

Geologic Timeline

4.6 billion – 3800 million years ago	3800 to 2500 mya	2500 to 1600 mya	1600 to 900 mya	900 to 650 mya	544 to 500 mya
<p>The Earth was extremely hostile to life as we know it.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Oldest sedimentary rocks. 2. First life appears (single celled organisms without nuclei). 3. Oldest fossils 4. Single celled organisms begin to perform photosynthesis. 5. Primitive eukaryotes (single celled organisms with nuclei) appear. 	<p>Cyanobacteria (bacteria that perform photosynthesis) begin to add oxygen to the atmosphere.</p>	<p>The first land fungi appear.</p>	<p>Soft bodied organisms appear.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Animals begin to be capable of vision. 2. Vertebrates (animals with backbones) appear.

500 to 440 mya	440 to 410 mya	410 to 360 mya	360 to 325 mya	245 to 208 mya	146 to 65 mya	65 to 54 mya
First land plants appear.	Fish and vascular plants appear.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Land is colonized by plants and animals. 2. Insects, sharks and amphibians appear. 	Reptiles appear.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The super continent Pangea breaks up. 2. Dinosaurs, crocodiles, turtles and mammals appear. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Extinction of the dinosaurs. 2. Flowering plants, lizards, snakes and social insects appear. 	Mammals appear.

54 to 37 mya	5 to 1.8 mya	1.8 million to 11,000 years ago	11,000 years ago to today
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grass appears. 2. Primates, camels, cats, dogs, horses and rodents appear. 	<p>Ape-like ancestors of humans appear.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ancestors of man first walk upright! (<i>Homo erectus</i>) 2. <i>Homo sapiens</i> appears. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Last major ice age ends. 2. Modern man migrates to the Americas.