

Ten Events in the History of the Universe

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Ten events spanning the history of the universe organized by powers of ten.

	Date Range	Date		Event
10^{10}	tens of billions of years ago	13-14 billion years ago		Universe began
10^9	billions of years ago	4.5 billion years ago		Earth formed
10^8	hundreds of millions of years ago	500 million years ago		First fossilized animals
10^7	tens of millions of years ago	65 million years ago		Extinction of the dinosaurs
10^6	millions of years ago	2 million years ago		First stone tools made
10^5	hundreds of thousands of years ago	800 thousand years ago		First fires kindled
10^4	tens of thousands of years ago	30 thousand years ago		First art
10^3	thousands of years ago	5 thousand years ago		First writing
10^2	hundreds of years ago	1492		Columbus: east meets west
10^1	tens of years ago	1969		First people on the moon

 These ten dates can be a framework for understanding deep time. You can supplement this with the famous [Carl Sagan's Cosmic Calendar](#).

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