## The Tree of Life

The Tree of Life is our genetic heritage through time. Like the {In:Tree of Knowledge} which represents the sum total of human understanding, the Tree of Life is also a mathematical tree rather than a plant. The Tree of Life represents all the genetic material on the planet that exists now and in the past and everything about the DNA and the life evolution process. Evolution is the growth of the Tree of Life. As we evolve forward in the {In:Sacred Direction} we grow the Tree of Life.

The Tree of Life is our evolutionary history. It's our ancestry all the way back to the very first organic molecules that formed on this planet that lead to life. It is how we are all biologically connected to each other. How we share common ancestors with all forms of life. We are all related to each other, and interdependent on each other. In a sense we are all part of a single living organism that includes all life on Earth. It's where we fit in the food chain. We are all part of the {In:Story of Life} on this planet. If you go back 55 million years the squirrel and I share a common ancestor. He is my cousin. I think we look alike.

Educational material on the Tree of Life can be found at the {In:nw:http://tolweb.org/tree/ 'Tree of Life Web Project}.