

Course Name: Geologic Time Scale

Grade Level: 6, 7, 9 - 12

Activity: Geologic Time Scale Wheel (post activity)

Approximate Time Required: 60 minutes

Vocabulary:

geology
eon
era
period

Precambrian
Hadean Eon
Archean Eon
Proterozoic Eon

Phanerozoic Eon
Paleozoic Era
Mesozoic Era
Cenozoic Era

herbivore
carnivore
omnivore

Objective:

Students will construct a geologic time scale wheel to observe the progression of life forms as time passes.

Materials Needed:

1. Geologic time scale wheel components (see attachments).
 - a. Sheet A—Paleozoic, Mesozoic, and Cenozoic Eras on outer edge of wheel.
 - b. Sheet B—pie-shaped cut-outs (which may be colored by students).
 - c. Sheet C—“three most recent eras”.
2. Glue, scissors, and brads

Procedure:

1. Copy sheet A, B and C onto colored construction paper.
2. Have students cut out the circle from sheets A and C, and the pie-shaped cut-outs from sheet B.
3. Have students cut out the notched area on sheet C. Punch a hole in the center where indicated.
4. Have students determine which cut-outs belong in a particular time period and glue them to the appropriate section of sheet A.
5. Place sheet C circle over the sheet A circle and attach with a brad.

Observations:

1. Have the students identify changes in the life forms as time passes.
2. Have the students identify which eon/era we (people) live in.
3. Did people roam the earth at the same time as the dinosaurs?

Evaluation:

1. Review the students' geologic time scale wheels.
2. Have the students recall the animals they observed in the Fossil Gallery and identify which eon/era they lived in.

Modifications: (This activity can be modified to an assignment during the students' visit.)

1. Sheets A, B, and C could be pre-cut.
2. Sheet B pie-shaped cut-outs could be colored and / or pre-glued to sheet A.
3. Students could fill in the eras and times involved on sheet C.

Georgia Standards:

ELA6W2, S6E5g, S6E3a-c, S6E5e-g, S7CS6c, S7L5c, SCSH4a-b, SCSH7c, SCSH8a-f, SES1c-d, SES3d-e, SES4a-e, SES6d-E, SG1a-d, SZ2a, SZ2c, SZ3a-c, SAST6c-d, SB4c, SB4e, SB4f, SB5a-e, SEV3c, SEC1a-D