

Eon	Era	Period	Epoch	MYA	Major Events
Phanerozoic Eon	Cenozoic	Quaternary	Recent		
			Pleistocene	1.6	◀ many extinctions, especially larger mammals
		Tertiary	Pliocene	5	◀ hominids appear
			Miocene	25	
			Oligocene	45	◀ modern mammal families
			Eocene	57	evolve and diversify
			Paleocene	65	
	Mesozoic	Cretaceous	135	◀ birds diversify ◀ main groups of mammals are now established	
		Jurassic	205	◀ first birds ◀ dinosaurs diversify and dominate	
		Triassic	250	◀ first dinosaurs and mammals	
	Paleozoic	Permian	290		
		Carboniferous	355	◀ first mammal-like reptiles ◀ amphibians and reptiles spread and diversify ◀ first primitive reptiles (amniotic eggs)	
		Devonian	410	◀ first land vertebrates (amphibians) ◀ earliest insects ◀ The Age Of Fishes: lobe finned fish + lungfish	
		Silurian	438	◀ oldest bony fishes, land dwelling arthropods ◀ first fishes with jaws ◀ first sharks evolve	
		Ordovician	510	◀ first (jawless) fishes evolve, bone evolves	
		Cambrian	540	◀ origin of vertebrate ancestors ◀ hard shelled invertebrates thrive	
		Precambrian	4500	◀ first invertebrates: Ediacara fossils ◀ cells with a nucleus: 2.1 billion years ago ◀ oldest life: 3.5 billion year old stromatolites	

