



"The world of humanity is one race, the surface of the earth one place of residence . . ." —'Abdu'l-Bahá

ALL PEOPLE  
ARE PART OF  
ONE AMAZING  
SPECIES.



## DOES RACE EXIST?

In biology, we learned about how scientists classify species. For example, *Canis lupis*, the wolf, is a different species than *Canis latrans*, the coyote. *Canis lupis familiaris*, the domestic dog, is a subspecies of the wolf.

But guess what? Humans, *Homo sapiens*, have no subspecies. Variations in the way people look, such as skin color, are adaptations to where we live. But these differences aren't enough to separate us. Every person on Earth is the same species.

Scientists say that "race" is a social idea. Sadly, it's used as a reason to treat people unfairly due to their ethnic or cultural background. Throughout history, racism has harmed some groups and given privileges to others. It's caused injustice, violence, and war.

I'm going to spread the word that to have peace and justice in the world, we need to listen to science: on Earth, we're one human family, and we need to act like it!

## HUMAN SPECIES

Check out my quiz about the human species.

- Biologically, humanity is one species.  
**TRUE • FALSE**
- The idea of race has been used to justify inequality and injustice, such as slavery.  
**TRUE • FALSE**
- Modern humans evolved in Africa about 300,000 years ago.  
**TRUE • FALSE**
- Melanin, the skin's brown pigment, protects us from damaging ultraviolet rays. So people have darker skin if their ancestors are from tropical areas.  
**TRUE • FALSE**
- Even with global migration, people have never been separated long enough to evolve into different subspecies.  
**TRUE • FALSE**
- "Race" is an ancient concept, and the word has always been a part of the English language.  
**TRUE • FALSE**
- The concept of using race to divide people socially has developed in the last 500 years.  
**TRUE • FALSE**
- Humans are the most genetically similar primates. Our DNA is 99.9% alike.  
**TRUE • FALSE**
- There are no genes that separate people into one race or another.  
**TRUE • FALSE**
- Genes for skin or hair color have no relation to characteristics such as kindness, responsibility, or creativity.  
**TRUE • FALSE**
- The continent with the greatest amount of variation in human genes is Australia.  
**TRUE • FALSE**
- It's impossible for people to change racist ideas or behavior.  
**TRUE • FALSE**