

Some Important Events in Earth's History

Event #	Date in years before present	Event
1	4.56 billion	Earth forms
2	4.4 billion	Oldest mineral grain found
3	4.1 billion	Oldest piece of rock ever found
4	3.9 billion	Oldest evidence of a continent
5	3.8 billion	First evidence of life
6	3.5 billion	First fossils (algae and bacteria)
7	1.8 billion	Free oxygen in atmosphere
8	1.1 billion	First fossil of a complex organism (a worm)
9	540 million	First abundant life found in the rock record
10	460 million	First fish
11	440 million	First land plants
12	410 million	First land animals
13	250 million	Largest mass extinction occurs
14	247 million	First dinosaurs
15	240 million	First mammals
16	220 million	Breakup of super-continent Pangaea begins
17	145 million	First flowering plants
18	65 million	Dinosaurs and other animals go extinct
19	30 million	Mammals/flowering plants become abundant
20	5 million	Beginning of Cascade Volcanic Arc
21	1.8 million	First primate in genus <i>Homo</i>
22	40,000	First <i>Homo sapiens</i>
23	13,000	Humans first inhabit North America
24	10,000	End of last Ice Age
25	8,000	Founding of Jericho, the first known city
26	2,000	Roman domination of the world
27	500	European rediscovery of the Americas
28	~34	Humans first explore the moon

(Please note that some of these ages may differ slightly from those given in your text or that you found in another source. These dates change, but the general order and rough position stay constant.)