**PBS Evolution**

**The Mind’s Big Bang**

1. In which continent did modern humans first evolve?



1. What tool did the Paleolithic people make? What was its purpose? How long did they continue to use this tool?
2. How long ago did the first hominids split from the common ancestor with chimpanzees?
3. How long ago did modern humans leave Africa and begin settling in other continents?
4. If the 100,000 year-old Israeli skull and the 40,000 year-old African skull are physically similar, how are the two species different?

1. Why is the discovery of beads and ornaments in the Ucazili settlement significant?
2. How did ancient humans produce beads differently than we do now?

1. What social meaning did the beads and clothing produced by Cro-Magnon (early modern) humans have?

**Cro-Magnon Humans and Neanderthals**

1. Compare and contrast the two hominids; Cro-Magnons and Neanderthals.





|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Cro-Magnon Humans** | **Neanderthals** |
| **Physical Appearance** |  |  |
| **Burials** |  |  |
| **Spear Design** |  |  |
| **Teaching and Learning** |  |  |
| **Art and Communication** |  |  |

1. How did the early humans create cave paintings?
2. What other artistic expression may have been created in the caves?
3. Do you think the human brain the result of a single mutation, or a combination of many mutations?

1. Compare the correction of bad behavior in humans and chimpanzees.
2. What is the “theory-of-mind” ability that is absent in three year-old children, but mastered in five year-olds? Do chimpanzees have this ability?
3. When does the “window for language” begin to close? What happened to deaf people in Nicaragua that were not exposed to language during this time?
4. When a group of deaf children without language were brought together, what happened?
5. What is the single biggest use of verbal language (two-thirds) in human species?
6. What other ways might language have been useful and an advantage to the early humans?
7. If genes are the building block of biological evolution, what kind of evolution might memes build?
8. Has cultural evolution ended biological evolution? Would you consider this to be unhealthy or detrimental to our species?