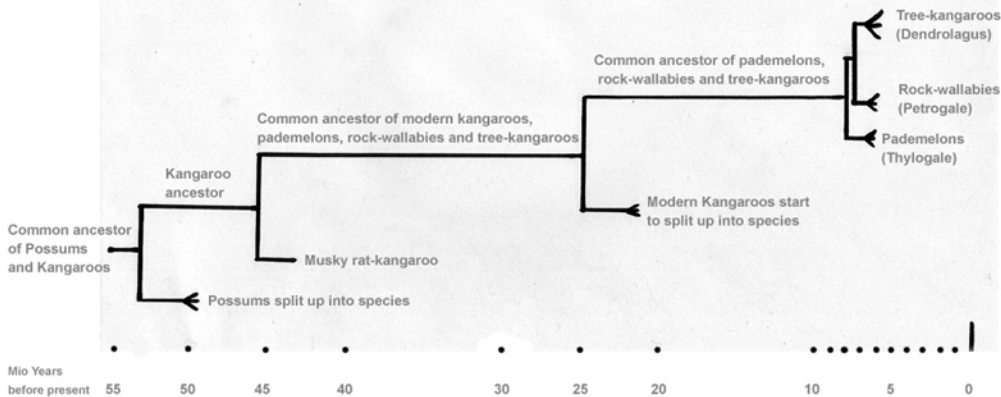


Kangaroo Evolution with a focus on tree-kangaroos (by L.Kazmeier)



Chronology (MBP = million years before present)

- 53 MBP Possum ancestor splits from kangaroo line
- 50 MBP Possums start to radiate (split up) into species
- 45 MBP The most primitive still living kangaroo (Musky rat-kangaroo) splits from the kangaroo line
- approx. The common ancestor of pademelons, rock wallabies and tree-kangaroos splits from the line of the modern kangaroos, which starts to radiate into the present day set of species

- 8 MBP The pademelon line splits from the rock-wallaby/ tree-kangaroo line
- 7.5 MBP The tree-kangaroo ancestor splits from the line that radiates into the present day set of rock-wallaby species
- Over the last 7 million years the tree-kangaroos radiate into the present day set of species