

MONOPHYLETIC

Meaning: Monophyletic refers to a group of organisms that includes a single common ancestor and all of its descendants, forming a complete lineage.

1. A monophyletic group includes an ancestor and all its descendants, distinguishing it from paraphyletic and polyphyletic groups.
2. The classification of birds as a monophyletic group has been supported by various molecular studies.
3. Understanding the concept of monophyletic lineages is crucial for accurately depicting evolutionary relationships.
4. The discovery of new fossils has helped clarify which species belong to monophyletic groups in the vertebrate lineage.
5. In cladistics, a monophyletic classification is preferred because it reflects true evolutionary history.

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