

Systematics, Genetics and Speciation

Fundamentals of Fish Biology

27 January 2014

Why should I listen today?



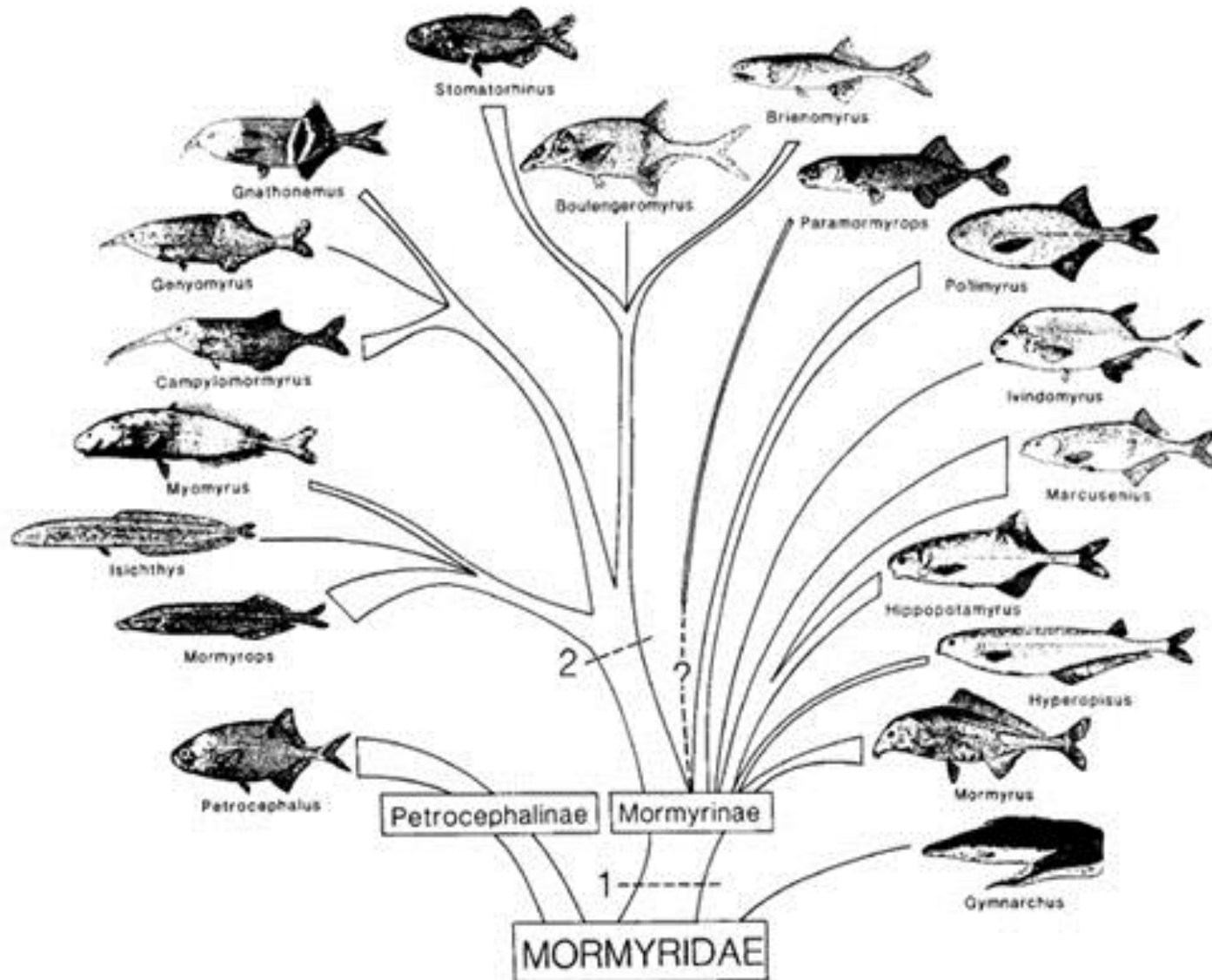
Class objectives

1. understand general terms about Systematics of fish
2. be able to list the five methods of categorizing fish groups
3. understand how species evolve via allopatric and sympatric speciation
4. understand the taxonomy and binomial nomenclature behind the system of naming fish

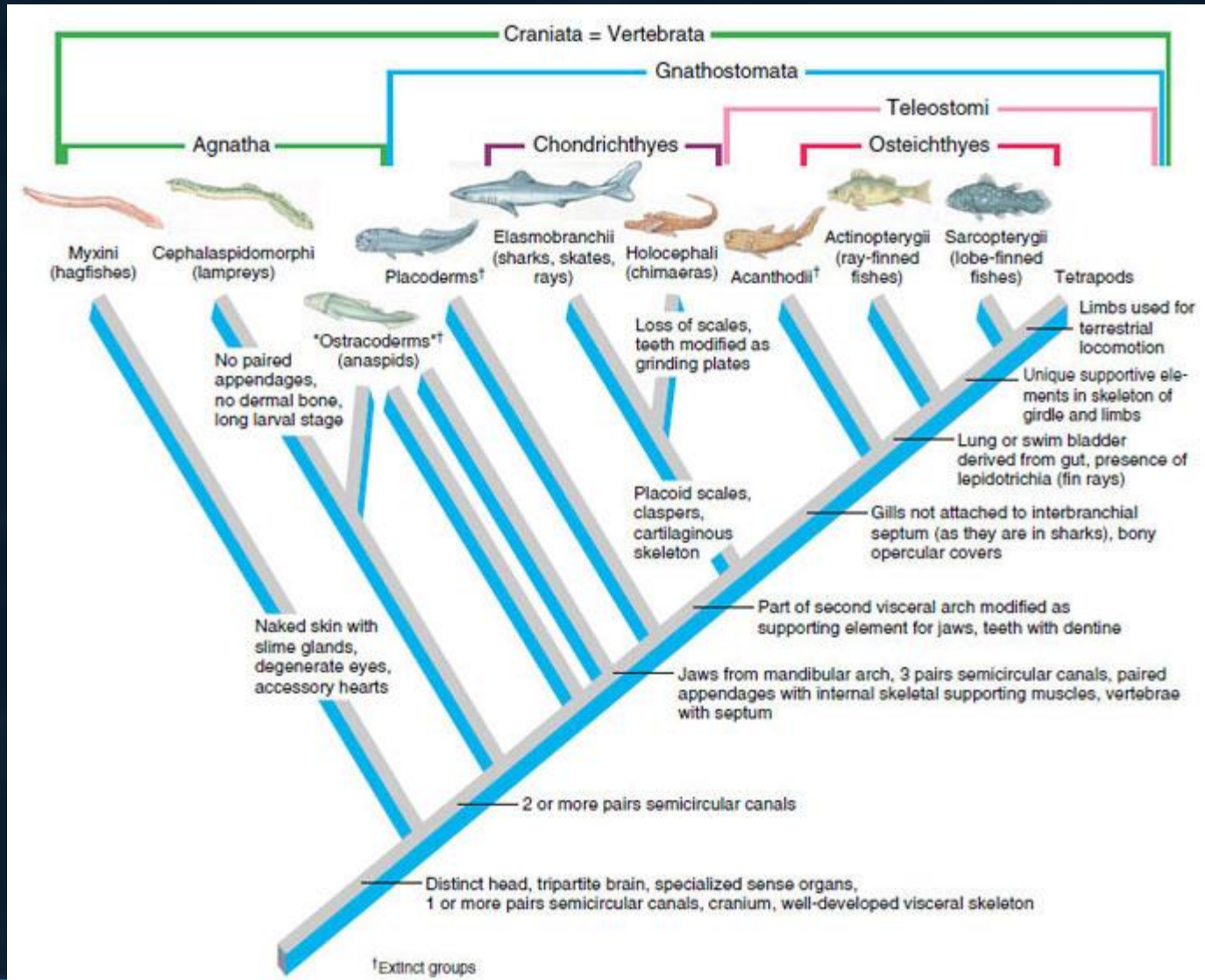
Some definitions

- Systematics – the study of the evolutionary relationship among organisms
- Taxonomy – the science of describing and classifying organisms
- Evolutionary Trees – early diagrams used to show relationships among higher levels
- Phylogenetic systematics – uses branching diagrams called cladograms – each branch represents a monophyletic group of organisms (e.g. species, families, order...) – uses characteristics that can be quantified and therefore reduces subjective classification

Evolutionary Trees



Cladograms



More definitions

- Monophyletic group is a group including an ancestor and all descendants (e.g. vertebrates)
- Paraphyletic group is a group containing some but not all descendants of an ancestor (e.g. dinosaurs)
- Polyphyly is a group containing descendants of different ancestors (e.g. invertebrates)

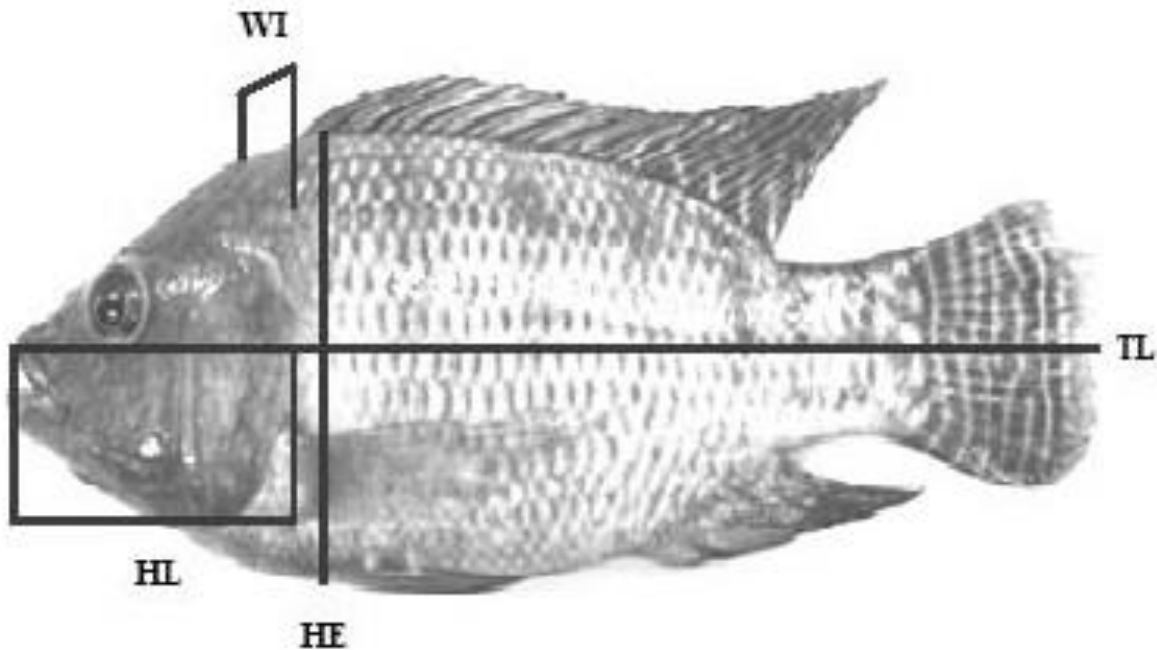
Other ways of classifying fish

- Warm vs cold water fishes (bass and trout)
- Saltwater vs freshwater
- Pelagic or benthic
- Reproductive styles
- Trophic level
- Freshwater fish based on evolutionary history (primary, secondary, diadromy)

Five categories of taxonomic methods

- Morphometric measurements
- Meristic traits – considered most reliable
- Anatomical characteristics
- Color patterns
- Karyotypes – describe number and morphology of chromosomes

1. Morphometric traits



TL - total length; HL - head length; HE - height; WI - width.

Figure 1 - Morphometric measurements obtained in Nile tilapia from ponds and net-cages.

2. Meristic traits



3. Anatomical traits



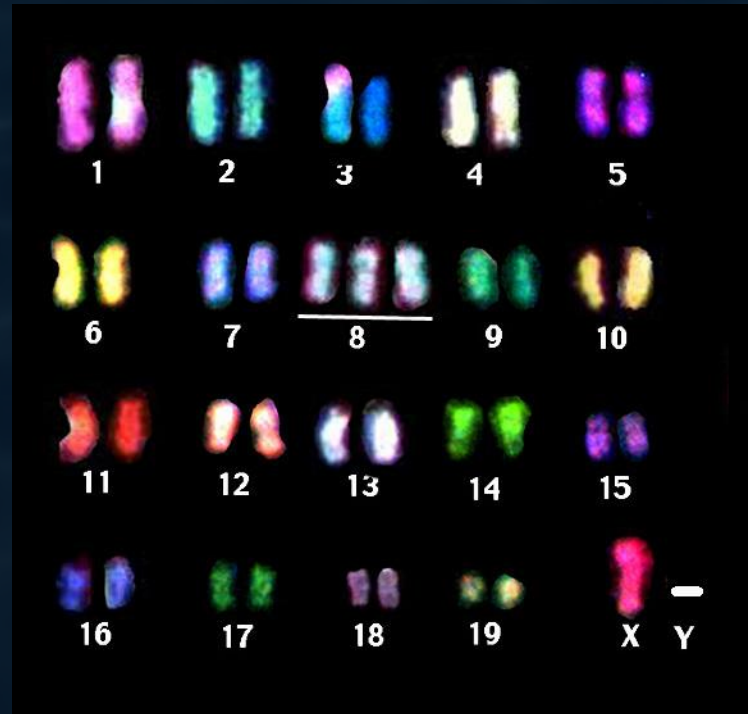
Chronicle / Craig Lee

4. Color patterns

© Dwight Kuhn



5. Karyotypes



Genetic variation

- Largely exhibited in fish
- **Phenotypic and genotypic**
 - Phenotypic = expressed
 - Genotypic = genetic makeup
- Heterozygosity
- Environmental influences

American Eel- *Anguilla rostrata*
averages 24-40 inches





Break 1

Break 1

Local adaptation

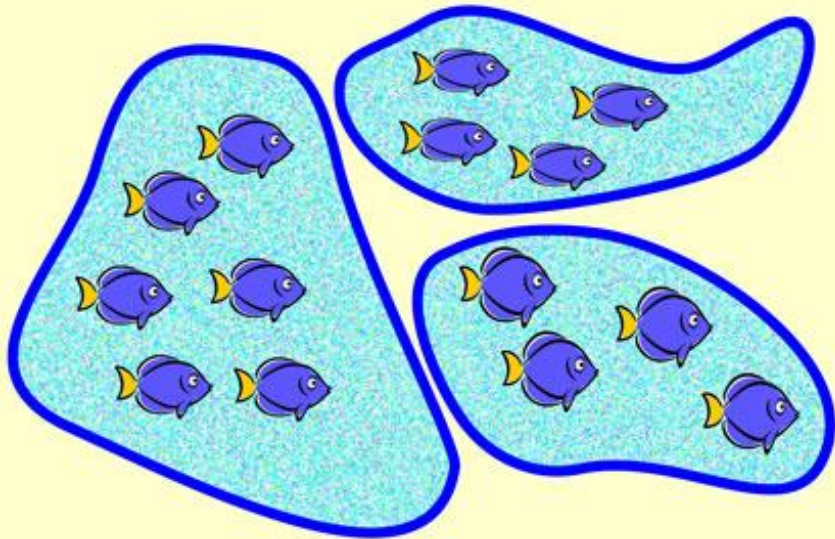


“a process that increases the frequency of traits which enhance the survival and reproductive success of individuals in a particular environment

-Carvalho, 1993

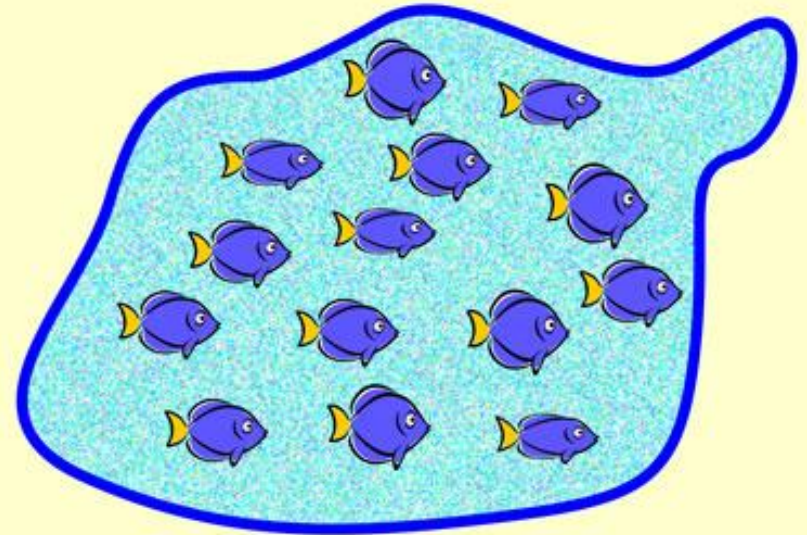
Speciation

- Allopatric – different geographic regions
- Sympatric – same geographic region



Allopatry:

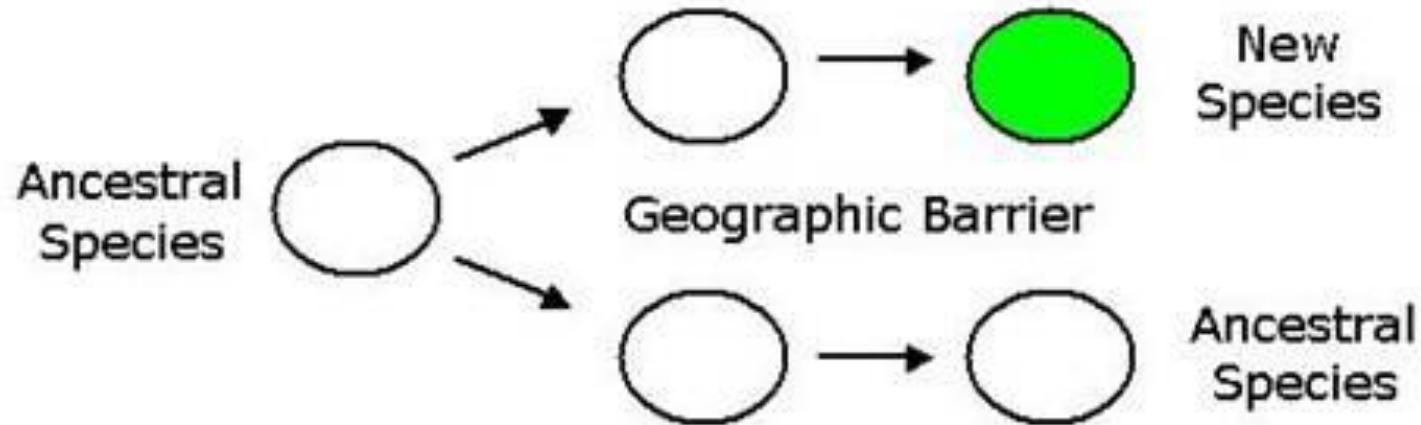
Each variety in its own range
Become species due to drift and
local adaptation



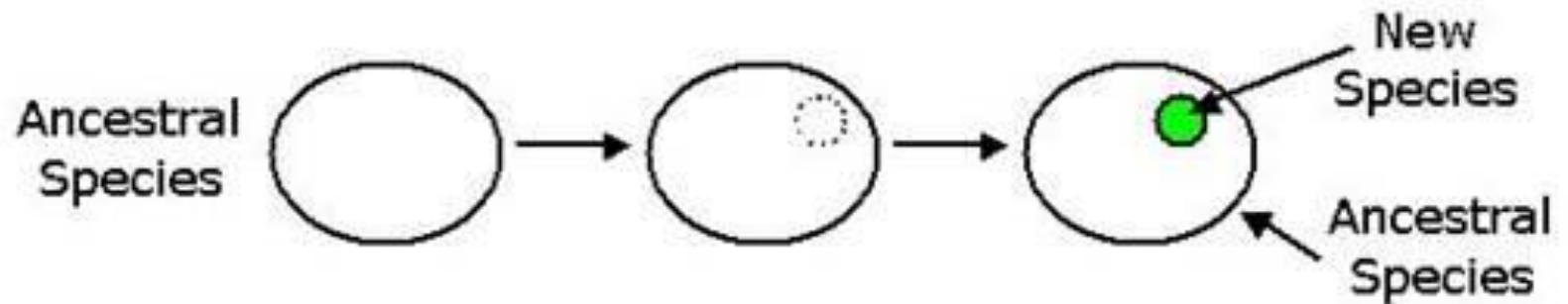
Sympatry:

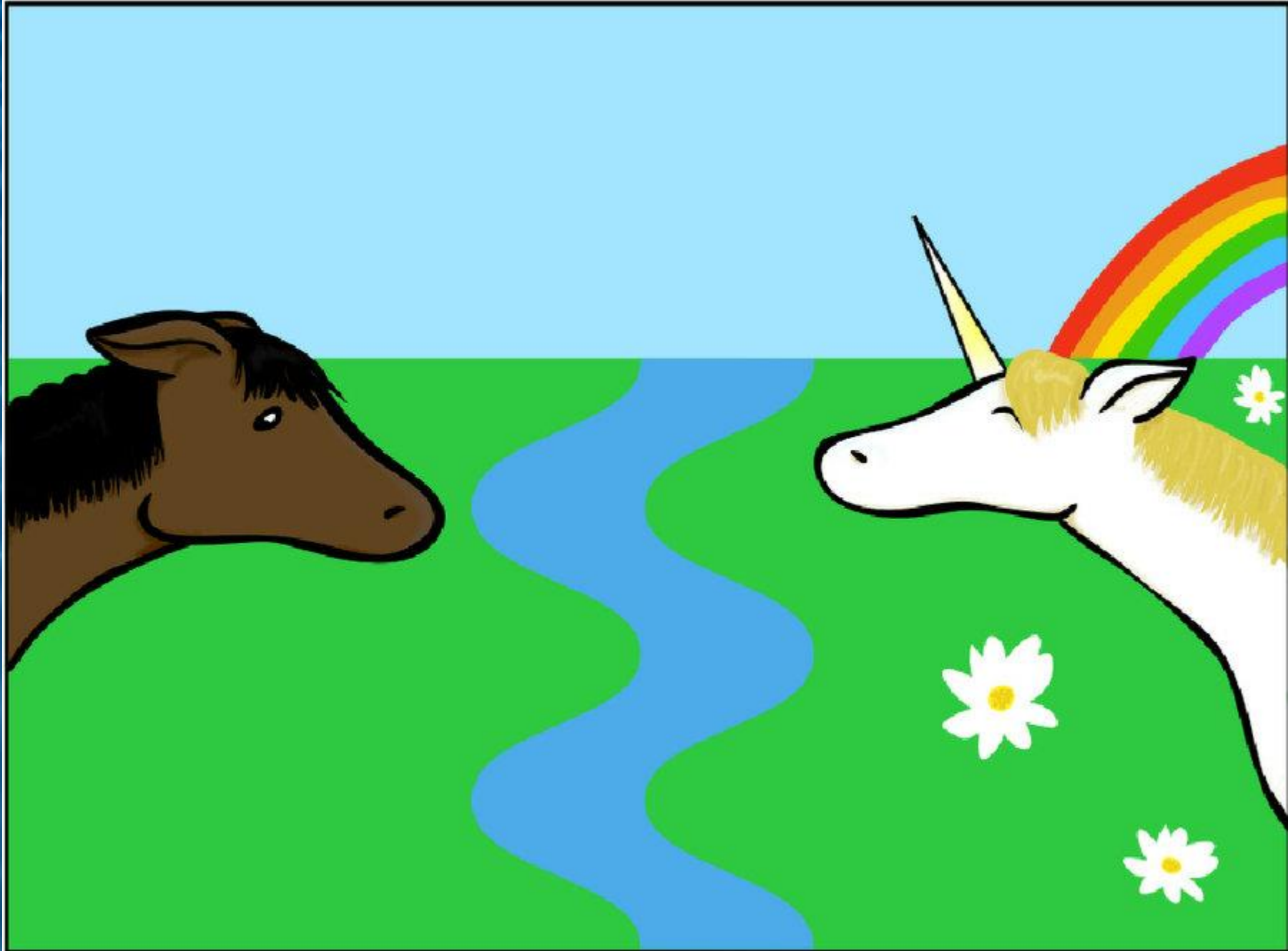
Many varieties in one range
Become species through adaptation
to different aspects of the range

Allopatric Speciation



Sympatric Speciation





Character displacement

- Concept of a fish changing to meet external changes or challenges



© Nature's Images Inc.



How do species evolve?

- Allopatric vs sympatric speciation
- Ecological speciation – growing in acceptance as reason for speciation

How long does it take?

- Can occur rapidly
- For changes to reach adaptive differentiation to species level, estimates range from 100,000 to several million years
- But we see fish responding to recent glacial events –
- Three spine sticklebacks in BC diverged in 8,000-10,000 years; some South African lake fishes in <12,000 years
- Some freshwater spp occur in just a few hundred years

Hybrids

- More common in fresh water
- Significant gene flow?
- Natural Conditions?
- Hybrid sterility common in fishes

Fish bio is dynamic

- Nomenclature always changing!
- Heavily debated
- Taxonomic system used:
- Kingdom – Phylum – Class – Order – Family – Genus – Species

Species Names

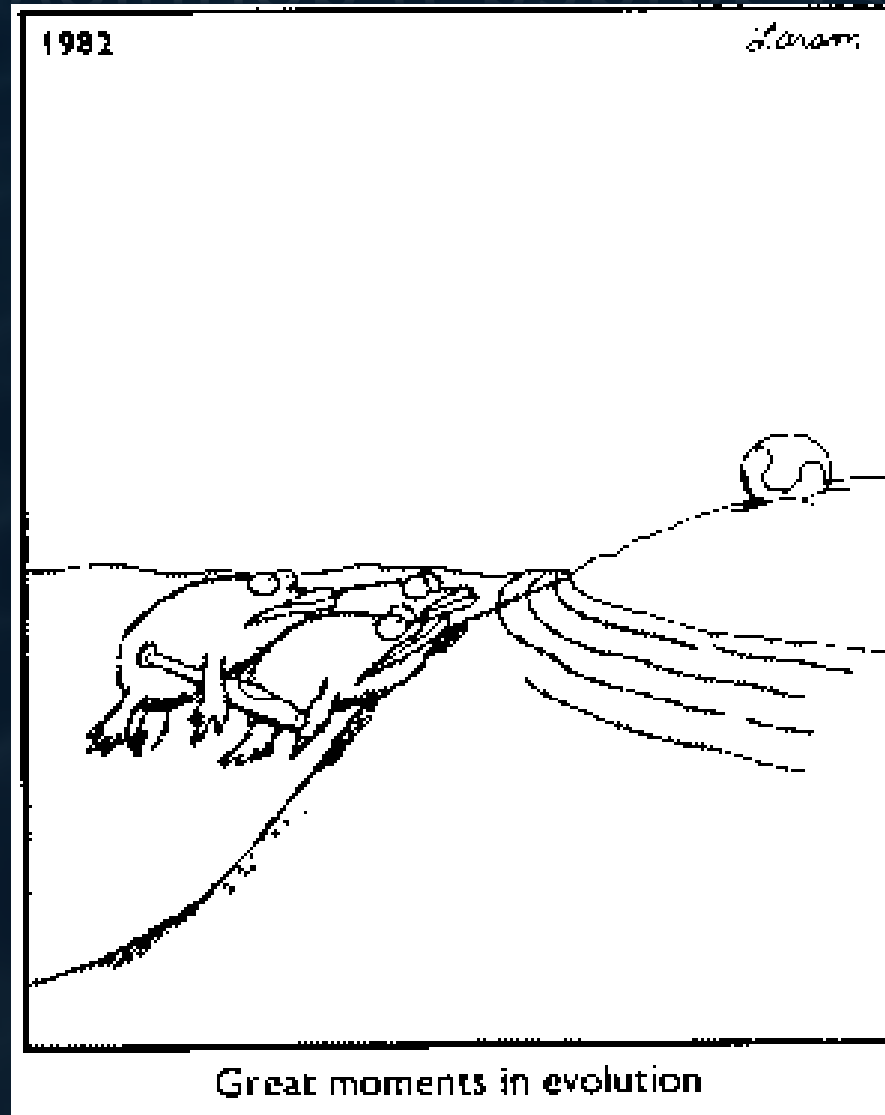
- Common names used often
- Scientific names Genus and species
- Mix of latin and greek
- Coho Salmon –
- *Oncorhynchus kisutch* (Walbaum, 1792)

- Genetic drift -

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tYOG3HzJvak>

Break 2

Evolution (Chapter 13)



Understanding the past



Fish Story

FISH WERE THE FIRST ANIMALS WITH backbones. They are the ancestors of all vertebrates, including people. Fish eventually became the greatest predators in the sea, but the earliest ones couldn't even bite—they didn't have jaws!

Where Did Fish Come From?

The first vertebrates may have come from a sea creature like the modern tunicate (TOON-ih-kate), or sea squirt. When tunicates reproduce, they release tiny larvae into the water. These larvae have a primitive spinal cord that usually disappears when they become adults. Tunicates that never grew up might have been the ancestors of all animals with backbones, including you.



Some jawless fish swallowed sediment with their suckerlike mouths. Their intestines digested food within the sediment.

Fish were the first animals with skeletons made of bony, cartilage. Fish developed strong fins to help them swim fast and fins to steer.

Early fish evolved armor plates of bone to cover their bodies.

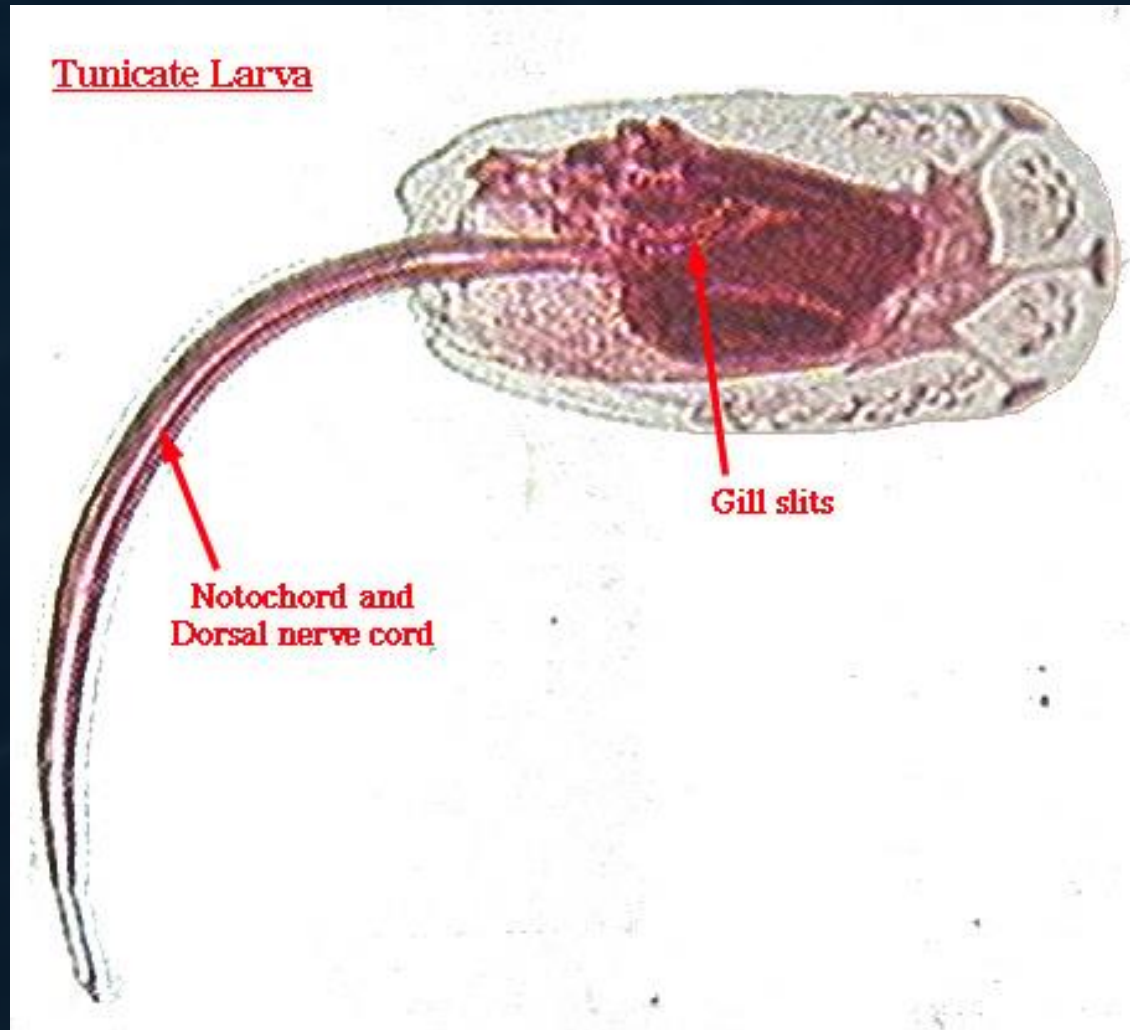
Over millions of years, some plates became fish scales, skull bones, skeletons, and other things.

Fish have long, narrow shapes that are ideal for cutting through the water.

Your teeth evolved from scales!



1st forms were sessile chordates





Actively swimming larvae could ensure
success

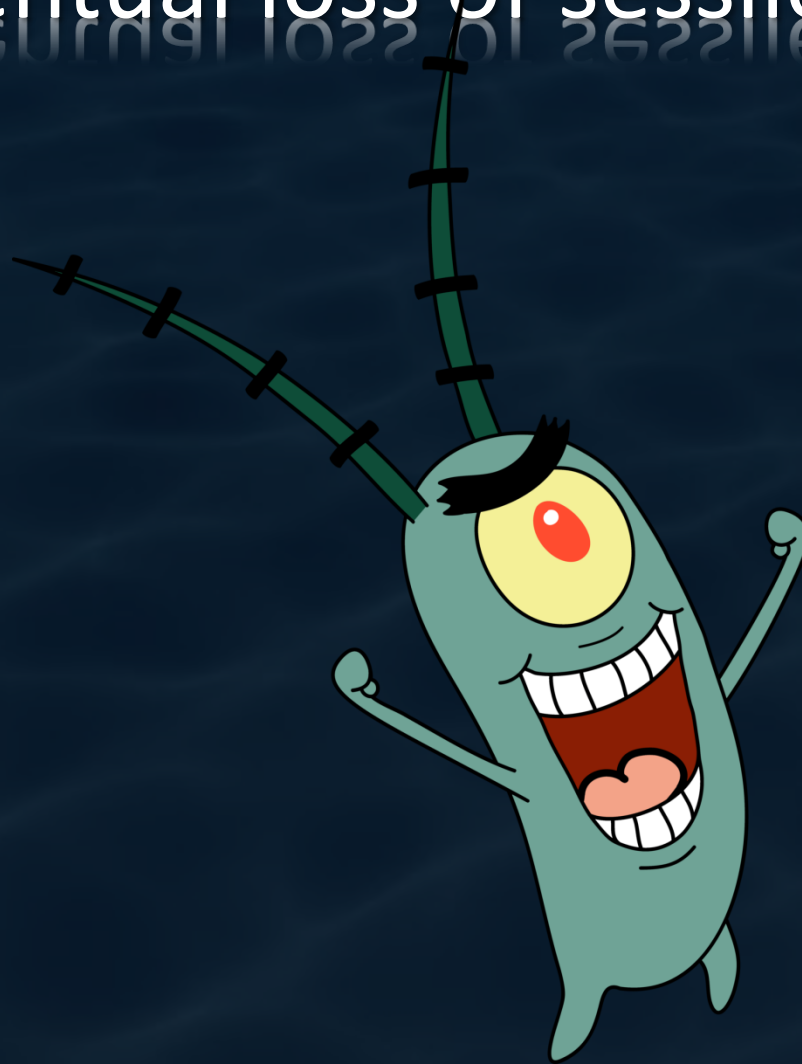
mememaker.org

**Don't Worry, whale don't eat fish, they
eat krill.**

Hey look Krill!



Eventual loss of sessile stage

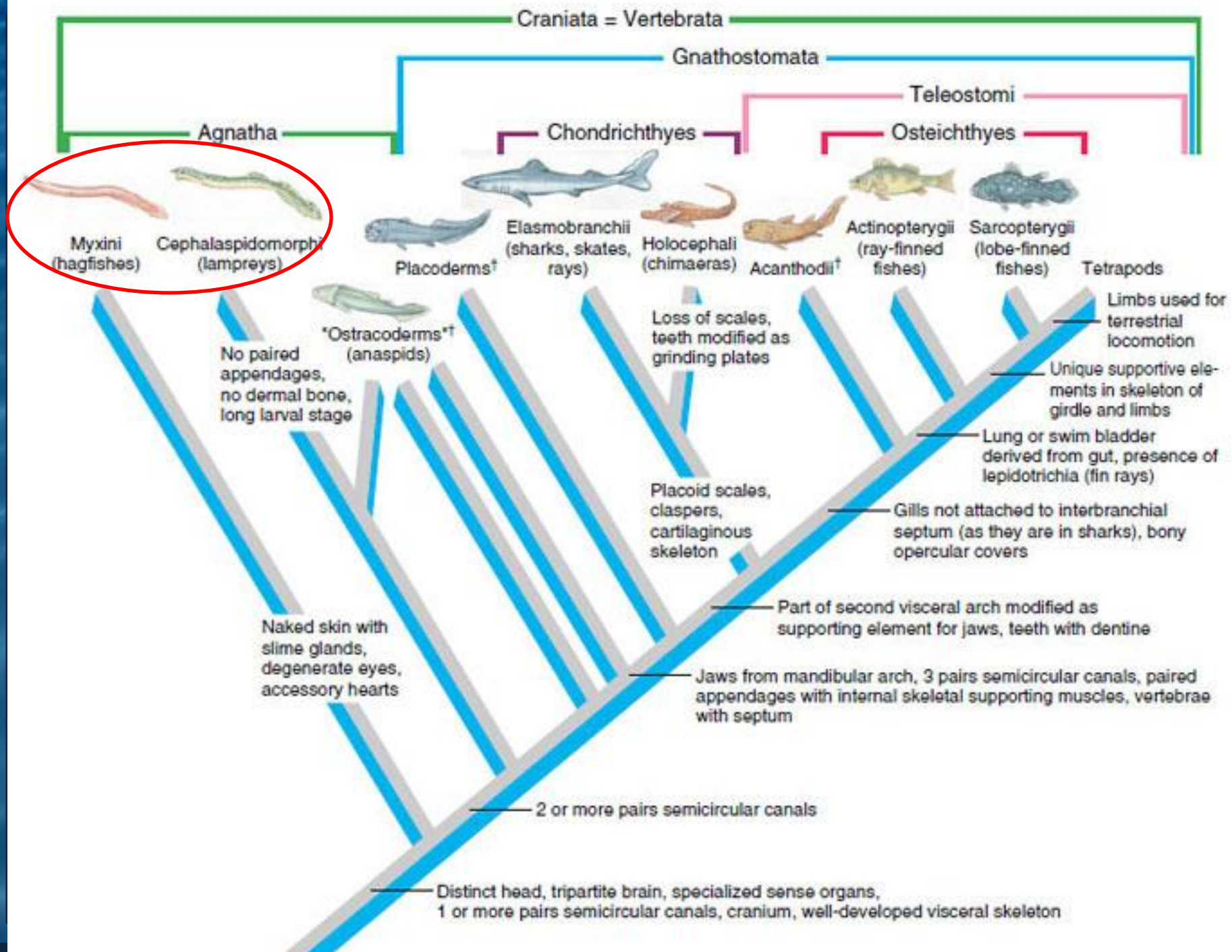


Where did this occur?

JUST OUTSIDE THE BOX



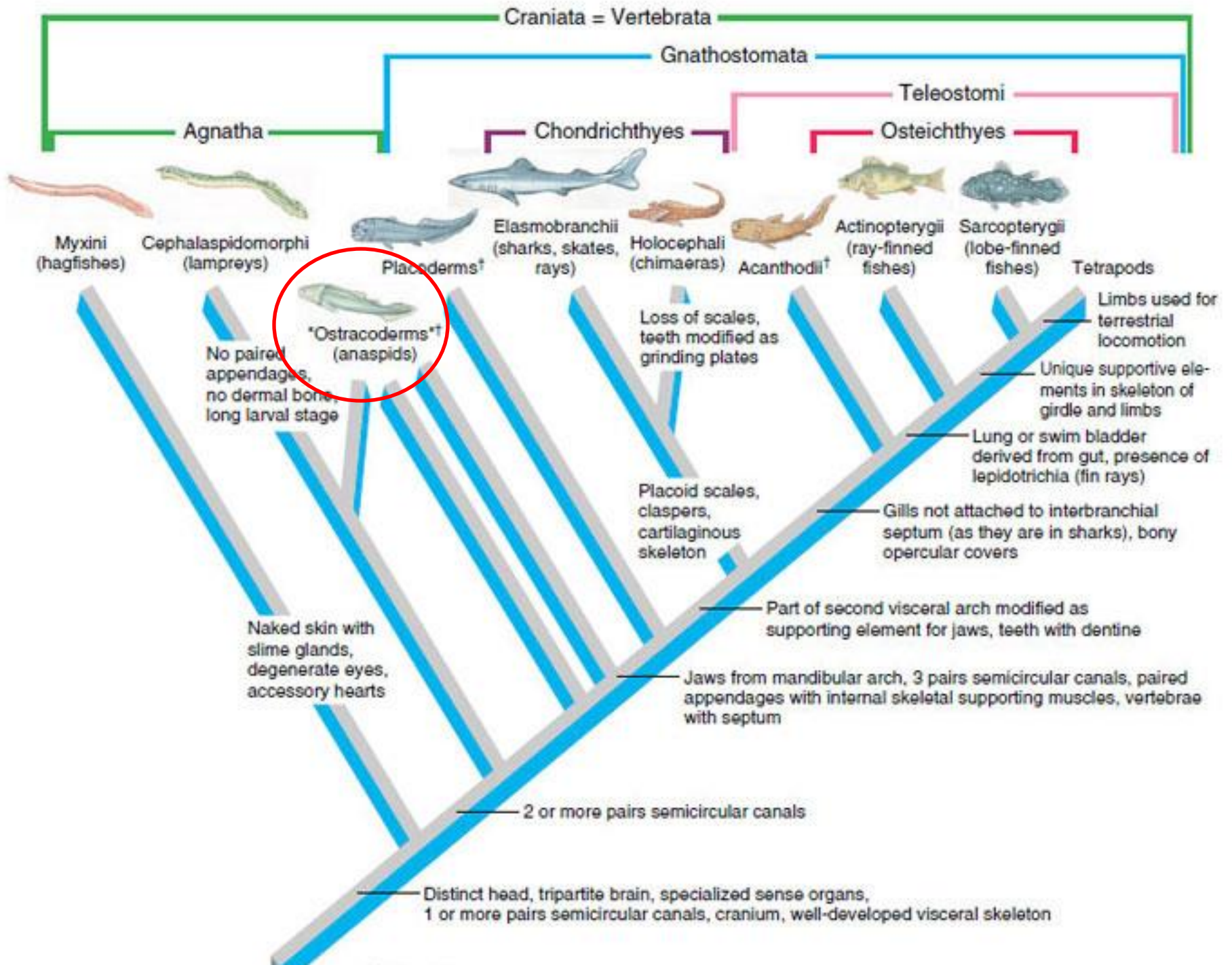
Fish evolution: Take 1.



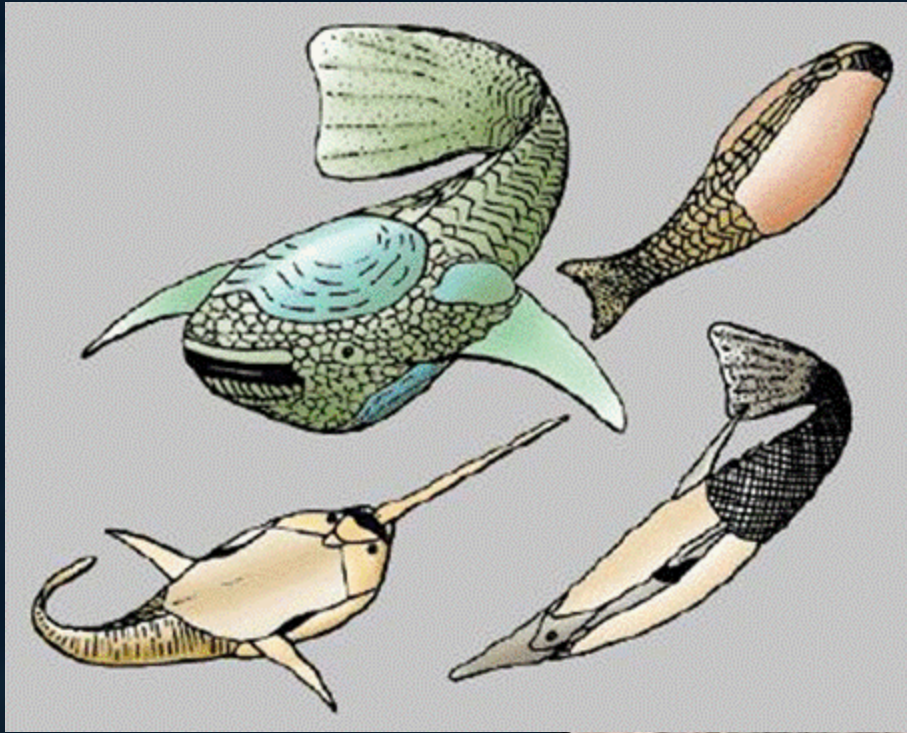
Agnatha – jawless fish

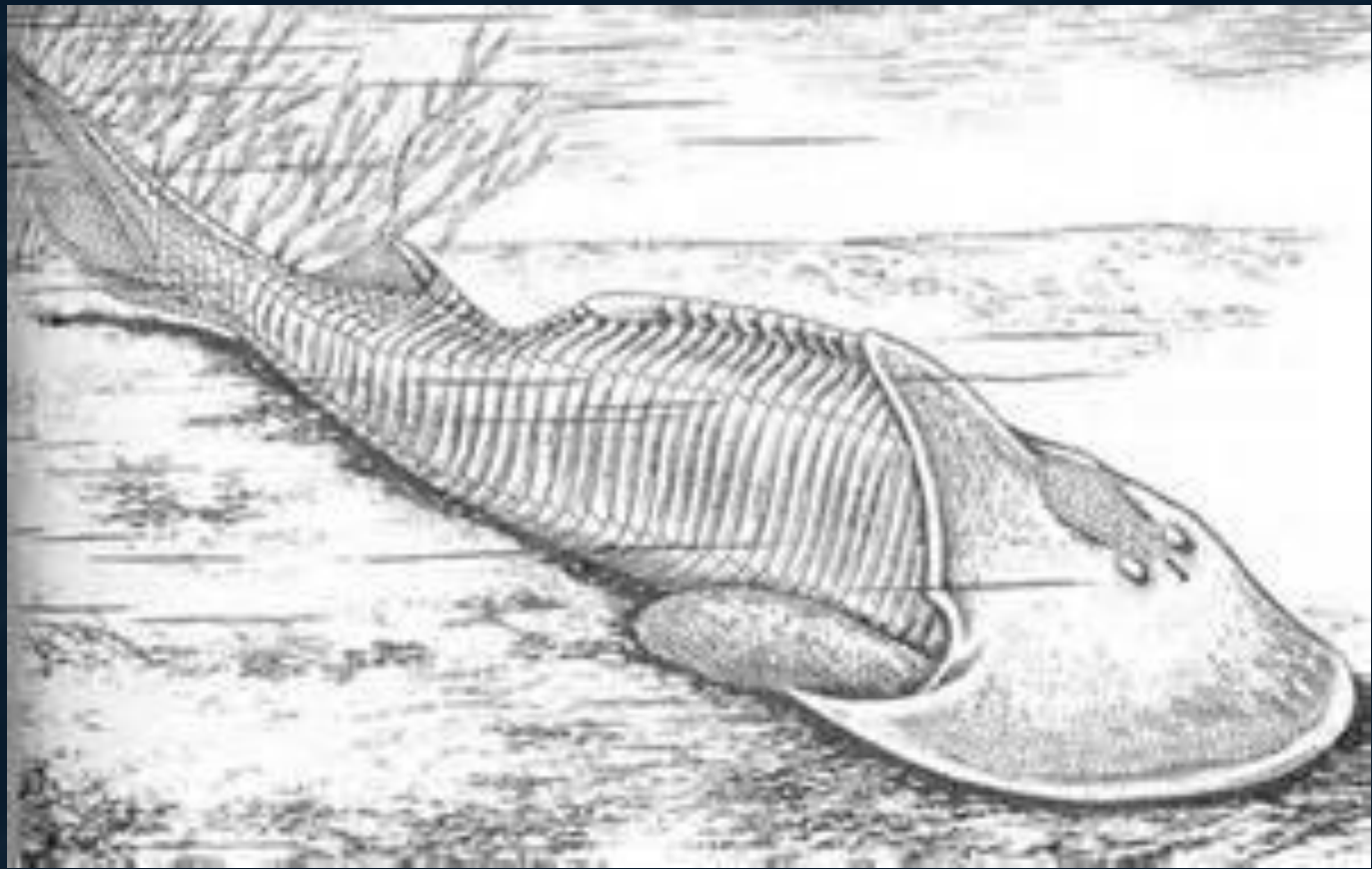
- Jawless
- No scales
- Produce slime
- External fertilization
- No paired appendages

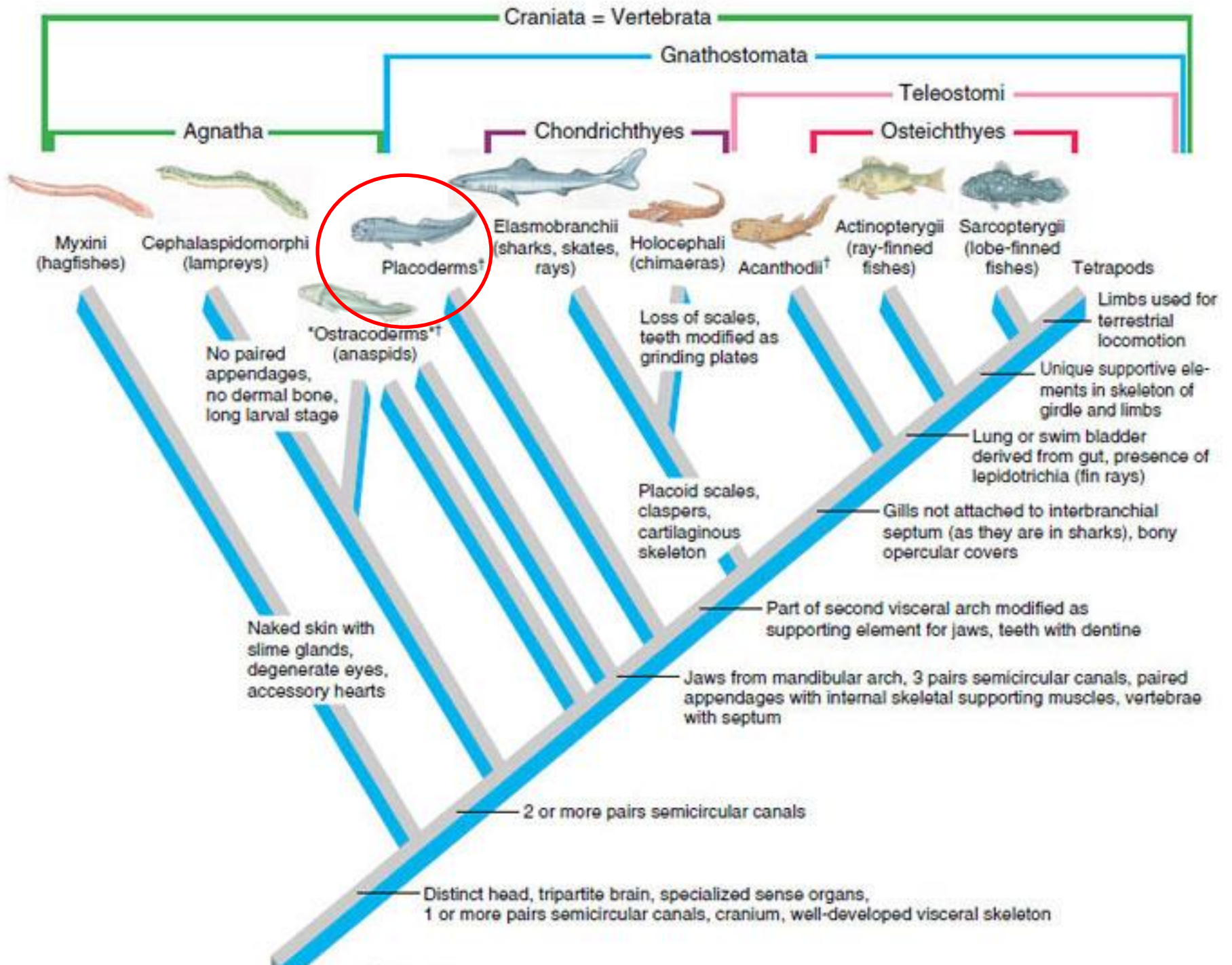




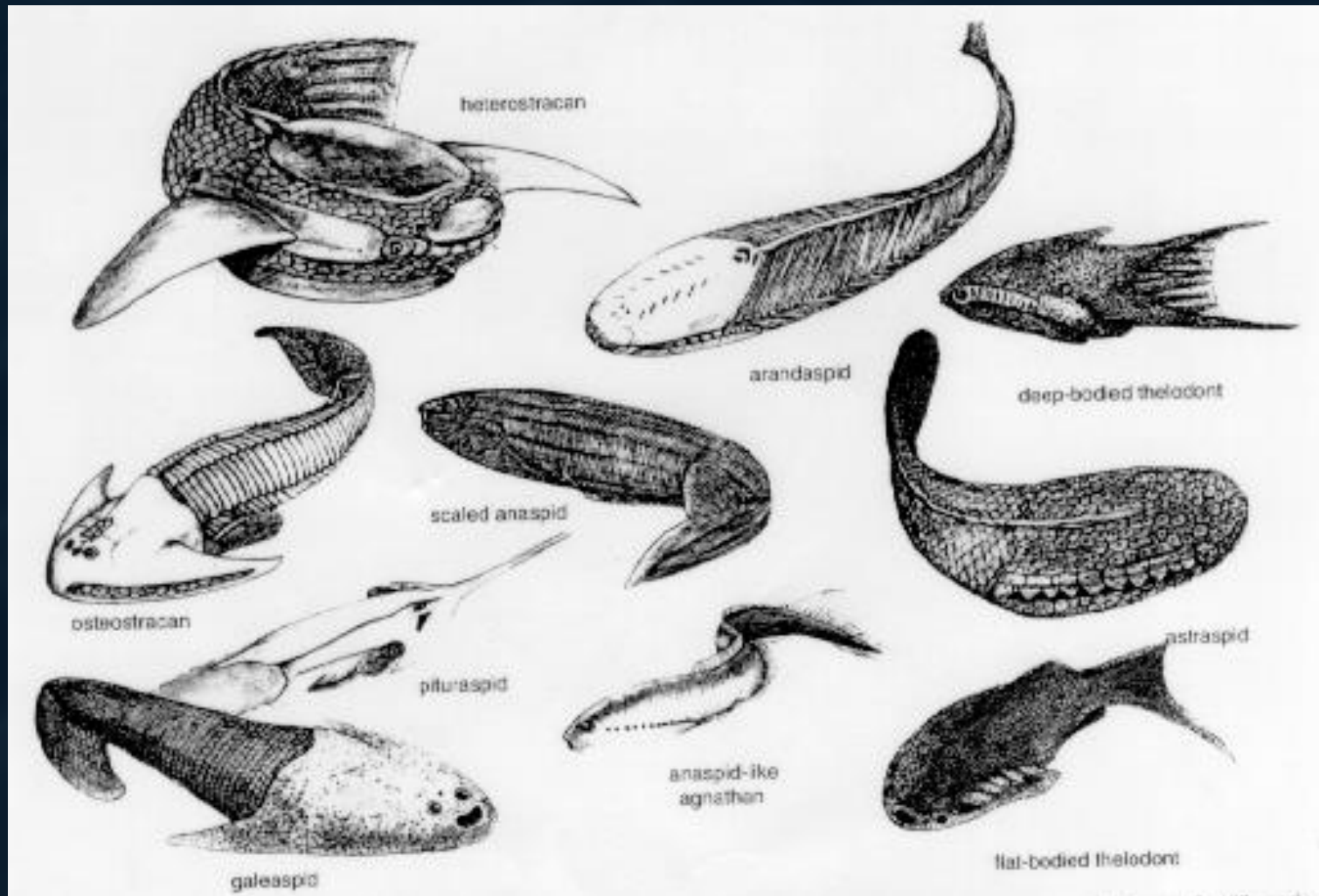
Ostracoderms – shell skinned

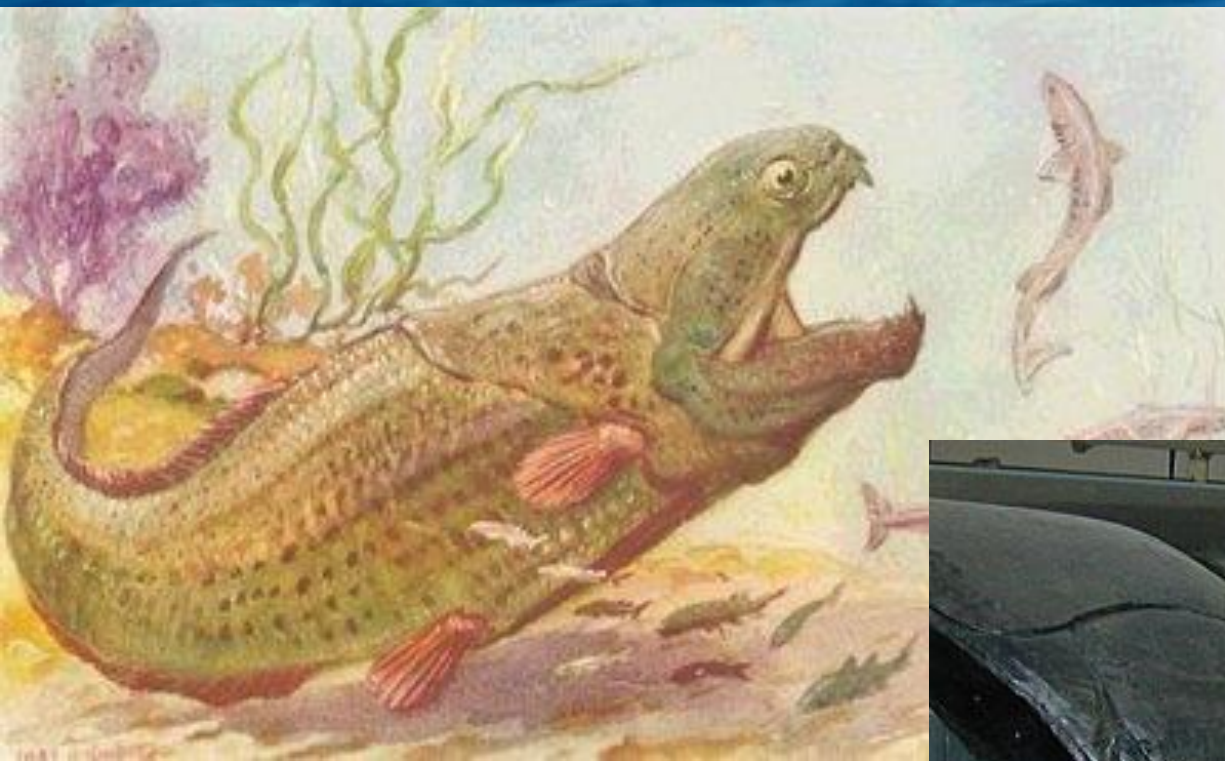




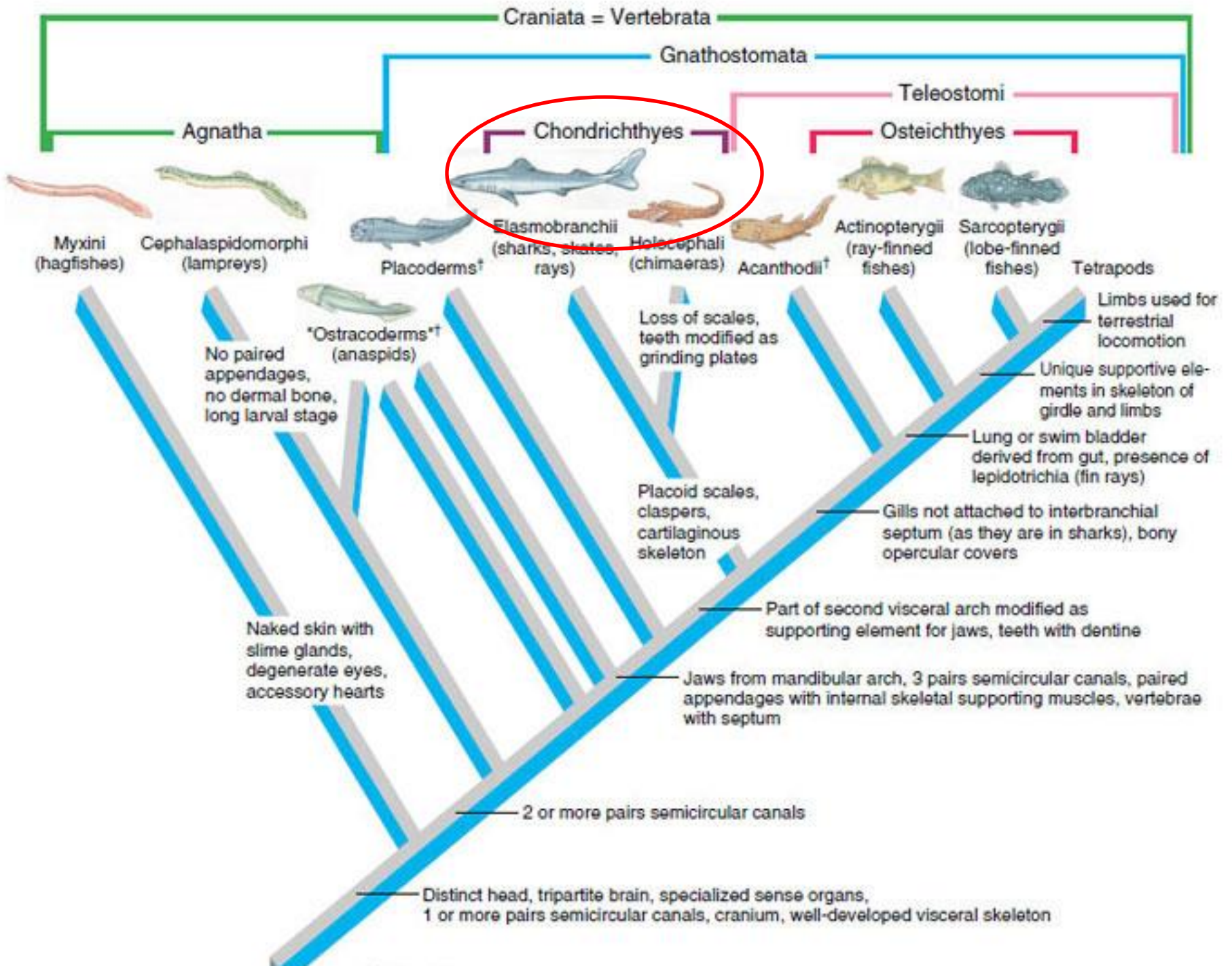


Placoderms – plate skinned



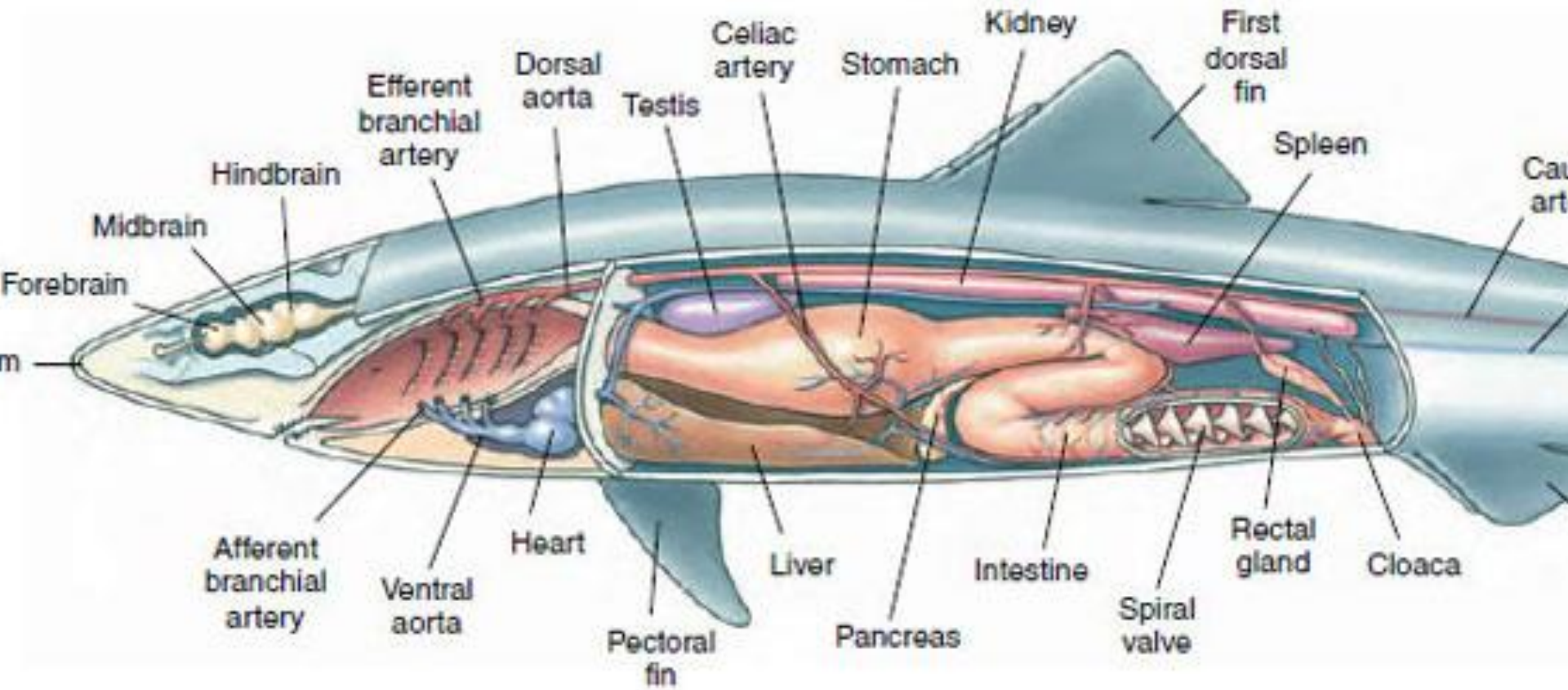






Chondrichthyes





Two distinct evolutionary lines

- Elasmobranchii

Holocephali



Elasmobranchii (“*metal plate and gills*”)

Cartilagenous skeleton = few remains except teeth

Key characteristics =

1. 5 to 7 gill openings
2. spiracle
3. placoid scales
4. upper jaw not fused to cranium
5. lower jaw attached
6. teeth numerous and replaced rapidly



Top level carnivores that are not particularly dependent upon sight for prey capture

Shark evolution is poorly understood



<http://www.newark.osu.edu/facultystaff/personal/jstjohn/Documents/Cool-fossils/Paleozoic-fish.htm>





Holocephali (“complete head”)

Also known as the Chimerans

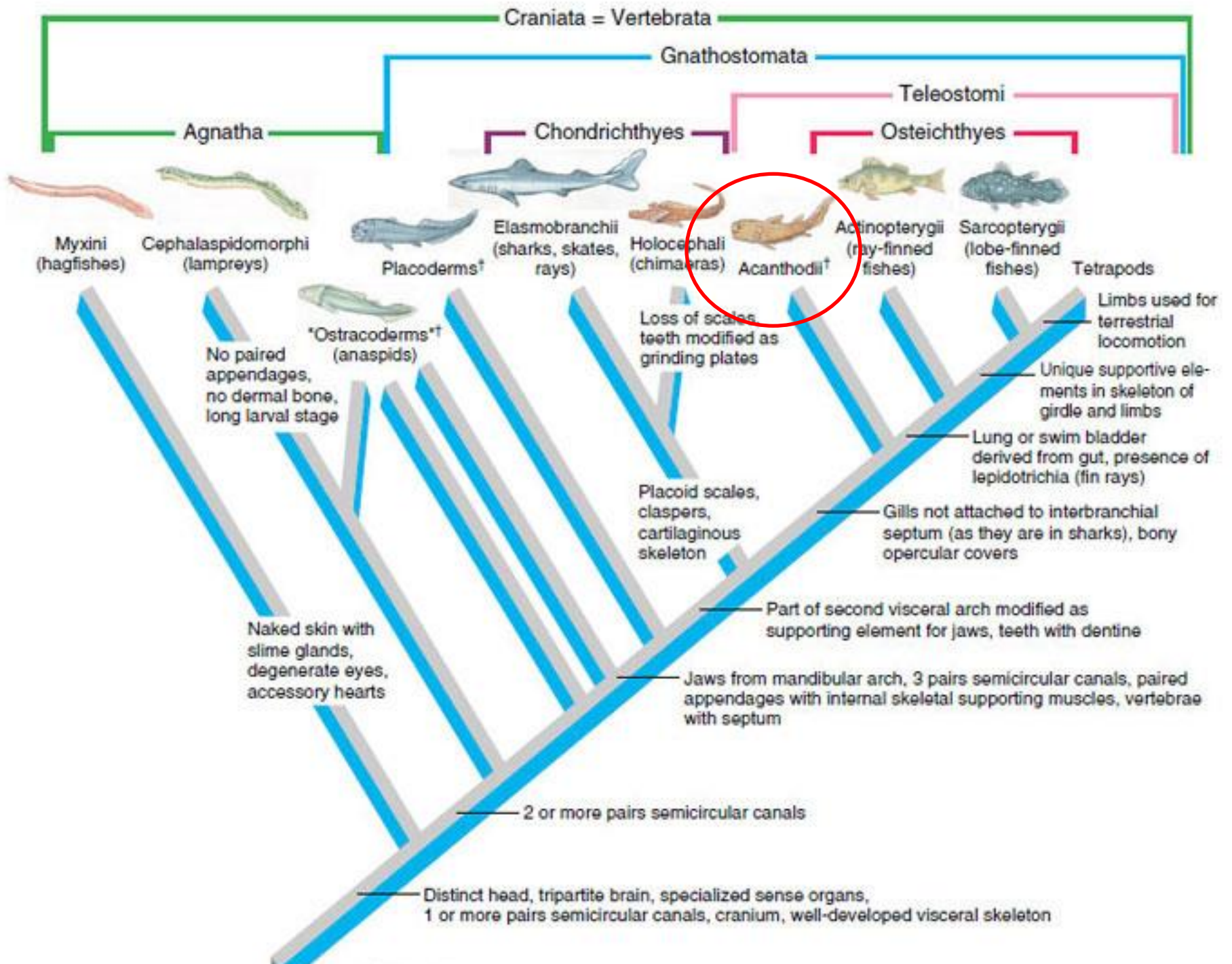
Bottom dwelling

Invertebrate feeding

Characteristics include:

1. Single gill cover
2. 4 gill openings
3. no spiracle
4. upper jaw fused to cranium
5. only a few teeth that are flat and platelike
6. no scales
7. males have a clasper on their head as well as the ones on the pelvic fins





Acanthodii (“spiny sharks”)

Oldest known jawed vertebrates

Key characteristics:

1. Most were small (<20cm)

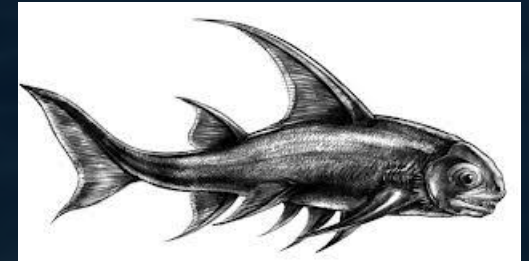
2. Large eyes

3. Flexible, streamlined bodies

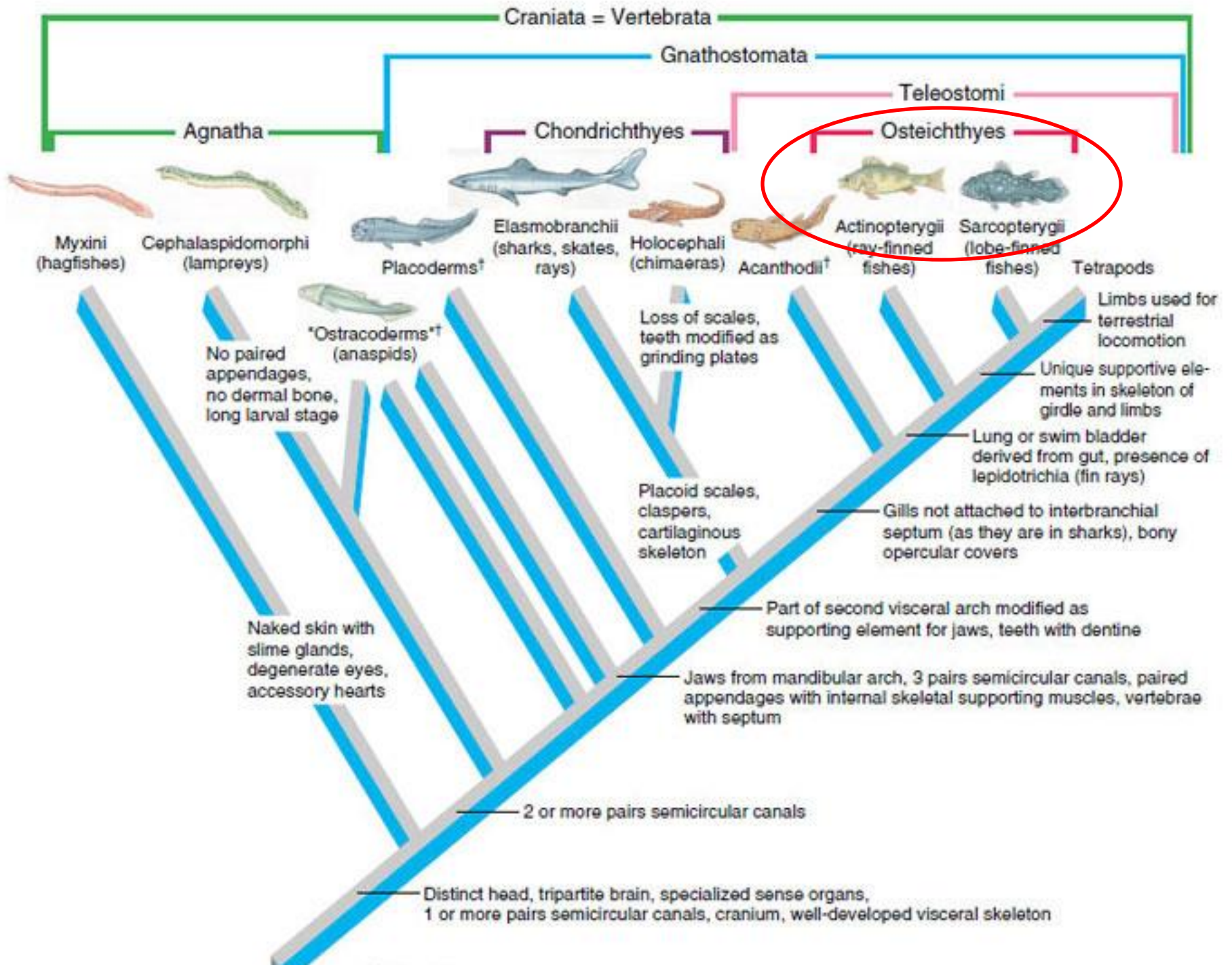
covered with bony dentine-tipped scales

4. Stout ornamented spines in front of all fins

5. Paired fins







Osteichthyes (“*Bony Fishes*”)

Very diverse

Key characteristics:

1. presence of lungs -derived swim bladder (lungs are still found in South American lungfish and tetrapods)
2. presence of bone – lost in some spp, most have dermal bone in skull and jaws
3. bony scales – heavy bone is lost and replaced by flexible, thin and strong scales made of isopedine.
4. lepidotrichia – probably derived from scales, are the soft, segmented fin rays



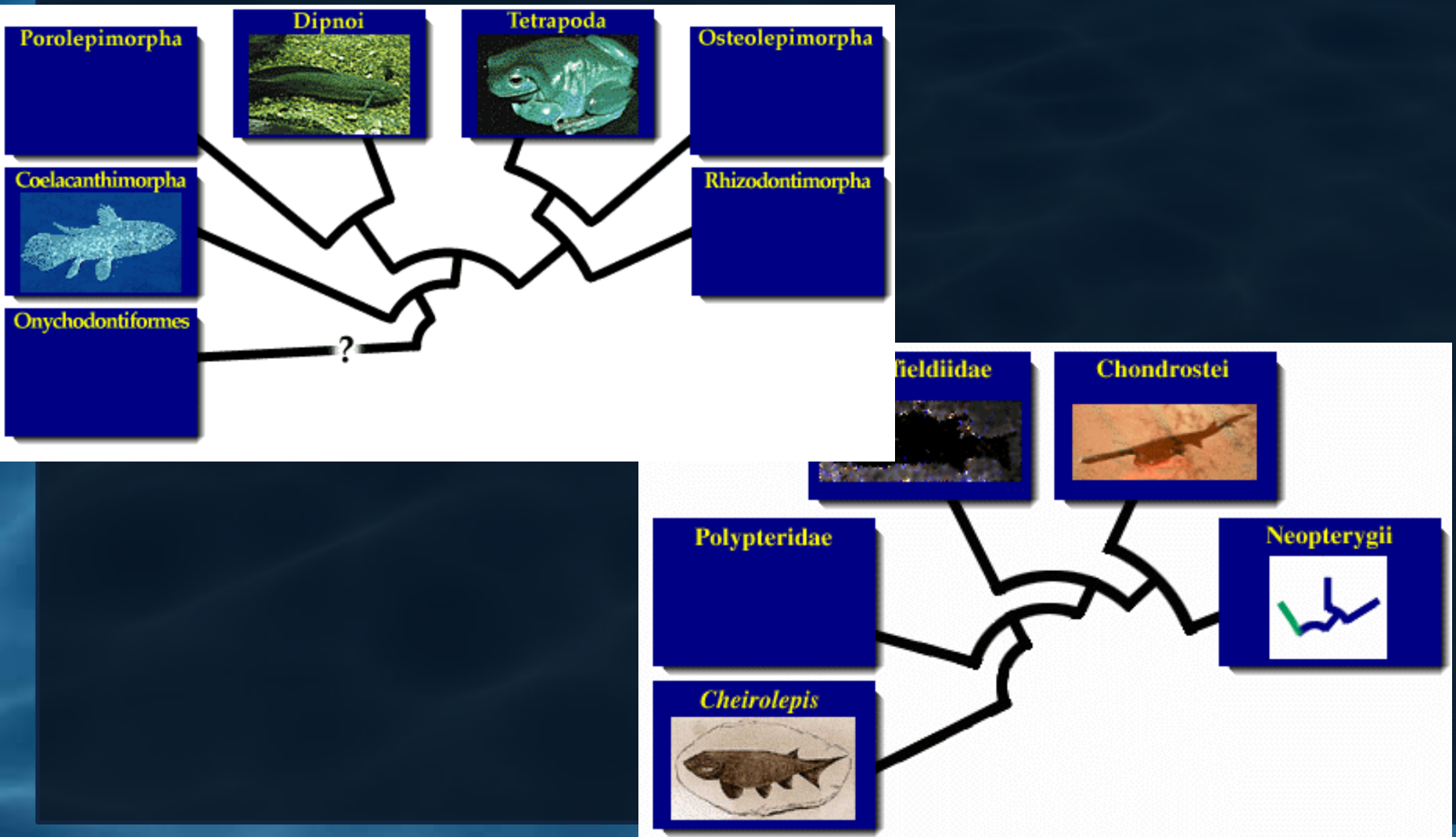
usually keep the rest of the fish in a
certain unexpanded appearance



© D. Randle 2002



Sarcopterygii vs Actinopterygii



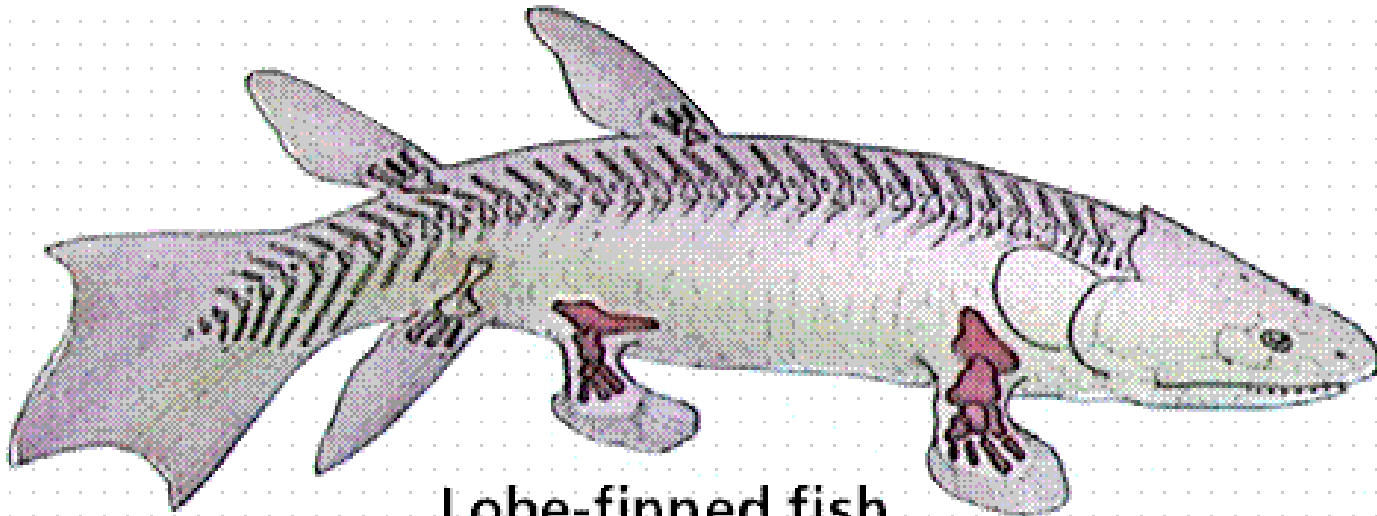
Sarcopterygii (“*lobe-finned fish*”)

Make up the coelacanth, lungfish and osteolepids

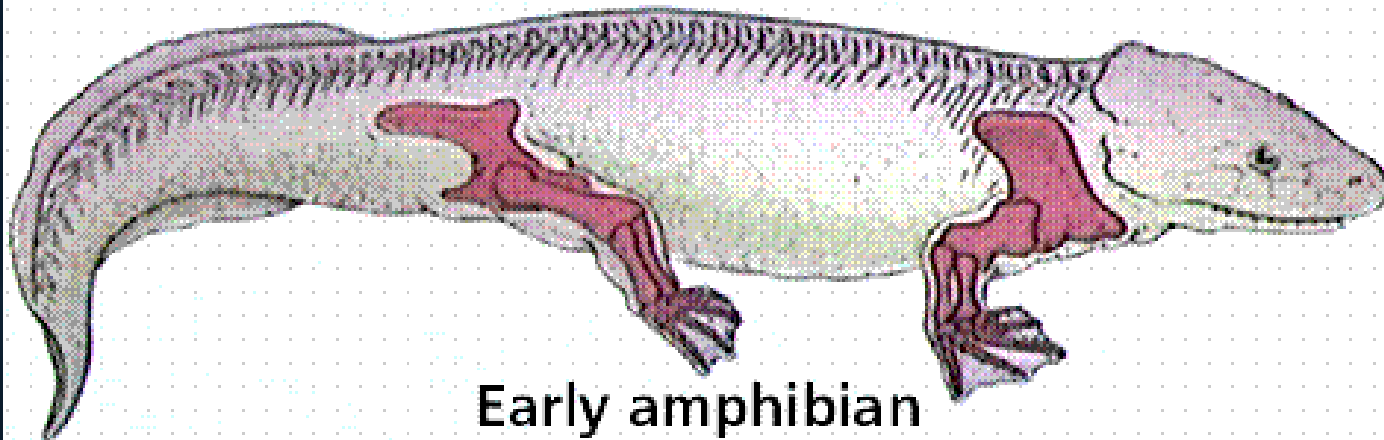
Key characteristics:

1. fins with bony leg-like structures





Lobe-finned fish



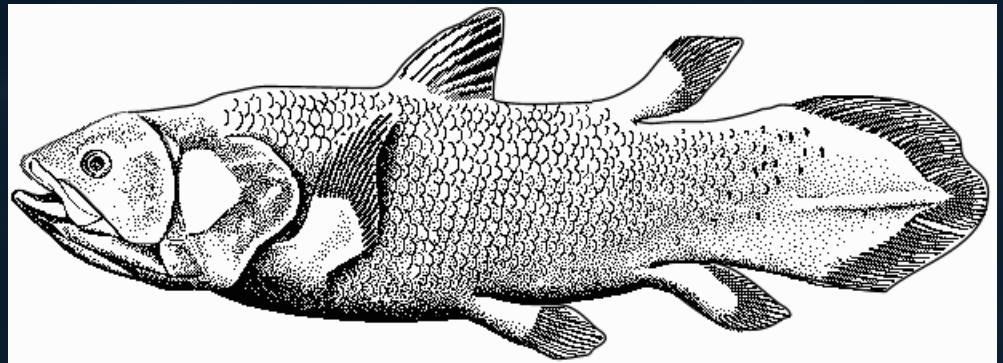
Early amphibian

Coelacanth

Key characteristics:

1. 3 lobed tail
2. Forward-placed dorsal fin
3. Large cosmoid scales
4. external nostrils

Evolved initially in FW, moved to shallow water marine habitats, disappeared from the fossil record, and then were re-discovered in 1938 off the African and Indian costs



Lungfish

Live in freshwater and are prone to stagnation

Key characteristics:

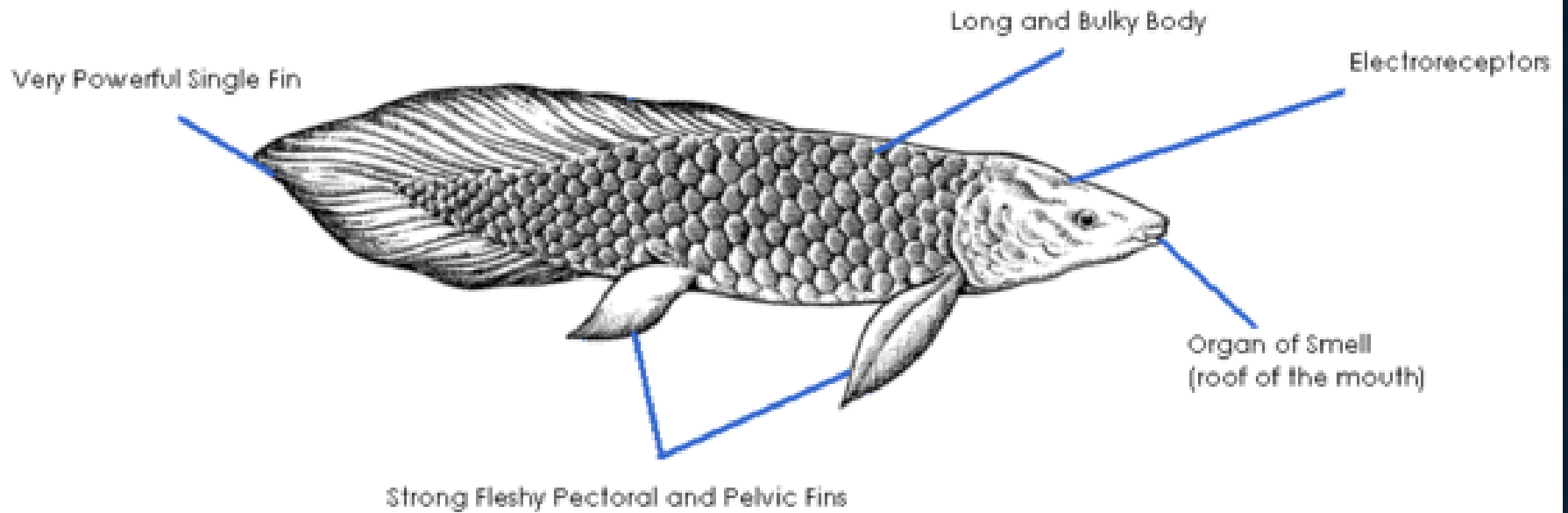
1. lungs
2. cartilagenous skeleton
3. internal nostrils
4. plate-like teeth
5. spiral valve intestine



Closest piscine relatives of the tetrapods



Average length: 115cm



Source: <http://www2.dpi.qld.gov.au/images/1877.gif>

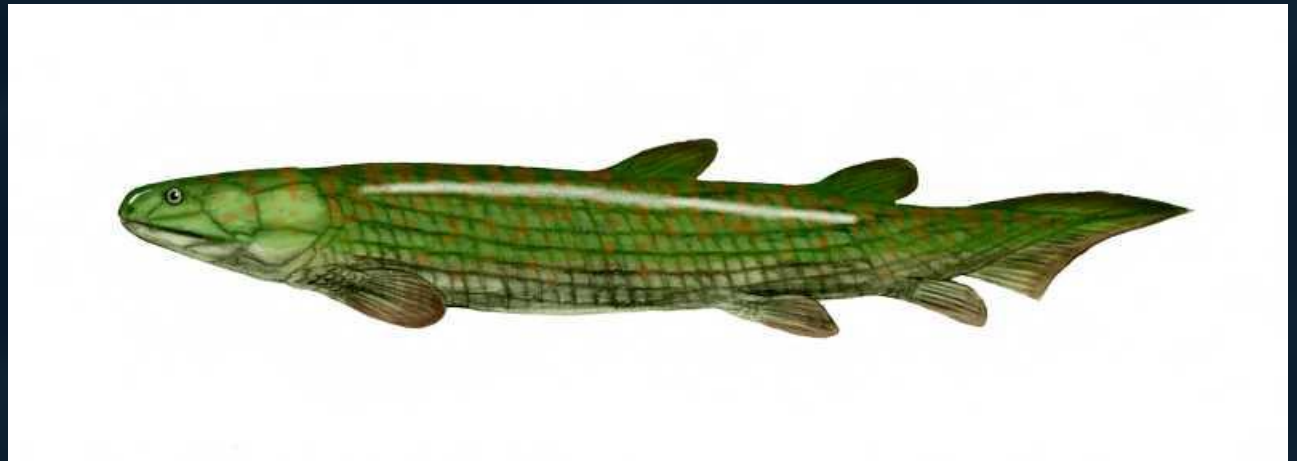
Osteolepids

Thought to be the intermediary between fish and amphibians

Key characteristics:

1. lobed fins
2. means of jaw suspension
3. structure of teeth
4. bony elements in lobed fins that link them to tetrapods

Most were armored, air-breathing predators of tropical freshwater environments





The Virtual Fossil Museum
www.fossilmuseum.net





- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tYOG3HzJvak>

Actinopterygii (“ray-finned fish”)



Chondrostei

Original ray-finned fish

Primarily cartilaginous showing some ossification

25 species in two families

the sturgeons and the paddle fishes

Key features:

1. presence of a spiracle
2. heterocercal tail
3. cranium composed of 3 fused units of bone
4. bones of upper jaw fused to cranium

Edited by

Greg T.D. Lefferson · T. William H. Braswell · R. Scott McKinley

Sturgeons and Paddlefish of North America



Fish & Fisheries Series

Kluwer Academic Publishers





Holostei

Holostei are considered an intermediate stage consisting of gars and bowfin, but up for controversy

More advanced jaws than chondrosteans (free posterior maxilla allow for suction)
Now largely extinct



Teleostei

Teleosts are modern

Key Teleost characteristics are:

1. operculum consists of four bones
2. tail is homocercal
3. elasmoid scales
4. vertebrae are completely ossified
5. swimbladder reduced in size
6. both premax and max bones in jaw are moveable
7. fins are highly maneuverable
8. variety of body shapes

Teleostei

- 96% of living fishes
- Found in Antarctic, alkaline lakes, acid streams, deep sea and shallow rivers.
- Teleosts include eels, catfish, tarpon, tuna, halibut, flounder, trout, cod, herring, salmon, and many other fishes

