

# RISE OF THE MAMMALS



hhmi | Tangled Bank Studios

TANGLEDBANKSTUDIOS.ORG

*“Where the film shines...are the moments when the process of science is allowed to unfold, revealing how experts assemble views of lost worlds.”*

– SCIENCE

---

**TITLE** RISE OF THE MAMMALS

**DURATION** 1X53

**PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY**  
GEOFF LUCK

**PRODUCTION** HHMI TANGLED  
BANK STUDIOS AND NOVA

**YEAR** 2019

---



The course of life on Earth changed radically on a single day 66 million years ago. An asteroid blasted our planet, causing the extinction of up to three quarters of all plant and animal species. The impact ended the Age of Dinosaurs and launched our age, the Age of Mammals. But our understanding of the asteroid’s aftermath has been spotty. Who survived? How quickly did mammals and their habitats spring back? How did our planet recover from this global cataclysm?

Now a remarkable find—a trove of exceptionally preserved fossils from the critical first million years after the catastrophe—shines a revelatory light on what followed Earth’s darkest hour. With exclusive access, HHMI Tangled Bank Studios has been filming the discovery

since the first thrilling moments of the initial find in 2016.

Providing a rare record that combines plants, animals, and precise dates—a paleontological trifecta—the discovery paints a vivid portrait of the emergence of a brand-new world. Thanks to the vision, grit, and luck of the scientific team, we are gaining our first clear understanding of how our modern world of mammals arose from the ashes.

The course of life on Earth changed radically on a single day 66 million years ago. An asteroid blasted our planet, causing the extinction of up to three quarters of all plant and animal species. The impact ended the Age of Dinosaurs and launched our age, the Age of Mammals.

