

Geologic Timeline Assignment

Introduction:

This is a 3-part activity. In the first part, you and your partner(s) will construct a part of the class's geological and biological timeline that will go from present to 3 billion years into the past. We will have 11 groups, one group for each of the geological periods. Each group researches one geologic period's biologic, geologic, and atmospheric history. Next, each group draws their findings onto the class's timeline. In addition, all groups will also contribute to the completion of the long Precambrian Period.

The second part entails sculpting one of the fossils that was in the geologic period your researched. One fossil model is required of each group. All of the class's models will be displayed in the class.

The last part will be individual effort on your part. You will go home and make a fossil model out of materials of your choice that you believe will resist the "ravages of time". We will test out our fossils in class and talk about why there are gaps in the fossil record.

Here is what you do:

1. Choose a group and a geologic time period. (2-3 people)
2. Look at the Geologic Time Scale Chart and find your geologic period.
3. Do research on your time period and find out more information about it.
4. Sketch pictures of organisms, geologic, and atmospheric events.
5. Look at the space you have to use on the timeline. (Get the dimensions from your teacher.)
6. Decide the most important biologic event of your time period.
7. One person will draw a silhouette of that organism with construction paper.
8. Other people in your group should draw black line drawings of at least 3 other organisms common to your time period. (First draw on white paper, then cut out and glue onto your area of the timeline.)
9. Next draw in color all the listed geologic and atmospheric events in your area on the timeline. (First draw on white paper then cut out and glue onto your area of the timeline.)
10. One person in your group with good handwriting will be given a piece of paper. On the paper, label the name of your geologic time period. Glue onto the timeline.
11. Write all group members' names on the backside of your timeline area.
12. As a group, make one representative fossil out of Model Magic.
13. Assist in drawing some figures onto the Precambrian area of the timeline.
14. Two homework assignments will be given on days 3 and 4.

Be creative and have fun!

Geologic Timeline Student Worksheet

Partner(s) Names and Phone #'s:

Geologic Period Name and dates:

Width of drawing area on Timeline:

Due Date:

How did I contribute to my group:

Research on Time period:

Geologic Events:

Biologic Events:

Atmospheric Events: