

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

GEOLOGIC TIMELINE

GOAL:

The goal of this assignment is to create a geologic timeline representing many of the important biological events in Earth's history.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Each student should obtain a ruler, 3 crayons, a pen/pencil, and a 50" strip of paper.
2. Draw a solid line about 1 inch from the edge of the strip of paper.
From the line, measure 6 inches and draw a second solid line.
In between the 1st and 2nd lines, draw tick marks every inch in the center of the strip.
From the second line, measure 10 inches and draw a third solid line.
In between the 2nd and 3rd lines, draw tick marks every inch in the center of the strip.
From the third line, measure 10 inches and draw a fourth solid line.
In between the 3rd and 4th lines, draw tick marks every inch in the center of the strip.
From the fourth line, measure 10 inches and draw a fifth solid line.
In between the 4th and 5th lines, draw tick marks every inch in the center of the strip.
From the fifth line, measure 10 inches and draw a sixth solid line.
In between the 5th and 6th lines, draw tick marks every inch in the center of the strip.
3. Measure 11.7 cm to the right of the fifth solid line and draw a dotted line.
Measure 19.0 cm to the right of the fifth solid line and draw a dotted line.
Measure 23.7 cm to the right of the fifth solid line and draw a dotted line.
4. Place a star in the center of the strip at the following locations:
 - on the first solid line
 - halfway in between the second and third solid lines
 - on the fifth solid line
 - 9.4 cm to the right of the fifth solid line
 - 13.1 cm to the right of the fifth solid line
 - 14.7 cm to the right of the fifth solid line
 - 19.6 cm to the right of the fifth solid line
 - on the third dotted line
 - 0.1 cm to the left of the sixth solid line
 - on the last solid line
5. Label the bottom of the solid lines as follows (in order from left to right):
 - 4600 MYA, 4000 MYA, 3000 MYA, 2000 MYA, 1000 MYA, present day

6. Label the bottom of the dotted line as follows (in order from left to right):
 - 544 MYA, 245 MYA, 66 MYA
7. Label the regions in between the dotted lines (in order from left to right):
 - PALEOZOIC ERA, MESOZOIC ERA, CENOZOIC ERA
8. Turn the timeline so that the dotted lines are horizontal and closest to the students.
 - Just above the 2nd dotted line (245 MYA), write "PANGAEA & MASS EXTINCTION".
 - Just above the 3rd dotted line (66 MYA), write "MASS EXTINCTION".
9. Label the stars as follows (in order from left to right):
 - Earth Forms
 - Oldest Known Fossils (Bacteria)
 - 1st Many-Celled Organisms
 - 1st Many-Celled Animals (Sponges)
 - 1st Plants on Land
 - 1st Amphibians
 - 1st Mammals
 - Dinosaurs Extinct
 - 1st Human Ancestors
 - [INSERT STUDENT'S NAME] is Born
10. Use the crayons to lightly color the Paleozoic, Mesozoic, and Cenozoic Eras in three different colors.
11. Fold the timeline over three times and punch holes in it. The geologic timeline can now safely be store in the student's binder.

