

EARTH TIME SCALE

For the Earth Time Scale, you will need 5 meters of adding machine tape.

1. Draw a continuous line down the middle of the tape.
2. Draw a line across the **left** end of the tape.
Label this line: **The Present**.
3. From **The Present** line, draw five more lines exactly one meter apart.
Label these lines **1 billion years ago, 2 billion years ago, etc.**
4. Plot each **Event** and **Years Ago** from the following list onto the tape.
(Example: The first event would be placed 60 cm past 4 billion years ago.)
5. Draw in pictures (**10 minimum**) to illustrate the major events.
6. Lightly shade each of the four major Eras a different color.
7. **Label** each of the four Eras.

<u>Event</u>	<u>Years ago</u>	<u>Placement</u>
Earth's beginning????	4.6 billion	60 cm past 4 billion
Oldest microfossils	3.5 billion	50 cm past 3 billion
Oxygen created	2.5 billion	50 cm past 2 billion
End of Precambrian Era	600 million	60 cm from present

Beginning of Paleozoic Era	600 Million	60 cm from present
Trilobites abundant	570 million	57 cm from present
Fish abundant	500 million	50 cm from present
First forest fossils present	390 million	39 cm from
Continents collide forming Pangaea	280 million	28 cm from present
Appalachian Mts. form	280 million	28 cm from present
Trilobites die out	230 million	23 cm from present

Beginning of Mesozoic Era	225 million	22.5 cm from present
Pangaea breaks up	220 million	22 cm from present
forming Gondwanaland & Laurasia	220 million	22 cm from present
Rocky Mts. form	190 million	19 cm from present
Dinosaurs abundant	180 million	18 cm from present
Ancient birds found	160 million	16 cm from present
Gondwanaland separates into Africa & So. America	135 million	13.5 cm from present
Asteroid collision????	66 million	6.6 cm from present
Dinosaurs die out	66 million	6.6 cm from present

Beginning of Cenozoic Era	66 million	6.6 cm from present
First abundant mammals & birds	60 million	6 cm from present
Camels found in North America	20 million	2 cm from present
Ice Age begins - super-large mammals	2 million	2 mm from present
Last Ice Age ends	10,000 years	0.01 mm from present