

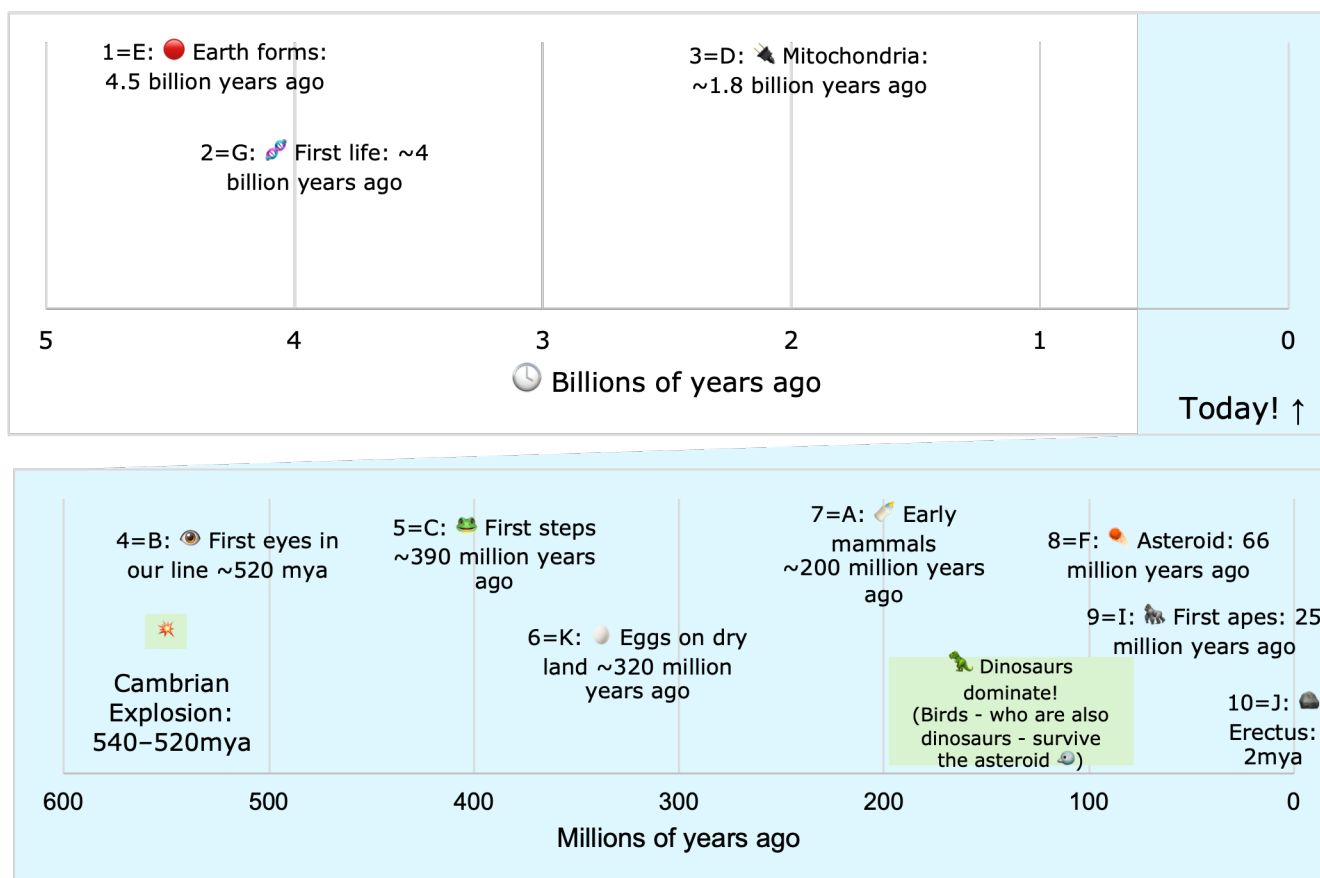
Timeline Challenge: Teacher Page

Goal: Pupils see the vast scale of Earth's history and recognise that evolutionary milestones are unevenly spaced (links to KS2 Evolution & Inheritance as well as scale and proportion).

Preparation: Print out one [pupil activity sheet](#) per pair or team. Best used after pupils have met the events in the book or a short intro.

Steps:

1. Pupils work out the order of life's milestones from the event list. Write letters A–J in the circles from oldest to newest.
2. Check answers using the teacher copy; invite brief justifications.
3. Discuss 3-4 of the following, depending on time:
 - a) Which event was easiest to place? Which was trickiest? Why?
 - b) Which gap is bigger? Earth to life or life to mitochondria?
 - c) Where is history **crowded** with events? Where does it seem **almost empty**?
 - d) What could you **not** see clearly until we zoomed in? Why does zooming help?
 - e) What would we see if we zoomed in further? (use book to check if needed)
 - f) Did humans live with (non-avian) dinosaurs? How can you tell?



Want to try the challenge version?

Try **Evidence Hunter**. Pupils match each event to the **type of scientific evidence** that supports it.

It's a great way to practise **reasoning skills** and link the timeline to the **clues scientists use** to uncover the past.

Evidence Hunter is also free to download at tinyurl.com/linebehindyou