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Condensed Geological Time Scale

Complete this worksheet after reading workbook pages 124 - 125.

In the currently accepted timeline of the Earth's history, many important events have occurred since the Earth was formed. These are listed below. Using the numbers associated with each sentence, fill in the table under each era with the numbers placed in chronological order.

A Precambrian Time
B Paleozoic Era
C Mesozoic Era
D Cenozoic Era

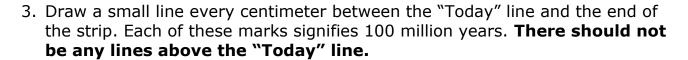
- 1. Cells with nuclei form
- 2. Began 65 million years ago
- 3. First birds appear
- 4. Large mammals appear

- 5. The ozone layer develops
- 6. Dinosaurs dominate the earth
- 7. Plants become established on land
- 8. Humans appear
- 9. Crawling insects appear on land
- 10. Many reptile species evolve
- 11. Organisms suffer largest mass extinction known
- 12. small mammals survive mass extinction
- 13. began 540 million years ago
- 14. cyanobacteria begin photosynthesis and produce oxygen
- 15. began 4.6 billion years ago
- 16. winged insects appear
- 17. began 248 million years ago
- 18. mastodons, camels and ground sloths
- 19. fishes, the earliest animals with backbones, appear
- 20. prokaryotes form

	Name:	Block:	Date:
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Geological Time Scale

- 1. Measure out a 60 cm strip of adding machine tape.
- 2. Draw a line across the tape (all the way across) every 10 cm.
 - a. Label the first line "Today."
 - b. Label the second line "1 billion years ago."
 - c. Label the third line "2 billion years ago."
 - d. Label the fourth line "3 billion years ago."
 - e. Label the fifth line "4 billion years ago."



- 4. Label the following events:
 - a. At 46 cm (4.6 billion years ago), mark "The Origin of Earth."
 - b. At 35 cm (3.5 billion years ago), mark "The Earliest Cells Appear."
 - c. At 2.15 cm (215 million years ago), mark "Dinosaurs Appear."
 - d. At 0.65 cm (65 million years ago), mark "Dinosaurs Go Extinct."
 - e. At 0.55 cm (55 million years ago), mark "First Primates Appear."
 - f. At 0.44 cm (44 million years ago), mark "First Hominids Appear."
- 5. Draw a picture to represent each of the events you marked in step #4. Add more pictures of organisms that evolved during each time period to have a better timeline!

Era	Time Period	Measurements	Color
Precambrian	542 mya – 4.6 bya.	46 cm - 5.42 cm	Yellow
Paleozoic	542 mya – 251 mya.	5.42 cm - 2.51 cm	Purple
Mesozoic	251 mya – 65 mya.	2.51 cm - 0.65 cm	Orange
Cenozoic	65 mya – present.	0.65 cm - "Today"	Green

- 6. Shade the segments of the time scale to mark the length of each era.
- 7. Write the name of the era in its segment.

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Events Present/3 Events Correctly Placed/6 Picture for Each Event/6 Eras Named & Shaded/4 Shading Key on Back/1
SCORE:/20

