

Geological Time & Ireland's Past History

Colour in the different geological periods to produce your own geological time chart

Era	Geological Period	
Cainozoic	QUATERNARY	Man arrives in Ireland Giant Irish Deer becomes extinct 10,000 years ago
	TERTIARY	Ireland covered by ice during Ice Age Atlantic Ocean opens Giant's Causeway forms from volcanic eruptions
Mesozoic	CRETACEOUS	Dinosaurs become extinct Chalk deposited
	JURASSIC	Marine reptiles dominate the seas
	TRIASSIC	Desert conditions in Ireland
Palaeozoic	PERMIAN	Ireland becoming drier
	CARBONIFEROUS	Shallow warm tropical seas with reefs cover Ireland
	DEVONIAN	Ireland covered by deserts and sand dunes
	SILURIAN	Leinster granite injected into the crust Iapetus Ocean (early sea) closes
	ORDOVICIAN	Small volcanic islands erupt near Waterford Ireland under sea
	CAMBRIAN	<i>Oldhamia</i> , a trace fossil forms in rocks now at Bray
	PRECAMBRIAN	Early rocks altered and metamorphosed Oldest rocks in Ireland 3,300 million years old Earth forms at the 'Big Bang'

Origin of the Earth: 4,567 MA