

Earth's History

- Earth's history spans over a length of **4.5 billion years**
- Geologists have divided that time into units based on major geologic events and life forms

Fossils are the clues

Fossils are the preserved remains and traces of past life forms. They are found in sedimentary rocks.

Geologic Time Scale

- The time scale was created to show the order of events in Earth's history

Divisions

From **smallest** to **largest**, the units of time are:

1. Epochs

2. Periods

3. Eras

4. Eons

Each unit of time is recognized by the fossils it contains!

Examples:

1. Age of Coal Swamps
2. Age of Reptiles
3. Age of Mammals
4. Age of Fishes

M.Y.A = Million Years Ago

Each division is represented by millions of years ago (mya)