

What are Species?

Watch the video entitled *What are Species?* and answer the questions below.

Q1 What experiment had people been doing for Darwin?

A1 People had been doing crosses to produce domesticated animals.

Q2 How many types of domestic dogs are shown in the video?

A2 There are about 25 types of dogs shown (but if you eliminate repeat showings of the same type the number is about 15).

Q3 From what animal are all domestic dogs evolved?

A3 All domesticated dogs have evolved from the wolf.

Q4 What characteristics do dog breeders select for breeding purposes?

A4 Dog breeders select those pups that have the characteristics that please them.

Q5 What characteristics does nature select?

A5 Nature selects those young animals that are best suited to a particular environment.

Q6 Why can many types of dogs not interbreed?

A6 They cannot interbreed for purely mechanical reasons, e.g. the male is too small to pass his sperm on to the female.

Q7 Research and explain what is meant by artificial insemination.

A7 Artificial insemination is the medical or veterinary introduction of semen or sperm into the vagina or uterus.

Q8 Why are there so many more types of animals than there are types of domestic dogs?

A8 Humans have been selecting between dogs for only a few centuries: nature has been selecting amongst animals for millions, tens of millions or hundreds of millions of years.

Q9 The video ends with images of different types of cats. Name any three types of cats shown.

A9 Acceptable answers are: lynx, tiger, cheetah, lion and domestic cat.