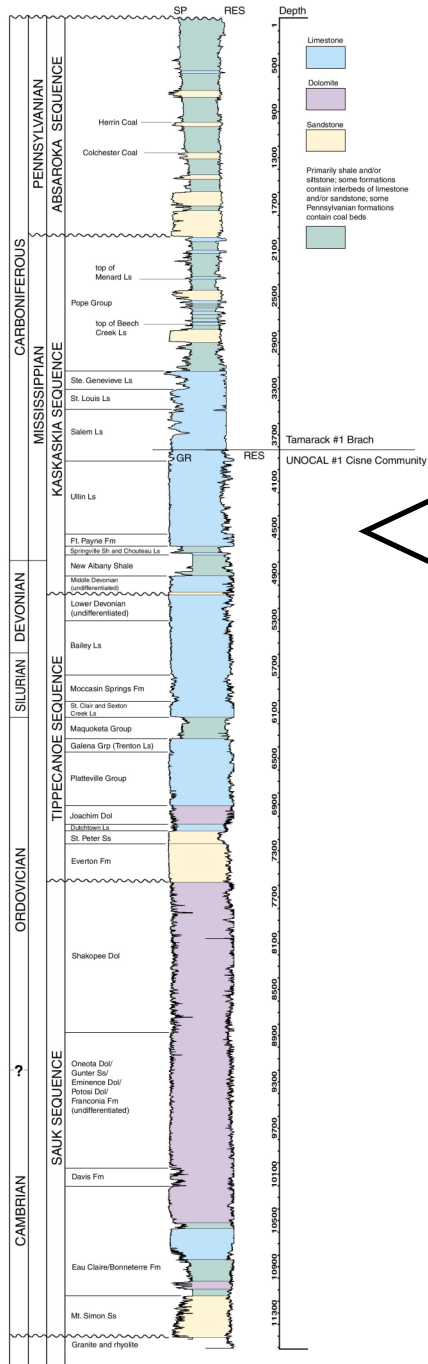


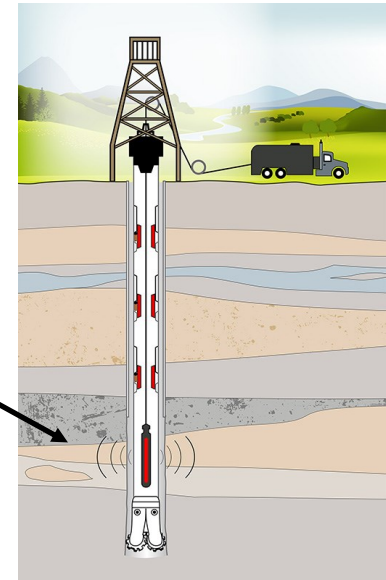
DIG DEEPER into Southern Illinois: Stratigraphic Column Sand Art!

STRATIGRAPHIC COLUMN: a scale model of the vertical location of rock layers, or STRATA, in a given area. A typical column shows a sequence of rocks, with the oldest rocks on the bottom and the youngest on top.



This is a composite column of the Illinois Basin in Southern Illinois. The data is taken from WIRELINE LOGS, which are a measurement of rock formation properties with electric instruments lowered into a BOREHOLE (a narrow shaft drilled in the ground).

- How to make your geo column:
1. Take a strip of masking tape about as tall as this page. Place the left edge in the middle of the composite column and stick it to the page, so that the tape runs the length of the column.
 2. On the tape, mark the beginning and end of the column with a horizontal line, including the Pre-Cambrian granite at the bottom.
 3. Continue marking the tape, drawing a line for the beginning and end of each stratum (rock layer). Label the color for each layer.
 4. Carefully peel the strip off. Line up the strip's top and bottom marks with the top and bottom of your container.
 5. Make a funnel out of a piece of paper and masking tape and place it in your container.
 6. Using your markings, carefully pour layers of sand into your container. Fill to top using the last layer/color (shale/green).
 7. Screw the lid onto your container and peel off the tape. Cool, you made a stratigraphic column!



Go online for demo video, source map, and lots of cool resources on illinoisgeology.org and carbondalepubliclibrary.org/png