

Adding Machine Timeline Instructions

Put the roll of paper on your left. Below you see that I have "begin cenozoic" at 65.5 mya. Ignore that. Next column tells you how many inches from the beginning to make your mark on the adding machine tape. ~16 inches. Next column tells you how far this mark is from the last one. Notice it's zero since this is the first one. I have the INCH FROM LAST POINT in three columns for you convenience. Inches, feet, and feet plus inches.

era	event	mya	inch from begin	inch from last pt	FEET	ft & in
CENO	begin cenozoic	65.5	16.375	0	1.36	1 4 3/8
	TOTAL	65.5	16.375	0	1.36	1 4 3/8
MEZO	end of cretaceous/ beginning of cenozoic	65.5	16.375	0		
MEZO	flowers	130	32.5	16.125	1.34	1 4 1/8
MEZO	end of jurassic, beginning of cretaceous	145.5	36.375	3.875	0.32	3 7/8
MEZO	birds	150	37.5	1.125	0.09	1 1/8
MEZO	end triassic, beginning jurassic	199	49.75	12.25	1.02	1 1/4
MEZO	mammals	200	50	0.25	0.02	1/4
MEZO	beginning triassic	251	62.75	12.75	1.06	1 3/4
	TOTAL	185.5	46.375	46.375	3.86	3 10 3/8
PALEO	end permian	251	62.75	0		
PALEO	begin permian, end carbon	299	74.75	12	1.00	1 0
PALEO	amphibians	350	87.5	12.75	1.06	1 3/4
PALEO	begin carbon, end devonian	359	89.75	2.25	0.19	0 2 1/4
PALEO	insects and seeds	400	100	10.25	0.85	0 10 1/4
PALEO	begin devonian/end silurian	416	104	4	0.33	0 4
PALEO	begin silurian/end ordovician	443	110.75	6.75	0.56	0 6 3/4
PALEO	land plants	475	118.75	8	0.67	0 8
PALEO	begin ordovician/end cambrian	488	122	3.25	0.27	0 3 1/4
PALEO	fish	500	125	3	0.25	0 3
PALEO	begin cambrian	542	135.5	10.5	0.88	0 10 1/2
	TOTAL	291	72.75	72.75	6.06	6 3/4

- So, ~16 inches from the end (with the roll on your LEFT), write "Begin Cenozoic" or "End Cretaceous" or both.



- Slide the paper ~16 inches to the right. (See "inch from last point" column) and write "flowers".
- As you continue, you will need to roll up the finished tape on your right.



4. Wait for a warm day, roll it across the parking lot. My kids really enjoyed putting moss on the "moss appears" marker and flowers on the "flowers appear" marker and pine cones on the "conifer" marker.
5. If you have an indoor gym or area where you can do this without wind, I suggest letting the kids put the Clock of Era and Coming of Life cards on the right spot as you walk the timeline.