

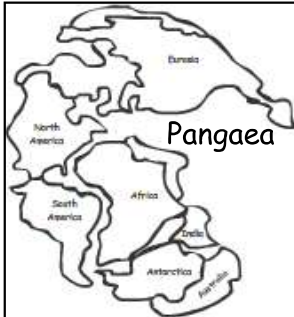
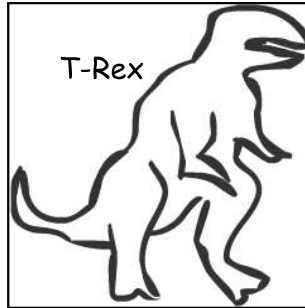
# Mesozoic Era: Introduction

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions: Read through the Mesozoic Era introduction. Then complete the "Fill -Ins" statements below.

The Mesozoic Era represents the geologic time from 65 to 251 million years ago. The Mesozoic is also referred to as the "Age of Reptiles", and is an exciting era because of the development of dinosaurs.

Although dinosaurs were an important development during the Mesozoic, other geologic events occurred. It was during the Mesozoic that the ancient supercontinent of "Pangaea" began to separate due to tectonic forces.



Not only were the continents changing during the Mesozoic, but the climate was also changing. Periods of warmer and cooler temperatures occurred several times during the era. Another important event was the development of Mammals near the end of the Mesozoic.

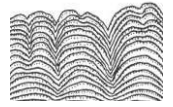
During the middle of the Mesozoic large land dinosaurs were the dominant species. Brachiosaurus, one of the tallest known dinosaurs, and Diplodocus both appeared during this time. Although very large, scientist believe they were both herbivores. Near the end of the Mesozoic, meat eating Tyrannosaurus Rex and a flying dinosaur called a Pterosaur became numerous and successful. The Mesozoic Era came to an end 65 million years ago with the extinction of the dinosaurs. Many scientists believe several events, including an asteroid impact near Mexico, led to the dinosaur extinction and the end of the era.

Complete the "Fill Ins" using the information above.

- 1- The Mesozoic Era is also known as the \_\_\_\_\_ Reptiles.
- 2- \_\_\_\_\_ the supercontinent separated during the Mesozoic.
- 3- Near the end of the Mesozoic, \_\_\_\_\_ developed.
- 4- One of the tallest known dinosaurs was called \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5- Pterosaur was a special dinosaur that could \_\_\_\_\_ in the sky.
- 6- The \_\_\_\_\_ era ended about 65 million years ago.
- 7- \_\_\_\_\_ is one of the most famous meat eating dinosaurs.
- 8- The Mesozoic Era may have ended due to an \_\_\_\_\_ impact.

4.6 Billion  
Years ago

Precambrian  
Eon



Ancient  
Fish



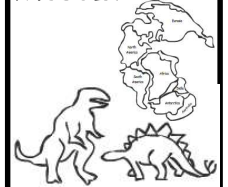
540 Million  
Years ago

Paleozoic Era



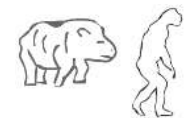
251 Million  
Years ago

Mesozoic Era



65 Million  
Years ago

Cenozoic Era



Present Day