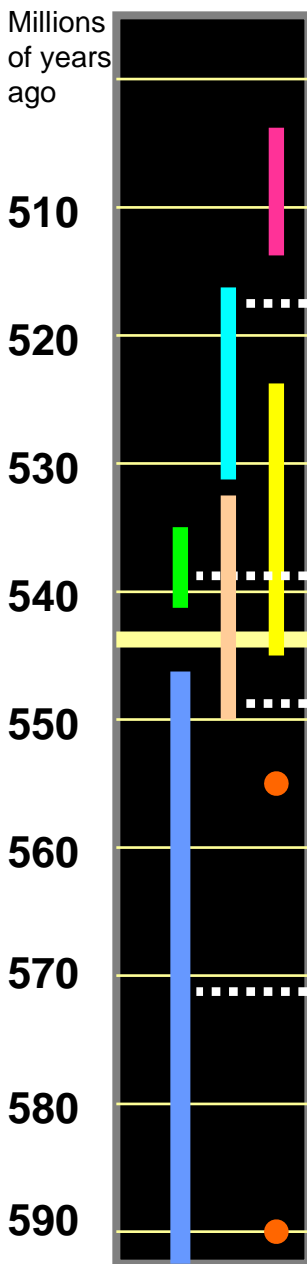


Geologic Time Scale

<http://gpc.edu/~pgore/gore.htm>

Millions of years ago



Burgess Shale biota, Canada



Maotianshan biota, China

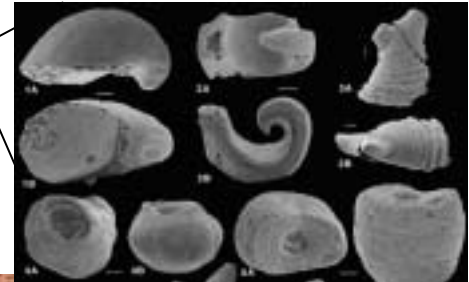


Cambrian "explosion" of skeletonized animals

Evidence of bioturbation

Cambrian boundary

"small shelly fauna" begins (e.g. *Cloudina*)



Babcock et al, *GSA Today*, 2000

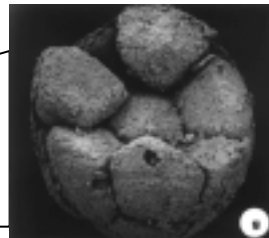
Fossilized animal burrows

Ediacaran (soft-bodied) biota



Steiner et al, *Geobios*, 2004

Fossil metazoan embryos



Xiao et al. *Nature*, 1998