

Evolution and Development of Fishes

Fish, or lower vertebrates, occupy the basal nodes of the vertebrate phylogeny, and are therefore crucial in interpreting almost every feature of more advanced vertebrates, including amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. Recent research focuses on combining evolutionary observations – primarily from the fish fossil record – with developmental data from living fishes in order to better interpret evolutionary history and vertebrate phylogeny. This book highlights the importance of this research in the interpretation of vertebrate evolution, bringing together world-class paleontologists and biologists to summarize the most interesting, current and cutting-edge topics in fish evolution and development. It will be an invaluable tool for researchers in early vertebrate paleontology and evolution, and those particularly interested in the interface between evolution and development.

DR ZERINA JOHANSON is a leading researcher in the field of early vertebrate evolutionary developmental biology ('evo-devo'), combining paleontological research with developmental studies on living animals. Her diverse research interests include the evolution and development of teeth and dentitions, vertebrate reproduction, paired appendages and the axial skeleton. Dr Johanson has spoken at evo-devo symposia and has a strong commitment to supporting this research via her appointment to several journal editorial boards, and as a co-editor for volumes such as a special issue of *Journal of Anatomy on Vertebrate Evolution and Development* (2013).

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