

# The metre stick of time!

Your task is to make a **timeline of the universe** using a metre stick.

Mark out some of the major events of the universe using the scale on the metre stick.

Event	Number of years ago	Distance from today (1000 mm)
Today	0	0 mm
Recorded human history begins	10,000	0.001 mm
First humans appear	100,000 years ago	0.01
First proto humans appear (human like creatures)	3.5 million	0.3
Death of the Dinosaurs (from giant meteorite)	65 million	5
Age of the Dinosaurs begins	245 million	18
First land plants	0.5 billion	36
First cells developed on Earth	~2 billion	146
First life appeared on Earth	3.8 billion	277
Formation of the Solar system and Earth	4.5 billion	328
Formation of the Milky Way Galaxy (our galaxy)	~9 billion	657
Formation of first stars and galaxies	~13 billion	949
The Big Bang	13.8 billion	1000

Note: 1 m = 1000 mm



# The toilet roll of time!

Your task is to make a **timeline of the universe** using toilet roll.

Measure out **3 m of toilet roll** onto the floor. Choose which end is **today** and which end was **the beginning of the universe (the big bang)**. Mark out the events of the universe using a ruler.

Event	Number of years ago	Distance from today (total length = 3 m)
The Big Bang	13.8 billion	3 m
Formation of first stars and galaxies	~13 billion	2.8 m
Formation of the thin disk of the Milky Way Galaxy (our galaxy)	~9 billion	1.9 m
Formation of the Solar system and Earth	4.5 billion	1 m
First life appeared on Earth	3.8 billion	83 cm
First cells developed on Earth	~2 billion	44 cm
First land plants	0.5 billion	11 cm
Age of the Dinosaurs begins	245 million	5.4 cm
Death of the Dinosaurs (from giant meteorite)	65 million	1.4 cm
First proto humans appear (human like creatures)	3.5 million	1 mm
First humans appear	100,000 years ago	0.02 mm
Recorded human history begins	10,000	0.002 mm
Today	0	0 mm

Note: 1 m = 100 cm

