🖤 Hadean Era (~4 m on the strip)

From the Greek *Hades*, meaning “underworld” or “hell.”
This era was named because the Earth was so hot, violent, and volcanic — like a fiery underworld.

🌋 The Earth cools, a thin crust forms, volcanoes erupt, and dark clouds fill the skies. Endless rains begin, but at first the water rises back as steam until finally, oceans appear. 🌊 At this point — about 4 meters — the Earth is still empty: only land, water, and air.

🖤 Archaean Era (~6 m on the strip)

From the Greek *archaios* , meaning “ancient” or “beginning.”
This is the “ancient” time when the first forms of life appeared — tiny unicellular organisms

🦠 Life appears as tiny blobs of jelly. Sensitive and alive, they begin to eat, grow, and make more of themselves. These unicellular organisms take on the enormous task of cleaning the seas, some building tiny shells from minerals 🐚. All life is in the oceans — strange, small, and invisible.

🖤 Early Proterozoic Era (~13 m and 19 m stops)

From the Greek *proteros* , meaning “earlier,” and *zoē*, meaning “life.” → “Earlier life.” This era marks the long age before the great explosion of visible life — oxygen, nuclei, and teamwork of cells all appear here 🧬.

At 13 m: Some cells cooperate with the Sun ☀️. Using sunlight and water, they make their own food and release oxygen 💨. Slowly, the atmosphere changes, preparing the way for new life.

At 19 m: Inside certain cells, a nucleus appears 🧬 — a control room that organises life. This is a giant step in evolution, opening the door to greater complexity.

🖤 Late Proterozoic Era (~22 m stop)

From the Greek *proteros* , meaning “earlier,” and *zoē*, meaning “life.” → “Earlier life.” Life takes a giant leap: cells begin to live together.

🧩 Cells begin to work together. At first, they all do the same job, but soon they divide their labor. Some move, others feed, others protect. This teamwork creates tissues and organs, forming the first multicellular creatures. Life becomes larger, more adventurous, and ready for the great explosion to come.

🖤 Paleozoic Era (~26 m stop)

From the Greek *palaios*, meaning “ancient,” and *zoē*, “life.” → “Ancient life.” The seas fill with trilobites, fish, plants, and amphibians. It is the age of “ancient visible life”

🌊 Trilobites crawled on the ocean floor 🐚. Starfish ⭐, sea anemones 🌸, and fish 🐟 appeared. 🌿 Plants crept onto the land, followed by insects 🐞 and amphibians 🐸. 🌳 Insects and plants grew to enormous sizes, some dragonflies as big as birds! 🦟✨🦎 Reptiles arrived with hard-shelled eggs and special skins, freeing them from water.

🖤 Mesozoic Era (~27.5 m stop)

From the Greek *mesos* (μέσος), meaning “middle,” and *zoē* (ζωή), “life.” → “Middle life.” This is the time between ancient and modern life — the age of reptiles and dinosaurs 🦖.

🦕 Dinosaurs ruled the land, from gigantic long-necked herbivores 🌿🦕 to sharp-toothed predators 🐊. Flying reptiles soared through the skies, and early birds appeared. Small mammals scurried quietly in the shadows. 💥 At the end of this era, a catastrophe wiped out the dinosaurs, making space for new life to flourish.

🖤 Cenozoic Era (~29 m stop & red strip)

From the Greek *kainos*, meaning “new,” and *zoē*, “life.” → “New life.”

The most recent era, when mammals rise, ecosystems take shape, and finally humans appear 🔴.

🦣 Mammals flourished and grew in size—some gigantic, like mammoths and saber-toothed cats 🐅. 🦅 Birds spread across the skies. 🌍 Ecosystems took shape with flowering plants 🌸, forests 🌳, and grasslands.🔴 At the very end, on the tiny red strip, **humans appear**: beings with hands to shape, minds to imagine, and hearts to love ❤️👥.