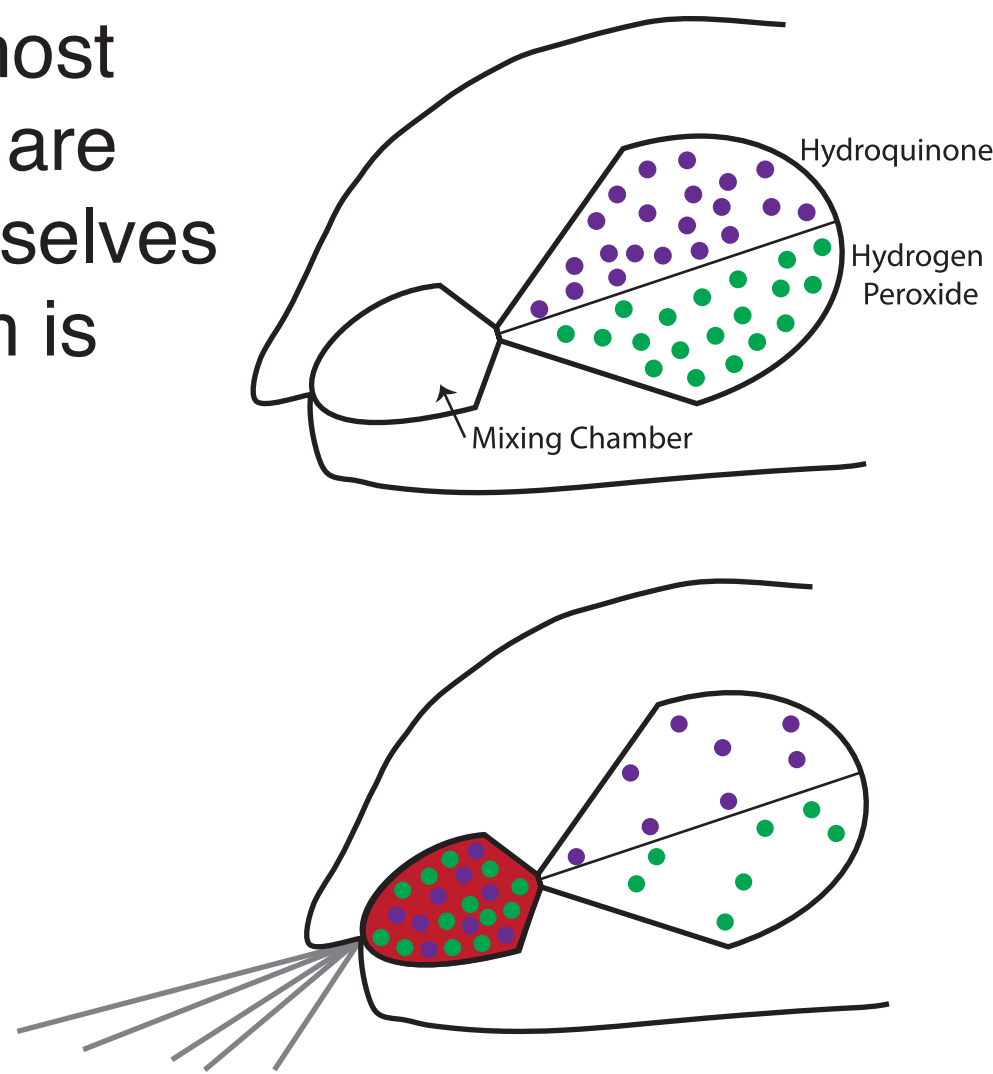


Day 6

DESIGNED WITH UNIQUE SYSTEMS

BOMBARDIER BEETLE: Unique design for defense

Bombardier beetles are one of the most interesting creatures on Earth. They are very small and so must protect themselves from predators. Their defense system is very complex and amazing!

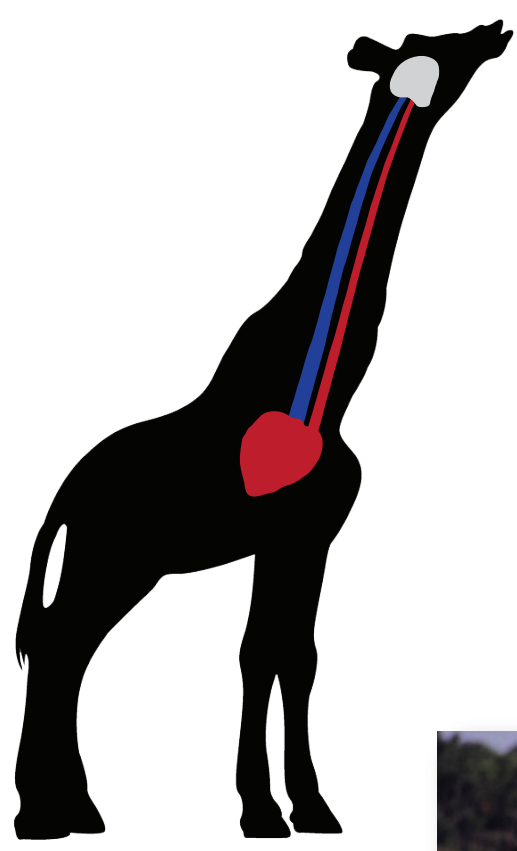


The beetles have a complex abdomen with three chambers. The first two chambers hold chemicals. When the beetle is threatened it forces the two chemicals together into the third chamber where they react violently creating an extremely hot gas that is projected at the attacker. The complexity of this system wouldn't allow for simple step-by-step evolution since the first beetles to try it would have blown themselves up!

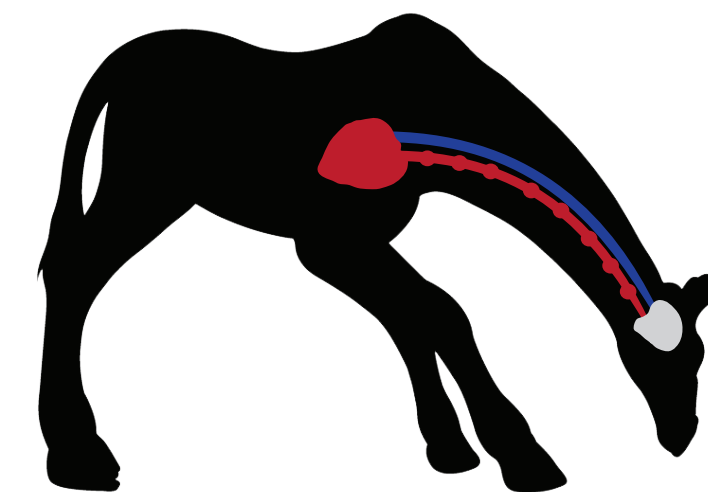
This defense system's complexity suggests a designer behind its intricacy.

GIRAFFE: Unique circulatory system

The Giraffe is the tallest of all land-living animals and can reach heights of 4.3–5.2 m (14–17 ft) tall. The heart compensates for this by increasing the blood pressure. The average giraffe heart can weigh up to 10 kg (22 lb) and measure 60 cm (2 ft) long! Because of the large heart size, their blood pressure runs at about double the pressure of other vertebrates. This high pressure could create some serious problems for the giraffe:



Due to the great distance between a giraffe's head and its feet a special blood pumping system must combat gravity. A system of valves exists in the neck that work in conjunction with one another to move blood either faster or slower in order to maintain constant blood pressure. Without this system a giraffe would pass out every time it tried to get a drink!



HUMANS: Unique in many ways

Among all animals we are unique in being created "in the image of God."

Relationally - we show the relationship expressed by the Trinity in our abilities to create lasting relationships such as marriage.



Functionally - we show God's dominion over all creation by the abilities He gave us to manage the creation on this planet.

Humans were created unique from other animals. Uniquely human qualities include: speech; the ability for ultimate questioning and wonderment of life and nature; abstract thought; free will; morality; the ability to plan for future contingency; creativity; and a love for beauty.

And God said, "Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals, each according to its kind." And it was so... And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning - the sixth day. -Genesis 1:24-31 (NIV)

