

evolution



About Our Cover

The cover shows a reconstruction of an *Australopithecus afarensis* couple on display in the History of Human Evolution section of the Hall of Human Origins at the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH) in New York City. This species lived between 3.8 and 2.9 million years ago. The most famous fossil is the partial skeleton named Lucy (3.2 million years old) that was found in the Afar Region of Ethiopia. Additional *A. afarensis* fossils have been found in Ethiopia, Kenya, and South Africa. It is thought that *A. afarensis* was ancestral to the genus *Homo*, which includes the modern human species. This particular pose was chosen to depict their pair bonding, upright walk, and predatory awareness. The image and caption are courtesy of C. D. Finnin, C. R. Mickens, M. Walker, and S. Kvist, all at the AMNH. The focus of this issue of *ABT* is evolution.

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