predict results.*

In really simplistic terms you could translate "Theory of Evolution" to "The explanation of Evolution". Perhaps with the caveat that the explanation was based on credible, testable and verifiable evidence.



If you are interested in reading more the article can be found in these sections:

- [The "The Origin of Life" and Evolution](#)
- [Macro & Micro Evolution](#)
- [Kinds and Species](#)
- [Dawkins thinks Aliens did it](#)

- [Just a Theory](#)