

# Evidence of Macroevolution—The Origin of Tetrapods

Skeletal elements:



■ Humerus  
■ Radius  
■ Ulna  
■ Distal elements

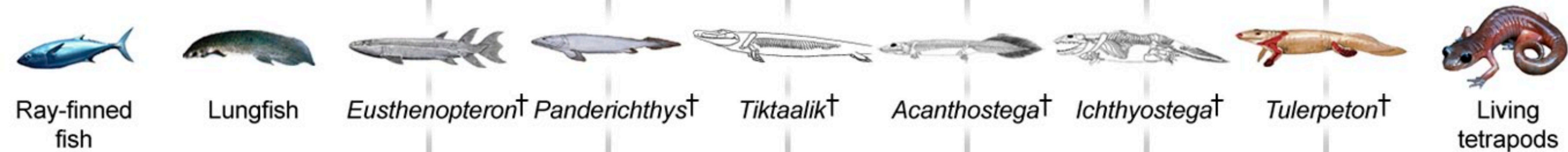
Fossil Evidence:



8 digits

7 digits (hind)

6 digits



Between 385 and 360 million years ago, a lineage of fleshy-finned vertebrates evolved four legs and, eventually, the ability to walk on land. The steps of this transition are recorded in the fossils, some of which are shown here. Many other lines of evidence, including stratigraphy, comparative anatomy, and genetic comparisons among modern organisms, support this hypothesis.