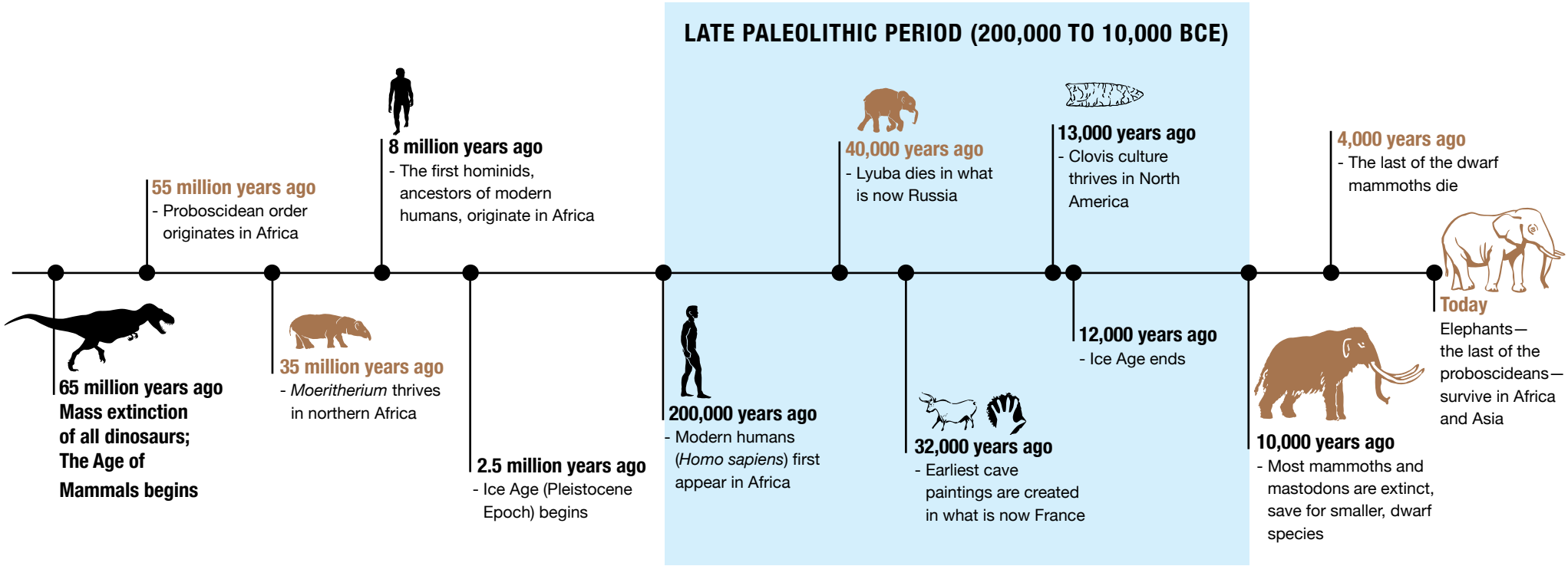
LATE PALEOLITHIC PERIOD (200,000 TO 10,000 BCE)
65 million years ago
Mass extinction of all dinosaurs; The Age of Mammals begins
55 million years ago
- Proboscidean order originates in Africa
35 million years ago
- *Moeritherium* thrives in northern Africa
8 million years ago
- The first hominids, ancestors of modern humans, originate in Africa
2.5 million years ago
- Ice Age (Pleistocene Epoch) begins
200,000 years ago
- Modern humans (*Homo sapiens*) first appear in Africa
40,000 years ago
- Lyuba dies in what is now Russia
32,000 years ago
- Earliest cave paintings are created in what is now France
13,000 years ago
- Clovis culture thrives in North America
12,000 years ago
- Ice Age ends
10,000 years ago
- Most mammoths and mastodons are extinct, save for smaller, dwarf species
4,000 years ago
- The last of the dwarf mammoths die
Today
Elephants—the last of the proboscideans—survive in Africa and Asia