

Name: _____

Block: _____

Date: _____

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

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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."
3. Draw a small line every centimeter between the "Today" line and the end of the strip. Each of these marks signifies 100 million years. **There should not be any lines above the "Today" line.**
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

