

BRISCOE GEOLOGY PARK

Activity Sheet Grades 3-5

At **Briscoe Geology Park** you will discover the history of our planet and the history of life on Earth by exploring three time walks. 1) **Earth Time Walk**, which covers the entire 4600 million years of Earth history. Each step you take on this walk covers about 150 million years. 2) **Life Time Walk**, which covers the last 542 million years of Earth history. Each step you take on this walk covers about 5 million years. 3) **Human Time Walk**, which covers the last 50,000 years of Earth history. Each step you take on this walk covers about 4,000 years. Activities at the Park involve estimating the age and size of an animal.

To estimate the age of an animal tile, compare the position of the tile to nearby age tiles. You only need to make a rough estimate, not an exact calculation.

299
Million
Years Ago



251
Million
Years Ago

Example: This animal tile is closer to the '251 million years ago' tile than it is to the '299 million years ago' tile, so its age is roughly 260 million years ago.

To estimate the size of an animal on a tile, use the scale bar on the tile. (Remember: 'mm' is the abbreviation for millimeter, 'cm' is the abbreviation for centimeters, and 'm' is the abbreviation for meters.)



SCALE BAR

10cm

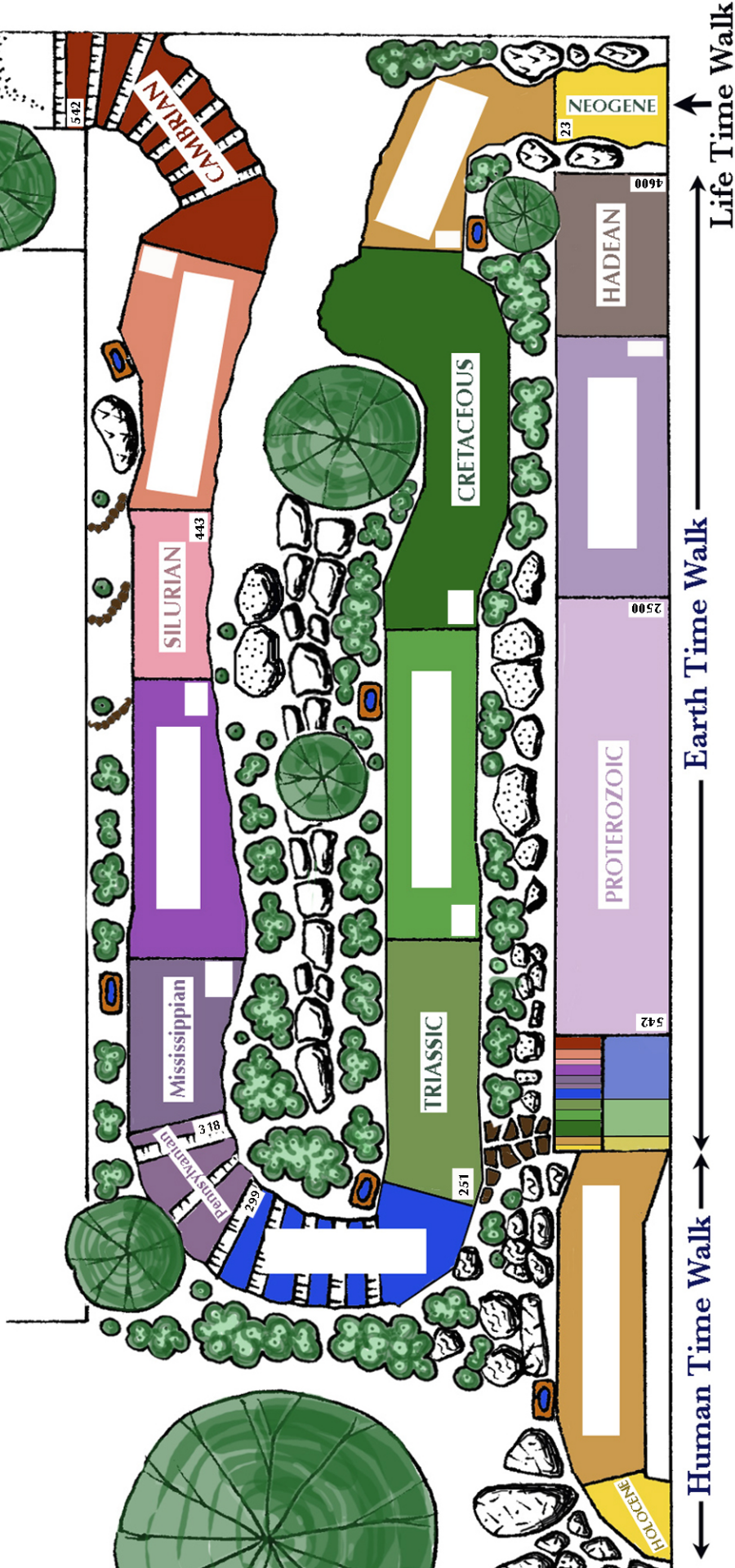


7 scale bars across the length of the image on the tile = 70 centimeters

General name

Scientific name, genus (*Panderichthys*) and species (*rhombolepis*)

As you do the exercises on this activity sheet, decide what is your favorite animal, and what is the most surprising thing you learned at the Geology Park. Also, when you finish this activity sheet, you should be able to say how life at the beginning of the **Life Time Walk** was different from life in the middle of the walk and life at the end of the walk.



Activity: Fill in the Blanks

Names of geologic time are set in tile in the middle of each colored section on the time walks. An example of a geologic name is 'Triassic'. An example of an age tile is "251 million years ago". This tells you the age at that point on the **Life Time Walk**.

To Do: Write in the missing geologic names in the big rectangles on the map. Then write in the missing ages in the small rectangles on the map. After you finish writing in the names and ages on the map, you can answer these questions.

Which is older, the start of the Silurian Period, 443 million years ago, or the start of the Triassic Period, 251 million years ago? _____

Which is younger, the start of the Permian Period, 299 million years ago, or the start of the Cambrian Period, 542 million years ago? _____

What is the name of the geologic period in between Triassic and Cretaceous? _____

Which geologic period is older, the Triassic or the Silurian? _____

Which geologic period is younger, the Cretaceous or the Neogene? _____

Activity: Treasure Hunt!

To Do: Find each pair of tiles on the **Life Time Walk**. Some are close together, but others are far apart. When you've found both tiles of a pair, answer the questions about the animals on the tile.



Draw a small 'X' on the oldest animal

Draw a small 'Y' on the youngest animal

Draw a feather on the tile of the animal that had feathers.



Draw a small 'X' on the oldest animal.

Draw a small 'Y' on the youngest animal

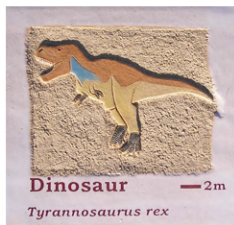
Draw whiskers on the animal that had hair.



Draw a small 'X' on the oldest animal

Draw a small 'Y' on the youngest animal

Draw a foot on the animal that looks like it could crawl on land



Draw a small 'X' on the oldest animal

Draw a small 'Y' on the youngest animal

Draw a tooth on the animal that was biggest in real life



Draw a small 'X' on the oldest animal

Draw a small 'Y' on the youngest animal

Draw a leaf on the animal that only ate plants

Draw a sharp tooth on the animal that only ate meat

Extra Credit Questions:

Of all the animals **on this page**, write the name of the very youngest animal _____

Of all the animals **on this page**, write the name of the very oldest animal _____

Activity: Word Search

To Do: Match the animal picture to the name of the animal on the right by drawing a line between them. You will need to find the animal's tile on the **Life Time Walk** to find out what animal it is.

Extra Credit: For each animal, write down the geologic period in which it lived, and how big it was. Circle the largest animal on this page, and put a star on the smallest animal on this page.

Geologic period _____

Size _____



Brachiopod *Mucrospirifer sp.*

Geologic period _____

Size _____



Amphibian *Crassigyrinus scoticus*

Geologic period _____

Size _____



Rodent *Telicomys sp.*

Geologic period _____

Size _____



Mammal *Brontotherium sp.*

Geologic period _____

Size _____



Trilobite *Cheiropyge koizumi*

Geologic period _____

Size _____



Shark *Stethacanthus sp.*

Geologic period _____

Size _____



Sea scorpion *Eurypterus remipes*

Geologic period _____

Size _____

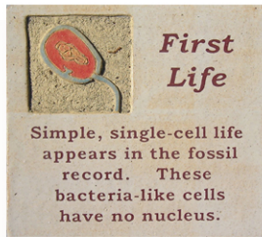


Reptile *Proganochelys sp.*

Extra Credit Activity: Treasure Hunt!

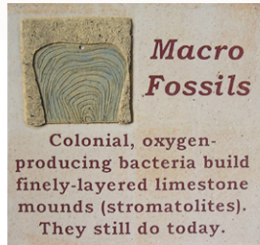
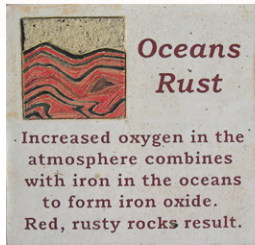
To Do: Find each pair of tiles on the **Earth Time Walk** or the **Human Time Walk**. Some are close together on the time walks, but others are far apart. When you've found both tiles of a pair, answer the question.

Earth Time Walk



What happened first in Earth history, a global freeze, or the first appearance of life? Write your answer here.

About how many millions of years ago did life first appear in the fossil record? Write your answer here.



What happened first in Earth history, the oceans rusted or macrofossils appeared? Write your answer here.

About how many million years ago did the oceans rust? Write your answer here.

Human Time Walk



Draw a small 'X' on the oldest animal

Draw a small 'Y' on the youngest animal

Draw a feather on the animal that had feathers



Did people reach Australia first or North America first? Write your answer here

How did the first Australians get to Australia?



Draw a small 'X' on the oldest animal

Draw a small 'Y' on the youngest animal

Draw a leaf on the animal that only ate plants

Draw a sharp tooth on the animal that only ate meat

Extra Credit Questions:

Of all the animals **on this page**, write the name of the very youngest animal _____

Of all the animals **on this page**, write the name of the very oldest animal _____