Prehistoric Fossils

Florida was formed over 200 million years as a result of sand, shell, and sea creatures being deposited on the ocean floor layer by layer. During the Pleistocene Epoch sea levels changed helping to form Florida's East coast. The last Ice Age resulted in lowered ocean levels which led to a broad grassy savannah stretching miles along the coast of Florida. This occurred about 40,000 years ago. Plant eating animals migrated to Florida during this time period. Florida became a winter resort for animals during this epoch and animals advanced south due to ice. The receding ocean resulted in miles of exposed coastal land which became a fertile habitat for many different species. During the Pleistocene Epoch there were more types of animals in Florida than anywhere else in North America.

Objectives:
Sixth Grade:
Recognize that science involves creativity in questions and explanations and come up with your own question and creative explanation.
Utilize the tools geographers use and compare prehistoric Florida with Florida today.
Have a basic knowledge and understanding of new vocabulary.
Compare and order decimals and find their location on a number line.

Science:
SC.6.N.1.5 Recognize that science involves creativity, not just in designing experiments, but also in creating explanations that fit evidence.
After viewing the prehistoric Florida exhibit write down a question you have and come up with a creative explanation that fits with what you have learned today.

Social Studies:
SS.6.G.1.4 Utilize tools geographers use to study the world.
SS.6.G.1.In.d Use tools of geography, such as maps, globes, satellite images, and charts.
Use maps, globes, or any other type of tools geographers use and compare prehistoric Florida with Florida today and write down some differences and similarities.

Reading and Language Arts:
Vocabulary:
Fossil: any remains, impression, or trace of a living thing of a former geologic age, as a skeleton, footprint, etc.
Paleontology: the science of the forms of life existing in former geologic periods, as represented by their fossils.
Mammoth: any large, elephant like mammal of the extinct genus
Pleistocene Epoch: from two million to 11 thousand years ago; extensive glaciations of the northern hemisphere; the time of human evolution

LA.6.1.6.1 The student will use new vocabulary that is introduced and taught directly;
What is paleontology and what role did it play in the Prehistoric Florida exhibit.

LA.6.4.2.3 The student will write informational/expository essays (e.g., process, description, explanation, comparison/contrast, problem/solution) that include a thesis statement, supporting details, and introductory, body, and concluding paragraphs;
Write an essay comparing and contrasting prehistoric Florida with Florida today, focusing on the environment and the different types of animals that lived in prehistoric and present day Florida.

Mathematics:
MA.6.A.5.2 Compare and order fractions, decimals, and percents, including finding their approximate location on a number line.

Imagine that these prehistoric fossils were found in no particular order:

A.) 24.6 wolf skulls
B.) 17.9 tapir jaws
C.) 17.7 camel jaws
D.) 45.3 horse forelegs
E.) 89 horse teeth
F.) 54.3 rhino skulls
G.) 46.4 mammoth ribs

Put these fossils in order on a number line