

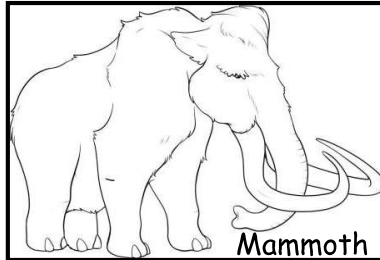
Cenozoic Era: Introduction

Name _____

Instructions: Read through the Cenozoic Era introduction. Then complete the "True False" statements below.

The Cenozoic Era represents the geologic time from present day to 65 million years ago. The Cenozoic is also referred to as the "Age of Mammals". Some of the largest mammals to ever walk the Earth appeared during this era. Although the Cenozoic represents a smaller section of Earth's geologic time, more fossils have been found with more details than any other era.

With the extinction of the dinosaurs, mammals were able to become the dominant species on the Earth. Many varieties of mammals became successful ranging from small rodent-like mammals to Woolly Mammoths.



Some of the most famous mammals include Saber-Toothed Tigers, Mastodons, and the largest terrestrial mammal, the "Paraceratherium", a 16 foot tall rhino that roamed the Eurasian plains.

Plants also made developments during this era. Modern day flowering plants, grasses and evergreens populated the landscapes around the globe.



It was during the Cenozoic that Earth experienced widespread cooling periods known as "Ice Ages". Several ice age events occurred that influenced mammal development and migration. During the last 4 million years of the Cenozoic, the modern "Hominids" or humans appeared in the fossil record. Originating in Africa, these mammals spread across Europe, Asia and beyond.

Select True or False for each statement below.

- 1- The Cenozoic Era lasted about 65 million years. True - False
- 2- There are very few fossils from the Cenozoic Era. True - False
- 3- The Cenozoic Era is known as the "Age of Trees". True - False
- 4- Large mammals existed during the Cenozoic. True - False
- 5- The largest mammal ever was a type of Rhino. True - False
- 6- Flowering plants appeared during the Cenozoic. True - False
- 7- Hominids existed during the entire Cenozoic Era. True - False
- 8- Several "Ice Ages" occurred during the Cenozoic. True - False

