**Development of the Horse**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>50 million years ago</th>
<th>35 million years ago</th>
<th>26 million years ago</th>
<th>3 million years ago</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hyracotherium</td>
<td>Mesotherium</td>
<td>Merychippus</td>
<td>Equus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1" alt="Hyracotherium" /></td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="Mesotherium" /></td>
<td><img src="image3" alt="Merychippus" /></td>
<td><img src="image4" alt="Equus" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forefoot</th>
<th>Skull</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image5" alt="Forefoot" /></td>
<td><img src="image6" alt="Skull" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Hyracotherium**
  - 38 cm at shoulders
  - Padded feet
  - Lived in dense-forest environment

- **Mesotherium**
  - 52 cm at shoulders
  - Padded feet
  - Lived in mixed woods-and-fields environment

- **Merychippus**
  - 100 cm at shoulders
  - Hoofed feet
  - Lived in high-grass (savanna) environment

- **Equus**
  - 135 cm at shoulders
  - Hoofed feet
  - Lived in short-grass (prairie) environment

Use the table above to answer the following questions. Write your answers on a separate sheet of paper.

1. How many years does the table include, from the first species to the last?
2. Use Exploring Life's History on pages 632–633 of your text to determine in which era and period Hyracotherium lived. When did Equus first appear?
3. How did scientists probably date these fossils and the species they represent?
4. From the fossil evidence shown, how did forefeet change over time?
5. From the fossil evidence shown, how did skulls change over time?
6. How might the environment in which each of these species lived have affected the development of horses?