Lesson A.4 History Of Our Solar System on a Time Line



Materials Needed:

- Tape measure or a length of rope, Masking tape and a marker or chalk.
- space that has a 100 feet in a straight line (like a hall way or a sidewalk).
- A calculator should be used for all calculations. *



1. Compare 4.5 billion years that the Earth has been around to a 100 feet length. Ratios can be written as fractions. The comparison that is being made is that of Distance over Time, that is, 100 feet over 4,500 million years. Find the length for 200 million years ago.

2.. The Paleocene period was 65 million years ago. Set up the proportion 100/4500 = x/65. When this proportion has been solved for "x", what has been solved is where 65 million will be position on the 100 foot line. "x" represents a distance on the time line.

3. Homo Sapiens could have appeared on Earth 350,000 years ago. Where will this date appear on this time line?

Name	Period	Date
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4. Calculate where geological time periods would exist on the time line and mark these on line.



Time Periods:

Cambrian period 550 MY (million Years) ago. This period is known for the earliest fossils including trilobites.

Ordovician period 500 My ago. The early evolution of fishes.

Triassic period 250 My ago. The rise of the dinosaurs.

Jurassic period 210 My ago. This is the dinosaur heyday.

Cretaceous period 150 My ago. The climax of the dinosaur reign.

5. Draw a 30 centimeter line. This line will represent an amount of time (the last fifty years, last 2000 years...). Put / place dates on the line.

6. Create a model of the Sun and planets and compare the size of each planet to the sun. Show these comparisons as ratio problems. If the Sun's diameter is compared to 10 feet, what are the heights of other planets?

7. Use scale drawing to draw a model of the Sun and planets.

8. Write about you discovered in doing this exercise.



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