

Scale Timeline of Earth's History

- Your group will receive a strip of paper 5 meters long and a meter stick to create a scale timeline of Earth's history.
- Suggested scale – 1 meter to 1 billion years,
- Use the chart below to add as many notable events in Earth's history as you can to your scale timeline.
- Please use any resources to draw pictures/visual representations of the events.
- Other tools available: masking tape, markers, large index cards (with square cm)

Geologic Time Period	Million Years Ago (MYA)	Notable Events
Precambrian	≈4,600 MYA (4.6 billion years ago)	Origin of the Earth
Precambrian	≈3,800 MYA (3.8 billion years ago)	Oldest known rocks
Precambrian	≈3,600 MYA (3.6 billion years ago)	Oxygen-producing bacteria, cyanobacteria (algae)
Precambrian	≈2,250 MYA	Organisms with cells with a nucleus (eukaryotic cells)
Precambrian	≈2,050 MYA	The atmosphere becomes oxygenic
Precambrian/Cambrian	≈550 MYA	First abundant fossils; animals with shells and external skeletons
Ordovician	≈500 MYA	First backboned animals
Ordovician/Silurian	≈440 MYA	First land plants
Silurian	≈428 MYA	First land animals
Devonian	≈400 MYA	First amphibians
Carboniferous	≈305 MYA	First reptiles
Permian/Triassic	≈250 MYA	First dinosaurs
Jurassic	≈205 MYA	First mammals
Jurassic	≈160 MYA	First flowering plants and hardwood trees
Jurassic	≈150 MYA	First birds
Cretaceous/Paleogene	≈66 MYA	Extinction of dinosaurs
Cenozoic	≈65 MYA	First primates
Cenozoic	≈35 MYA	First elephants
Quaternary	≈2 MYA	Homo erectus
Quaternary	≈.2 MYA (200,000 years ago)	Homo sapiens