Cretaceous Period Insects and Plants

Many angiosperms were pollinated by insects; insect pollination is thought to increase the rate at which new species evolve. However, several other groups of Cretaceous plants were also insect-pollinated. Whatever the reasons for the success of the angiosperms, many new groups of insects evolved during the Cretaceous, including the oldest known ants and bees as well as newly evolved groups of pollinating species such as flies, beetles, wasps, and moths.

Some paleontologists think that the coincident evolution of these insect groups and the diversification of flowering plants is an example of the process of coevolution, in which two different types of organisms (such as an insect and plant) become specifically adapted to one another.

Insects also evolved more types of feeding behavior both in quiet-water habitats such as lakes and in flowing-water habitats