

# Wings: are all the same?

María Camila and Francisca Márquez

Do you find a similarity in bats and butterflies' wings? Nothing! And the two of them use it to fly. The evolution theory can explain this in simple words. Charles Darwin, an English naturalist, does many trips to answer his questions, also is the owner of the evolution theory. The postulate we are going to focus on is natural selection. Also, we are going to talk about anatomic evidence of evolution. To conclude, we are going to see natural selection and anatomic evidence to answer the main question.

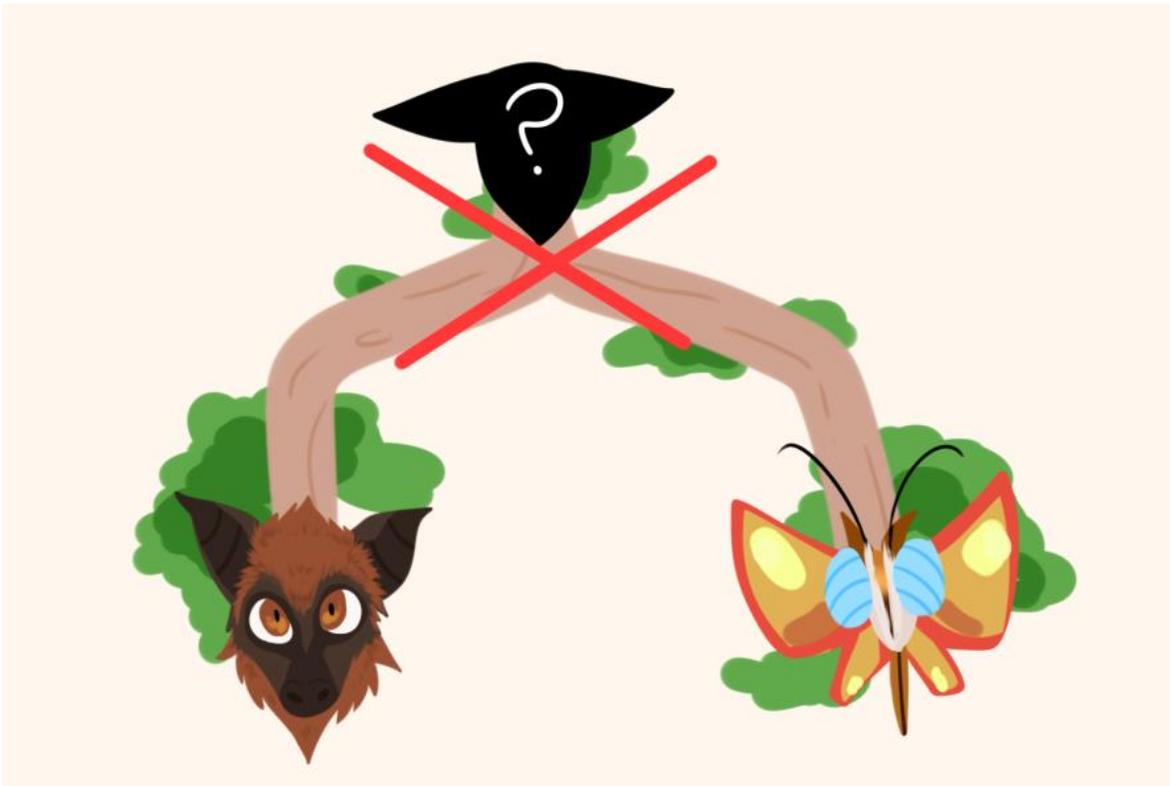


What is the evolution theory? The main idea that tries to support is that species change over time. Throughout time, this theory had different versions and speculations, neodarwinism, is the most approved theory today. This theory based on the idea that animals have common ancestors, but the survival of the fittest and the separation between them makes a species change.



The second key is the anatomic evidence. We are going to compare the anatomy of two or more organisms. What if we analyse bats and butterfly's anatomy? Wings in bats are composed basically by cartilage and fingers (large ones), also are very thin.

In contrast, the wings of butterflies have thousands of colourful scales, hair, and veins in it. Can you recognize the differences in this extremity? However, even though the wings of butterflies don't have a skeleton, they still have the same function as that of bats. This without sharing the same ancestry. "Analogous structures show how different species have evolved to become more similar." Heather Scoville, a science expert, writes this in one of her articles. She tries to assume that species that were different, nowadays are evolving similarly. What do you think about this opinion? In short, bats and butterflies have an analogous structure despite they don't have a common ancestor, wings.



So, in the end, butterflies and bats do NOT have the same ancestor. To summarize, both have wings because this characteristic helps them survive in their environment, not because they have the same ancestor. Will they be able to continue in these parallel paths in the far future?