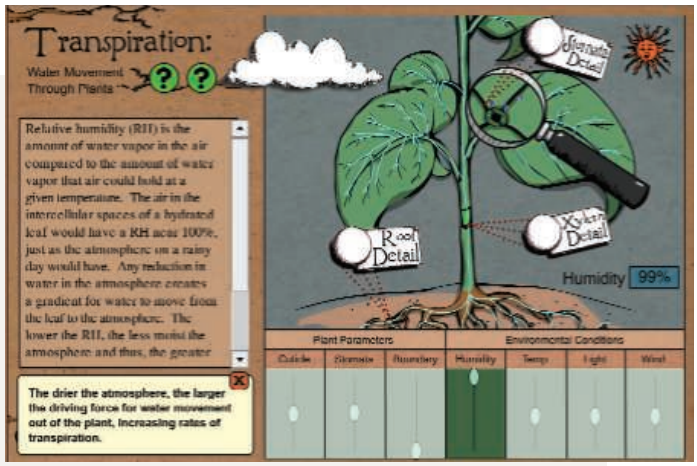
INTERACTIVE MEDIA
Honorable Mention

Transpiration: Water Movement Through Plants
Tracey M. Sterling, New Mexico State University

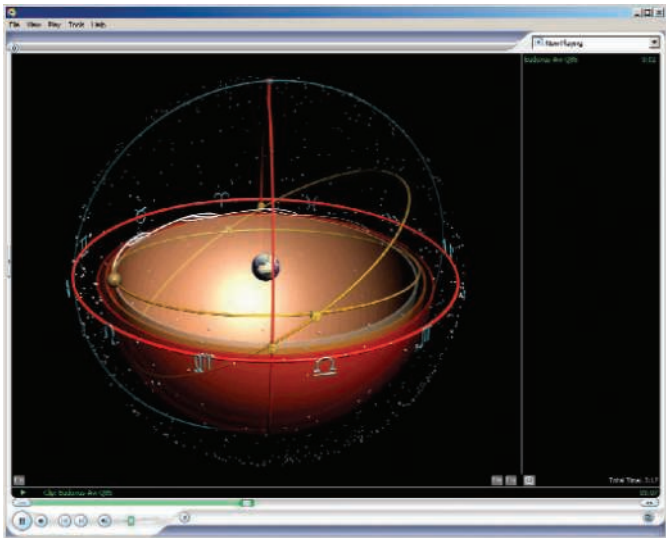
How does a garden grow? Transpiration, the transportation of water through plants from soil to leaves to atmosphere, is an essential part of the hydrologic cycle. From water absorption through a plant's roots to water vapor lost through its leaves, entomologist and plant pathologist Tracy Sterling of New Mexico State University and animator Matt Byrnes created a friendly, interactive activity with a playful design. The animation teaches plant biology basics and offers numerous interactive features, such as changes to environmental conditions that can impact the speed of water movement. And that affects how the garden will grow.



Noninteractive Honorable Mentions *cont.*

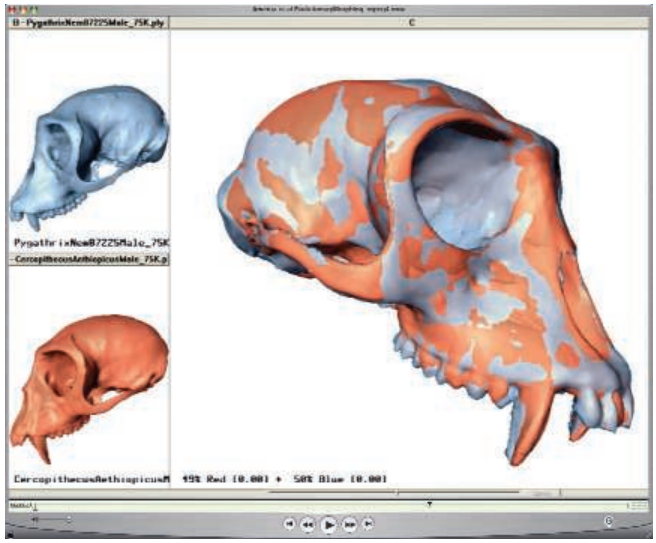
Planetary Motion From Eudoxus to Copernicus
Mogi Massimo Vicentini, Civico Planetario di Milano

Although the earliest astronomers took an Earth-centric view of the heavens, Italian graphic designer Mogi Massimo Vicentini puts the viewer at the center of a sweeping story of planetary motion. Planets rotate, oscillate, and appear to move backward as faulty ideas are rejected, until their motion is most satisfactorily explained by Copernicus's (and Kepler's) heliocentric model. Designed for general planetarium audiences at the Civico Planetario di Milano in Italy, the presentation is a twirling visual history of planetary exploration and time.



Evolutionary Morphing: Statistical Interpolation of Ancestral Morphology Along an Evolutionary Tree
Nina Amenta, University of California, Davis

Until the right bones are found, computer-visualized virtual fossils can fill in some evolutionary gaps. By precisely relating landmark points on one skull image to similar points on another, computer scientist Nina Amenta of the University of California, Davis, and colleagues calculate hypothetical, three-dimensional ancestors within an evolutionary tree. The resulting video is a transformative, graceful look into monkey morphology, culminating in the evolution of one common ancestor's cranium through five branches of descendents.



Published by AAAS

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Science **309** (5743), 1993.
DOI: 10.1126/science.309.5743.1993