

# **KEY EVENTS IN EARTH HISTORY**

4,600 million years ago	Earth forms <b><u>PRECAMBRIAN ERA BEGINS</u></b>
4,000 mya	first solid rock
3,800 mya	surface cool enough for liquid water
3,500 mya	First prokaryotic life(bacteria)
2,200 mya	Oxygen in atmosphere(from bacteria)
2,000 mya	Eukaryotic cells appear
544 mya	<b><u>PALEOZOIC ERA BEGINS</u></b>
460 mya	Mass Extinction
420 mya	Plants colonize land
245 mya	Mass extinction in oceans <b><u>MESOZOIC ERA BEGINS</u></b>
225 mya	Dinosaurs appear
195 mya	Birds evolve from reptiles
65 mya	Extinction event(asteroid) Dinosaurs go extinct <b><u>CENOZOIC ERA BEGINS</u></b>
200,000 years ago	<i>Homo sapiens</i> appears
5,500 years ago	Recorded human history begins