Let’s get creative at home!

It’s all just layers...

Stratigraphy is the study of rock layers. Strata (stratum - singular) are different, clearly defined layers. Geologists and archaeologists often use them to represent different periods in time.

Whether you are passing the rock formations along the I-75 cut-in-the-hill, making a sandwich or digging into the soil, you can find relatable examples of strata everywhere. Grab your favorite art supplies and let’s get creative!

Making Layers!
New layers are formed on top of old layers. Occasionally, new layers cut into old layers, making stratigraphy confusing.

By looking at the example to the right, can you number the layers from oldest to newest (1 - oldest to 6 - newest)? Then, give each a different color or design.

Which layer is the oldest? How do you know?

Explore Outside!
The outdoors are a great place to find examples of stratigraphy. With the help of an adult, see if you can find a naturally occurring example of stratigraphy in the world around you.

Then, draw your example in this box. Decorate your drawing and share!