

Earth's History ▪ *Review and Reinforce*

The Geologic Time Scale

Understanding Main Ideas

Put the following items in order from oldest (1) to most recent (4) by writing a number in the blank beside each.

- _____ 1. Mesozoic Era
- _____ 2. Precambrian Time
- _____ 3. Cenozoic Era
- _____ 4. Paleozoic Era

Rewrite the following sentence to make it true.

5. Geologists subdivide periods into eras.

Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.

- 6. Why is the geologic time scale used to show Earth's history?
- 7. What methods did geologists use when they first developed the geologic time scale?
- 8. What was the Cambrian Explosion?
- 9. Describe the probable causes of two mass extinctions.
- 10. What animal group was most successful during the Mesozoic Era?
- 11. What created an opportunity for mammals in the Cenozoic Era?
- 12. Describe what mammals faced in the Quaternary Period.

Building Vocabulary

Fill in the blank to complete each statement.

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| _____ 13. reptile | a. animal that feeds its young with milk |
| _____ 14. amphibian | b. long units of time |
| _____ 15. geological time scale | c. animal with strong legs and eggs with thick shells |
| _____ 16. mammal | d. animal that evolved from lungfish |
| _____ 17. vertebrate | e. animal with a backbone |
| _____ 18. eras | f. record of life forms and geologic events in Earth's history |

