Lottie's Washing Line of Time

This activity can help us understand that the Earth we live on and the fossils we find are actually hundreds of millions of years old.

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Lottie isn’t really sure what is older, her grandparents or the fossils she has found! Can you help her put all the pictures in the correct time order so she can create a washing line of time? This activity can help us understand that the Earth we live on and the fossils we find are actually hundreds of millions of years old. It will make you look at your grandparents in a new way!

YOU WILL NEED

- Colouring pens or crayons
- A piece of string and somewhere in your room to stretch it across a wall
- Drawing pins to fix your string to the wall
- Clothes pegs
- A pair of scissors
- Sticky tape
- A stick of glue
- A picture of yourself and someone older in your family like your grandparents
- Picture frame template
WHAT YOU DO

Step 1

Colour in and cut out the pictures for the Washing Line of Time. Remember the time at when these plants and animals lived is written on the picture frame.
First flying reptiles appeared 150 million years ago.

An asteroid impact on Earth caused a mass extinction 65 million years ago.
Step 2

In the two empty picture frames provided either stick on a picture of yourself and your older family member. If you don’t have a picture, you could be artistic and draw a portrait! You will have to write the ages of the people on the bottom of the picture frame.
Step 3

Now on your washing line, you need to organise your pictures in time order. Each picture has a date on the frame.

Step 4

With the help of an adult, you need to hang up your pictures. The oldest picture needs to go on first starting on the left hand side and should end up with the youngest picture of you at the very far right! Are your grandparents older or younger than the dinosaurs?