**Earth Science**

**Geologic Time: How old is “old”?**

**Mr. Lanik**

Your classwork for today is to do a little research on your laptops to gain an appreciation of just how old the Earth actually is, according to scientists. Working with one partner, please find answers to each the following questions. If you can’t find a single, exact number, please approximate the age as best you can.

1. In years, how old is the Universe??

2. What is the name of the "event" that scientists believe marked the beginning of our universe?

3. How old, in years, is the Earth?

4. How long ago did the first signs of life (the first single-celled organisms) appear on the Earth?

5. How long ago did the first complex life forms (multi-celled organisms) appear on the Earth?

6. When did the Earth become covered in ice (“Snowball Earth”)?

7. When did the first plants appear on land (instead of just in the water)?

8. When did the “Permian Extinction” occur? What was this event?

9. When did the Age of the Dinosaurs begin?

10. When did the first flowers appear on the Earth ?

11. How many years ago did the dinosaurs go extinct (when was the end of the Age of the Dinosaurs)?

12. When did the first mammals appear on the Earth?

13. How long ago (in years) did the first hominids (human-like ancestors) begin to walk the Earth?

14. How long ago (in years) did the last ice age end in Maine?