



## The Passage of Time

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### Object of the Activity

Work with several metaphors for the Geologic Time Scale under your teacher's direction.

Use ideas from these activities as well as information about the geologic events that, together, created the Black Canyon or to choose *another* metaphor to represent the timeline of Earth's history and create an illustration of this metaphor.

Label your metaphors to show events listed below, indicating events, years from the present that date the event, and the interval divisions of events, such as Jurassic or Precambrian periods. Events are listed in a chart called [Charting Tectonic Events](#).

### Steps to Follow

Create and illustrate a metaphor for the Geologic Time Scale to help you and others visualize the huge scale on which the Earth's history is measured. If you need to see some examples of scientific illustrations of the Geologic Time Scale, use the attached [Hot Links](#) to give you some examples of the time frame of the Earth's history.

You may be assigned a partner or team with whom you will work to create your metaphor for a Geologic Time Scale.

Earlier, you used a large space as a metaphor for the Geologic Time Scale. Think about objects or places that would fit the large and small intervals needed to show events over the span of Earth's history.

**For example**, if you pour soda into a glass, the fizz on top could represent human history while the large expanse underneath would represent the rest of geologic time.

### Resources/Materials/Supplies

Internet access  
Large sheet of paper  
Markers or crayons  
Calculator  
Geologic Time Scale used in the beginning of the lesson