

Science 22nd June

So for our final lesson looking at time we're going to think about how scientists are able to work out the age of things which are many millions of years old - the timeline of the earth and universe. AT the end there's an example of how you might make your own timeline for you or your family.

Last week we looked at how scientists can use tree rings and ice cores to look back in time to understand how the weather has changed. BUt how can we look further back in time?

So how do we know how long ago the dinosaurs were alive, when life began or when the earth formed?

How long ago were the dinosaurs alive?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=phZeE7Att_s

So how old is life and how old is the earth?

It's a big question! The following videos explain it in different ways.

Like a lot of ideas in science it's hard for us to really understand the past – the number of of years are just too big for us to get our heads round. To help we can try to think about the whole of the life of the earth - and the life on it- as if it was a single day.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R58LIPh2VJs>

An explanation of the different ideas scientists have had about the age of the earth

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=veit8_NESxU

And finally a video without words that also tries to look into the future of the earth.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jvw1n4VdZCo>

Make your own timeline

One way to show the passing of time is to use a timeline and you could have a go at making your own - you can put on famous world events or just have it for yourself and your family. The basic idea is explained here

http://msmclure.com/?page_id=11453

You can make the timeline more detailed by dividing the years into months – and if you use an old roll of wallpaper your timeline can go back a long way!