**Timeline of Life**

* Formation of Earth begins [4,500 Million Years Before Present (MYBP)]
* Torrential rains form oceans  
  [4,200 MYBP]
* First living organisms appear  
  [3,850 MYBP]
* First photosynthetic organisms appear  
  [3,600 MYBP]
* Cyanobacteria appear and begin to add oxygen to Earth’s atmosphere  
  [2,500 MYBP]
* Eukaryotic algae appear  
  [1,200 MYBP]
* First multicellular animals appear  
  [600 MYBP]
* Cambrian “explosion” of animal diversity  
  [543–510 MYBP]
* Ordovician extinction of more than 50% of all marine animal species  
  [400 MYBP]
* Devonian extinction of more than 50% of all marine animal species  
  [365 MYBP]
* Permo-Triassic extinction of more than 95% of all species  
  [245 MYBP]
* First mammals appear  
  [225 MYBP]
* Dinosaurs dominate  
  [190–65 MYBP]
* Cretaceous-Tertiary extinction of dinosaurs and 60-80% of all species  
  [65 MYBP]
* Humans appear  
  [10–5 MYBP]

Adapted from: <http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/education/lessons/bang.html>