

## GLOSSARY

**TERTIARY** = The first portion of the Cenozoic Era, it began 70 million years ago and lasted 68-1/2 million years.

**PALEOCENE EPOCH** = The first epoch of the Tertiary Period, the Paleocene began 70 million years ago and lasted for 10 million years.

**EOCENE** = The 2nd epoch of the Tertiary period. This was the great age of the mammals and saw great evolution of the horse.

**OLIGOCENE** = The Oligocene period, relating to an epoch between Eocene and Miocene times.

**MIOCENE EPOCH** = Fourth epoch of the Tertiary Period, the Miocene Epoch began 25 million years ago and lasted 13 million years.

**PLIOCENE** = The fifth and last epoch of the Tertiary Period, it began 12 million years ago and lasted 10-1/2 million years.

**QUATERNARY PERIOD** = The last 1-1/2 million years of earth history, divided into the Pleistocene and the Recent.

**MAMMALS** = A vertebrate animal characterized by warm blood, a covering of hair, live birth (two egg laying exceptions), and the ability to suckle its young.

**MAMMOTH** = An extinct elephant with woolly hair adapted to an arctic habitat. Pleistocene.

**MASTODONS** = Simple-toothed elephant like beasts distantly related to the Columbian mammoth, the mastodons had tusks in both upper and lower jaws; they were short legged, long-headed, heavy bodied browsers exterminated within the last few thousand years and possibly lasting among the Aztecs of Mexico until the time of Cortez. Miocene to Recent.

## QUIZ

1) Before the Cenozoic, what held dominion of the earth for some 140 million years

- A) Fish
- B) Dinosaurs
- C) Birds
- D) Trilobites

2) Scientists predict that this many species became extinct each and every day

- A) 1 or 2
- B) 10
- C) 100
- D) none

3) The Cenozoic Epoch began with the extinction of the dinosaurs

- A) 300 million years ago
- B) 1.6 billion years ago
- C) 65 million years ago
- D) 25,000 years ago

4) During the Eocene Epoch what emerged as the dominant land animal

- A) Reptiles & Lizards
- B) Mammals
- C) Birds and fishes
- D) Dinosaurs

5) Bats which developed during the Eocene Epoch are:

- A) Flying mammals
- B) Flying reptiles
- C) Flying birds
- D) Flying insects

6) The first horse like creatures were discovered in which epoch?

- A) Paleozoic
- B) Mesozoic
- C) Pleistocene
- D) Eocene

7) The abundance of mammals peaked during this period of time

- A) Paleocene
- B) Pliocene
- C) Miocene
- D) Oligocene

8) Mastodons and Mammoth probably became extinct because

- A) Dinosaurs killed them
- B) Climatic changes or hunting
- C) Being hit by an asteroid
- D) Of a virus

9) The time when glaciers covered much of North America is known as the

- A) Eocene
- B) Oligocene
- C) Pleistocene
- D) Mesozoic

10) The oldest record of human occupation in North America is about

- A) 12,000 years ago
- B) 12 million years ago
- C) 2,000 years ago
- D) 1 million years ago

## TEACHER'S ACTIVITIES:

- 1) Using a geologic time chart, review the major divisions of time and show what life forms lived during this period of time.
- 2) Collect drawings or photographs of various life forms and arrange them on a large wall or blackboard from earliest to present.
- 3) Visit a local natural history museum and look for examples of Cenozoic fossils.
- 4) Discuss the idea of species extinction. Discuss the causes of extinction (such as climatic change, diseases, asteroid collisions, predators or other causes).
- 5) If a fossil collection is available make a display of various Cenozoic fossils such as fossil green river fishes, or fossil leaves and insects.
- 6) Since the Cenozoic was the era of the mammals, discuss what a mammal is (bears young alive, nurses the young with mammarys, etc.).

## QUIZ ANSWERS

- 1) B
- 2) C
- 3) C
- 4) B
- 5) A
- 6) D
- 7) C
- 8) B
- 9) C
- 10) D

## Physical Geography II Series

### LIFE IN CENOZOIC TIMES

KG1167VD

#### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This program looks at the progression of life forms during the Cenozoic era. The Cenozoic is the Age of Mammals. Discover the development of mammal life forms and how these life forms adapted to conditions during the Tertiary, Paleocene, Eocene, Oligocene, Miocene, Pliocene and Quaternary periods.

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#### TMW MEDIA GROUP

2321 Abbot Kinney Blvd., Venice, CA 90291

(310) 577-8581 Fax (310) 574-0886

Email: [sale@tmwmedia.com](mailto:sale@tmwmedia.com)

Web: [www.tmwmedia.com](http://www.tmwmedia.com)

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