

Dinosaur Timeline

Background

When did dinosaurs live?

Dinosaurs lived in the Mesozoic Era, during the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous periods.

Diplodocus: 155-145 million years ago

Iguanodon: 129-120 million years ago

Hypsilophodon: 129-125 million years ago

Tyrannosaurus rex: 68-66 million years ago

Albertosaurus: 70-66 million years ago

Velociraptor: 75-72 million years ago

Looking at these dates, we know that *Diplodocus* would never have been hunted by a *T. rex*!

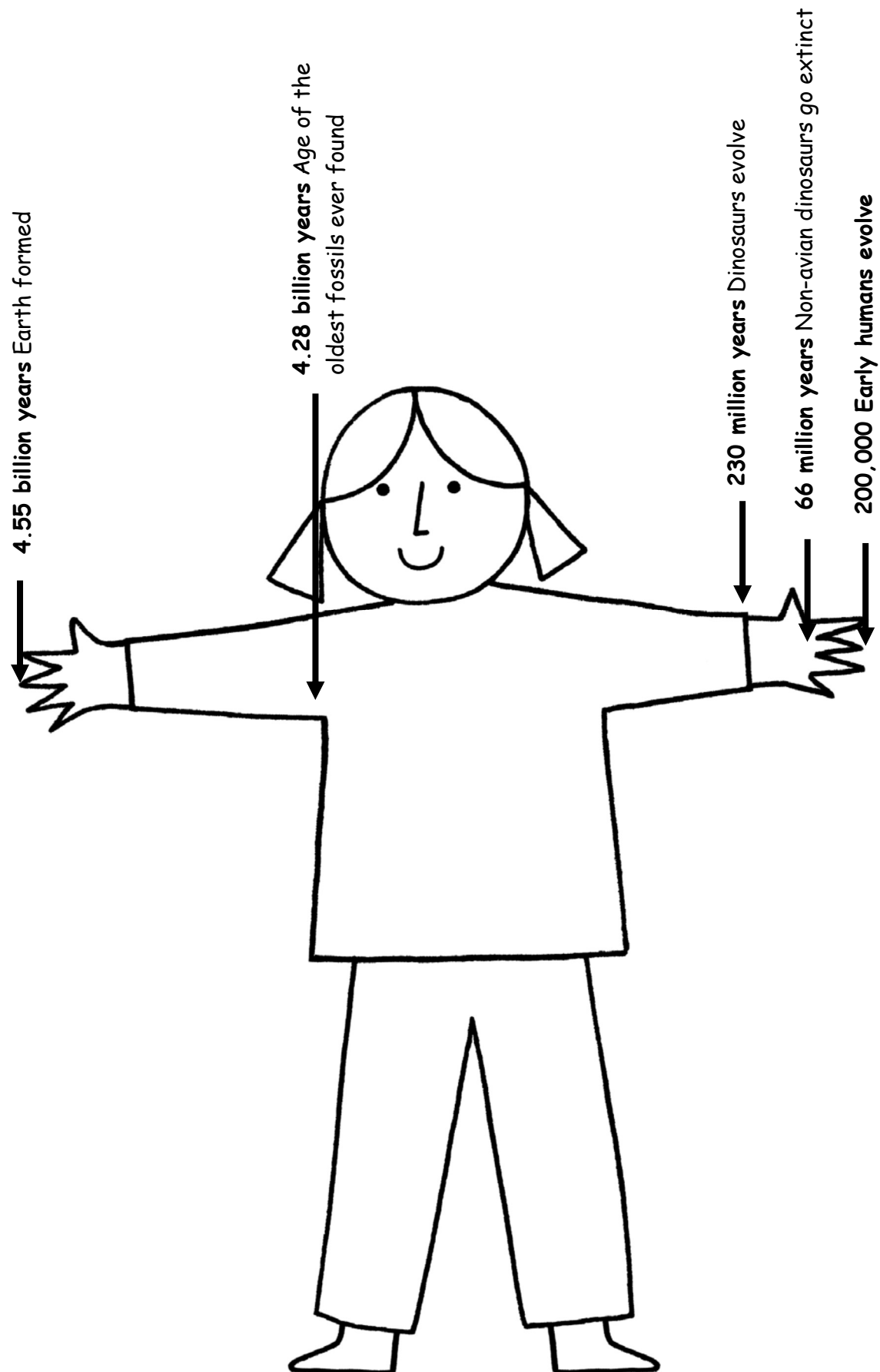
Earth is 4.55 billion years old and the earliest fossils are about 3.6 billion years old. This means that dinosaurs lived quite recently compared to trilobites and the early ancestors of fish.

The very first hominins (human ancestors) evolved around seven million years ago, and modern humans have only existed for 200,000 years. Animals like us have been on the planet for less time than *T. rex* existed!

Humans and non-avian dinosaurs have never been alive at the same time.

Stretch out your arms to represent the whole age of Earth, from right-hand fingertip to left-hand fingertip. First life starts at your right armpit - this is the age of the oldest fossils ever found.

Dinosaurs start at the crease of your left wrist and end where your middle finger starts. The earliest humans evolve just below the tip of your middle finger of your left hand.



Use the labels below to create your own dinosaur timeline. Hang the facts in chronological order on your arm. One has been done for you.

Hypsilophodon
129-125 million years ago

