Becoming Human

Instructions: Access the website at [**www.becominghuman.org**](http://becominghuman.org/). Each section of this activity requires you to visit one of the areas at the site, watch video clips and explore multimedia. Notice the top menu bar which has the listing of the areas:  
| Prologue | Evidence | Anatomy | Lineages | Culture |  
You can use these links to easily navigate to the different sections.

**Prologue**

1. After watching the video in the prologue, list three questions you have about human evolution.

**Evidence**

2. Where is Hadar and why is it significant?

3. What is a paleoecologist?

*( Use the menu at the bottom titled "Related Exhibits" to access the exhibits related to evidence. The answers to the following questions can be found within the exhibits, you may have to search for them, the words in bold may give you clues about where to search. )*

Evidence - Related Exhibits

4. The**scientific method** begins with an observation, information drawn from these observations rests on the principles of scientific thinking. What are the 3 principles of scientific thinking?

5.**Finding fossils** can be difficult, name 4 locations on the earth where significant hominid fossil finds occur.

6. When a fossil is found, **profiling** can be done to answer questions about the organism. How do scientists determine:

The species -

The age -

The sex -

The health -

**Anatomy**

7. What is the closest living relative to the human?

8. What is a common ancestor?

9. How does the human foot compare to the foot of a chimpanzee?

10. How does the skull of Homo erectus compare to the skull of Homo sapiens

Anatomy - Related Exhibits

11. Humans are **like other primates** in many ways. Name two similarities between humans and other primates.

12. **Bipedalism** requires anatomical changes in bone structure to allow walking upright. Name one difference between the skeleton of a chimpanzee and a human that aids humans in walking upright.

13. How is brain size measured? Is there a chronological trend towards larger brains? What does a larger brain allow for?

14. How do we know what hominids looked like?

**Lineages**

15. Where are most Neanderthal fossils found?

16. How did the face of Neanderthals differ from modern humans?

17. Suggest one reason why Neanderthals became extinct.

Lineages - Related Links

18. What is the **Missing Link** and why is it not an accurate term for hominid evolution?

19. How **humans populated** the globe is a question among paleoanthroplogists. Compare the "Out of Africa Theory" to the "Multiregional Theory"

20. How does evolution explain the **diversity** of people throughout the world, like types of skin color?