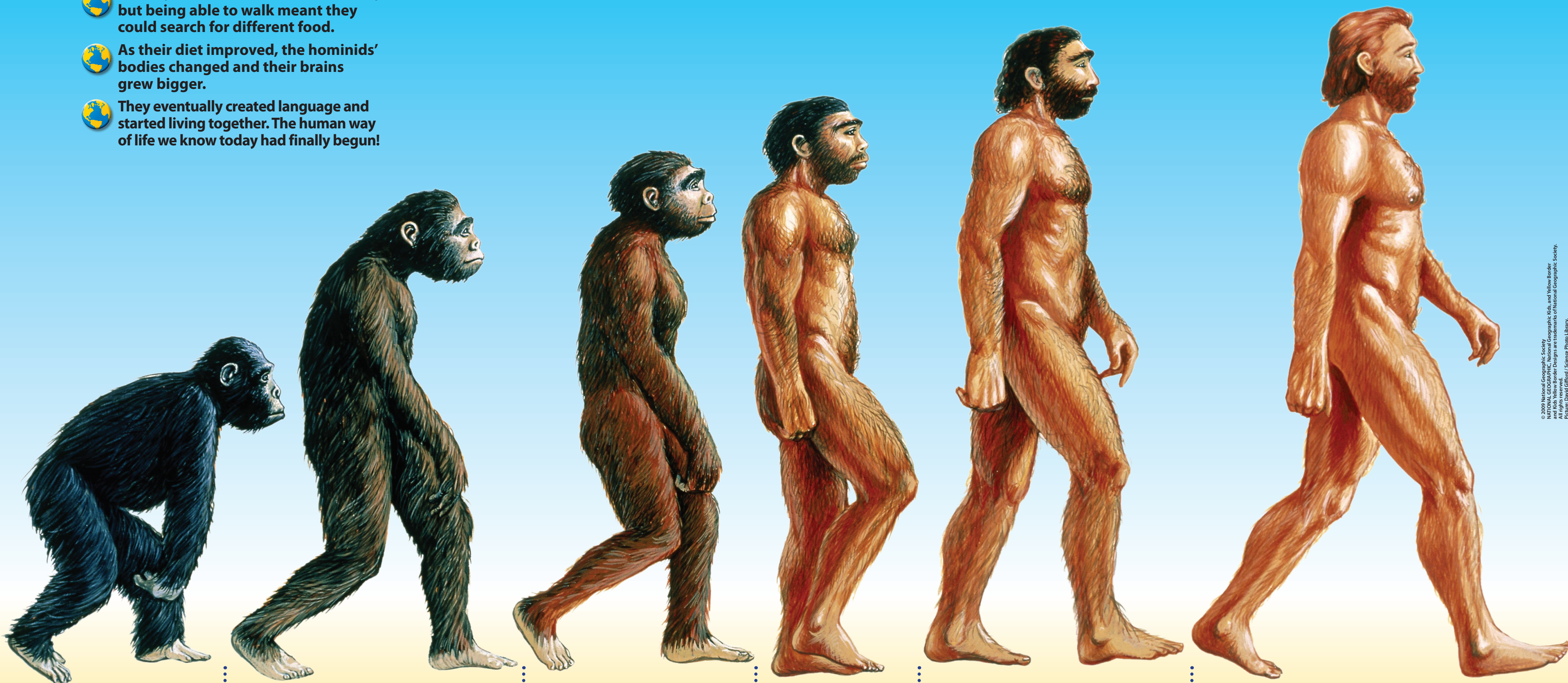


# The amazing HUMAN race

Check out how the human race has evolved over millions of years!

Charles Darwin discovered that humans evolved from apes. We are the last of a series of human-like creatures, called hominids...

- Our earliest ancestors were ape-like critters who climbed down from the trees and began to walk on two feet.
- At first, hominids ate leaves and fruit, but being able to walk meant they could search for different food.
- As their diet improved, the hominids' bodies changed and their brains grew bigger.
- They eventually created language and started living together. The human way of life we know today had finally begun!



## PROCONSUL

23-15 million years ago  
Proconsul lived in trees in rain forests. They're thought to have looked like African apes and ate mainly vegetation and fruit.

## AUSTRALOPITHECUS AFARENSIS

Three-and-a-half-million years ago  
Australopithecus afarensis are one of the early hominids and had bulging skulls and small brains. They evolved special features that made them different from their ape ancestors and walked upright on two legs.

## HOMO HABILIS

Two-and-a-half-million years ago  
Homo habilis were similar to Australopithecus, but had bigger brains, which meant they were clever enough to create simple tools from pebbles.

## HOMO ERECTUS

One-and-a-half-million years ago  
Homo erectus were taller than homo habilis, with larger brains. They used fire and wooden tools.

## HOMO NEANDERTHALENSIS

190,000 years ago  
Homo neanderthalensis lived across Europe and the southwest of Asia. These skilled hunters were stocky and strong, had jutting brows, and were closely related to modern humans.

## HOMO SAPIENS

120,000 years ago to present day  
Homo sapiens – modern humans like us – have a less muscular build than our hominid ancestors. Our brows are smaller and we have different shaped faces. Homo sapiens who lived around 40,000 years ago started making tools from bone, stone and wood, and created carvings and cave paintings.