

# Life on Earth Timeline Orienteering Challenge



## Objective

- To introduce pupils to the chronology of some key events in the evolution of life on earth.



## Equipment

- Enrich School Orienteering Map
- Orienteering control markers
- Activity Sheet
- Answer Sheet



## Preparation

- Explain to pupils that the purpose of this activity is not to test their knowledge, but to give them an opportunity to think about and reflect on the order of some key events in the evolution of life on earth.
- It is also worth pointing out that these events cannot be dated precisely and that scientists debate and revise the dates as new fossils and other evidence are discovered.
- There are also many other key events/stages in the evolution of life on earth which are not included in this activity. These are just some of the key events/stages.
- Pupils could do this activity in pairs or small groups.
- Provide each pair/group with a copy of the Activity Sheet and an Enrich School Orienteering Map.
- Explain to pupils how to do the activity.



## Instructions

- The Activity Sheet has a series of events/stages from the evolution of life on earth.
- Pupils have to identify the order in which these events took place by numbering them 1 – 8.
- To check their answers, they visit the control point linked to each event. The activity sheet identifies one of the numbers on the control marker (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup>) and this number is the correct one in the sequence of 8 events.
- Pupils could check each event after they placed it in order. Alternatively, they could order all the events and then check them all together.
- When they have sequenced the events correctly, the activity sheet shows a series of dates which they can match against each event.



## Other information

- Pupils could use this sequence of events as the basis for a timeline of the evolution of life on earth.
- There is an answer sheet which accompanies this activity.

