Record Nr. UNINA9910461823103321 Autore Maynard Smith John <1920-2004, > Titolo The origins of life: from the birth of life to the origin of language // John Maynard Smith and Eors Szathmary Pubbl/distr/stampa Oxford, [England]: .: Oxford University Press, . 2009 ©1999 **ISBN** 1-336-03095-X 0-19-160421-6 0-19-164732-2 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (310 p.) Disciplina 576.8 Soggetti **Evolution (Biology)** Genetic transformation Electronic books. Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Cover Page; Title Page; Copyright Page; Dedication; Preface; Contents; 1 Life and information; 2 The major transitions; 3 From chemistry to heredity: 4 From the RNA world to the modern world: 5 From heredity to simple cells; 6 The origin of eukaryotic cells; 7 The origin of sex; 8 Genetic conflict; 9 Living together; 10 The evolution of many-celled organisms; 11 Animal societies; 12 From animal societies to human societies; 13 The origin of language; Further reading; Glossary; Index In this fascinating book, John Maynard Smith and Eors Szathmarv Sommario/riassunto present an original picture of evolution. They propose that during evolution there have been a number of major transitions in the way in which information is passed between generations. These transitions include the appearance of the first replicating molecules, the emergence of co-operative animal societies, and the unique language ability of humans. Containing many new ideas, this book is contemporary biology on the grandest scale, from the birth of life to the

origin of language.