

Williams

Adaptation and Natural Selection

A Critique of Some Current Evolutionary Thought

Biological evolution is a fact--but the many conflicting theories of evolution remain controversial even today. In 1966, simple Darwinism, which holds that evolution functions primarily at the level of the individual organism, was threatened by opposing concepts such as group selection, a popular idea stating that evolution acts to select entire species rather than individuals. George Williams's famous argument in favor of the Darwinists struck a powerful blow to those in opposing camps. His *Adaptation and Natural Selection*, now a classic of science literature, is a thorough and convincing essay in defense of Darwinism; its suggestions for developing effective principles for dealing with the evolution debate and its relevance to many fields outside biology ensure the timelessness of this critical work.

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35,20 €

32,90 € (zzgl. MwSt.)

Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

Artikelnummer: 9780691026152

Medium: Buch

ISBN: 978-0-691-02615-2

Verlag: Princeton University Press

Erscheinungstermin: 01.05.1996

Sprache(n): Englisch

Auflage: Erscheinungsjahr 1996

Serie: Princeton Science Library

Produktform: Kartoniert

Gewicht: 353 g

Seiten: 320

Format (B x H): 127 x 203 mm

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Kundenservice Verlag Dr. Otto Schmidt KG

Neumannstraße 10, 40235 Düsseldorf | kundenservice@otto-schmidt.de | 0221-93738-997 (Inland)

13.09.2026 | 10:28 Uhr

