

Evidence: The discovery of the element iridium by Dr. Luis Alvarez (UC Berkeley) blankets the earth's crust at the 65 mya. level (strata). Iridium is not found naturally on the earth. Further investigation have pin-pointed the asteroid's crater off the Yucatan peninsula, Mexico.

The asteroid obliterated one of the most successful life forms in the history of evolution. A life form lasting over 150 million years. With the death of these efficient models, the mammals were "waiting the wings"

Mammalian evolution literally takes off 50 mya, when rodent-like mammals were now free to move unchallenged (because there were no dinosaurs to eat them) into varied terrestrial, arboreal, and even aquatic habitats.

First mammals were rodent like and lived with the dinosaurs. Small, hidden, and nocturnal they scampered beneath the leaves of the forest floor keeping out of sight.

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Fossils of the earliest mammals are more than 200 million years old. These small, shrew-like animals probably lived in caves or burrows and hunted insects and small reptiles at night

50-40 mya. Some small rodent-like mammals scamper into the trees perhaps to escape competition on the ground. There they undergo the following evolutionary changes or

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