



What is
'Deep Time'
and why does
it matter?

TAKE IT FURTHER:

THINK

What curiosity questions can you ask?

e.g. When did humans arrive on the planet? What was here before us? How new are we in relation to the earth? How does it help to think about how long (or not) humans have been living on earth?

FEEL

How might different people feel about this?

e.g. How do you feel when you think about the earth and its history? How do you feel about humans on earth? Does it help to understand our human history? How does it feel to think about humans being just one part of this world and being quite new on planet earth?

CONNECT

What links can you start to make?

e.g. What was the world like before humans? What impact have we had on the world in a positive and negative way? How have we impacted the climate in our short time? What can we learn from life before we arrived to help respond to climate change?

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Activity ideas:

1. How old is the earth? The earth is 4.6 billion years old – which is a really, really, really big number. It is so big, it is really hard to understand this number, so using metaphors to help is a good way to help us understand. Take a look at this short cartoon from TED-Ed which offers some different ways to understand how old the earth actually is: [Four ways to understand the earth's age](#)
2. Take a walk through Deep Time!
It is really hard to understand and comprehend the full age of planet earth – as we find it hard, as humans, to conceptualise big numbers...and the earth is over 4.6 billion years old. Designed using appropriate technology, the Deep Time Walk calculates your speed and distance as you journey across 4.6bn years of time, enabling you to learn about key evolutionary events as they occur and comprehend the destructive impact of humans on the Earth's complex climate. Download the free app here: [Deep Time Walk](#)
3. Want to know more about Deep Time and climate change, but not sure where to start? Download our free **Changing Climates** curriculum and explore a whole range of discussions, activities and ideas for 5-18 year olds and lots of resources to help you move from anxiety to empowerment: www.thoughtboxeducation.com/climatecurriculum

USE THE **THINKER'S GUIDE TO HELP YOU*

What other activities could you do?

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RESOURCES:



THINGS TO READ


[Planet Earth in Deep Time](#)

(Article | [UNESCO](#))



[Pondering 'Deep Time' Could Inspire New Ways To View Climate Change](#)

(Opinion article | [NPR](#))



THINGS TO WATCH

[Four ways to understand the earth's age](#)

(4 minute video | [TED-Ed](#))



[The impossible hugeness of deep time](#)

(9 minute video | [PBS](#))

[What is Deep Time?](#)

(Series of talks | [TED Talks](#))



THINGS TO LISTEN TO

[Robert McFarlane and Deep Time](#)

(60 minute podcast interview | [Big Think](#))



THINGS TO DO

[Take a Deep Time Walk](#)

(Free app and guided walk | [Deep Time Walk CIC](#))



[Meet our Climate changemakers](#)

([Alex Tempest](#) | [Lelo Munis](#) |)



THINGS TO INSPIRE

[Download our free](#)

[Changing Climates programme](#)

(A home-learning topic for 5-18 year olds | [ThoughtBox](#))



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