Name _____

Period _____ Date _____

EARTH HISTORY TIME LINE

Era	Time period	Age (years)	Distance on time line (mm)	Distance on time line (cm)
Cenozoic	Today	0.00		
	Quaternary period	1,600,000		
	Tertiary period	66,000,000		
Mesozoic	Cretaceous period	144,000,000		
	Jurassic period	208,000,000		
	Triassic period	245,000,000		
Paleozoic	Permian period	286,000,000		
	Pennsylvanian period	320,000,000		
	Mississippian period	360,000,000		
	Devonian period	408,000,000		
	Silurian period	438,000,000		
	Ordovician period	505,000,000		
	Cambrian period	570,000,000		
Precambrian		4,500,000,000		

1 mm = 1 million years

1. Label one end of the adding-machine tape "0 = Now."

2. Draw a line across the tape to mark the start of the Quaternary period, which began 1,600,000 years ago. Remember, 1 mm on the adding-machine tape equals 1 million years of Earth history. The beginning of the Quaternary is 1.6 mm back from "now." Not very far!

3. Locate the beginning of the Tertiary period. Divide 66,000,000 years by 1,000,000 years per millimeter to get 66 mm. 66 mm = 6.6 cm. Measure back 6.6 cm from zero and mark the beginning of the Tertiary period. The distance between 6.6 cm (the beginning of the Tertiary period) and the start of the Quaternary period (also the end of the Tertiary period), represents the entire Tertiary period.

4. Continue in the same manner for the rest of the time line.

5. Draw an extra heavy line marking the beginning of each era.