EVOLVE or PERISH

start here

EDIACARAN
First multi-celled ancestors of animals and plants

Bacteria have already been thriving for billions of years

No life on land yet...

First sizeable animals in the fossil record - and you slip on one!

GO BACK ONE

Early fish

You get nipped by Anomalocaris

WAIT A TURN

Many filter feeders

Dry land is still mostly barren

WAIT A TURN

All sorts of new animals

the CAMBRIAN EXPLOSION:

SHOOT FORWARD

first shelled animals

CAMBRIAN

CAMBRIAN 542 million years ago

SLIDE BACK
to the past on an animal called Charnia

More odd soft-bodied animals

DEVONIAN

Plants get bigger

416 million years ago

First trees!

Fungi and bacteria help make first soils

CARBONIFEROUS

Coal swamps

CLIMB AHEAD 2
...on a Lycopod tree

SILURIAN

444 million years ago

1st four-legged animal

EXTRA TURN

CRAWL AHEAD

Early land plant fossils

Oldest known fossil land animal: a small millipede

CRAWL AHEAD

First reptile

488 million years ago

Extra Turn

Turn again
SLIDE BACK on Arthropleura, a six-foot millipede!

PERMIAN 299 million years ago
- Biggest flying insect ever: 28” wing span

SLIDE FORWARD

TRIASSIC 251 million years ago
- Very little diversity as life recovers
- Forests slowly recovered
- Many new flowers and pollinators
- First mammal

JURASSIC 200 million years ago
- Therapsid (NOT a dino)
- First dino

CRETACEOUS 146 million years ago
- First birds
- Early flowering plants
- Many new flowers and pollinators
- Chomped on by T-REX!

NEOGENE 23 million years ago
- Ice ages, first humans
- First grasslands
- HOP AHEAD ONE on a giant mammal
- Mammals diversity

PALEOGENE 66 million years ago
- Massive extinction
- Huge extinction
- BACK YOU GO

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