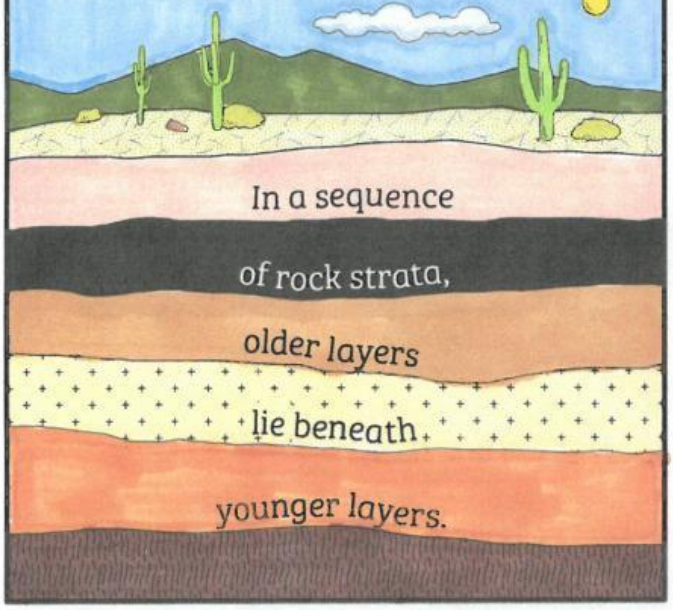
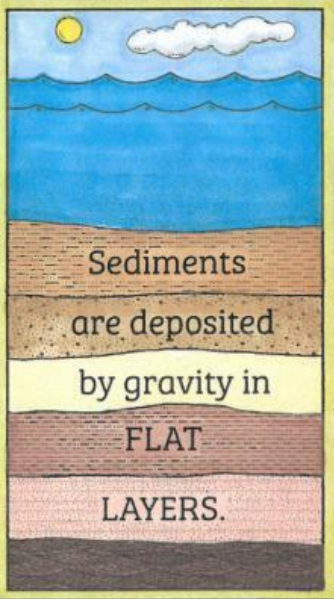
RELATIVE DATING RULES

17th Century geologist Nicolas Steno's four fundamental laws about rock layers used in relative dating.

LAW OF SUPERPOSITION



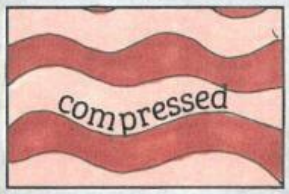
LAW OF ORIGINAL HORIZONTALITY



Layers that are

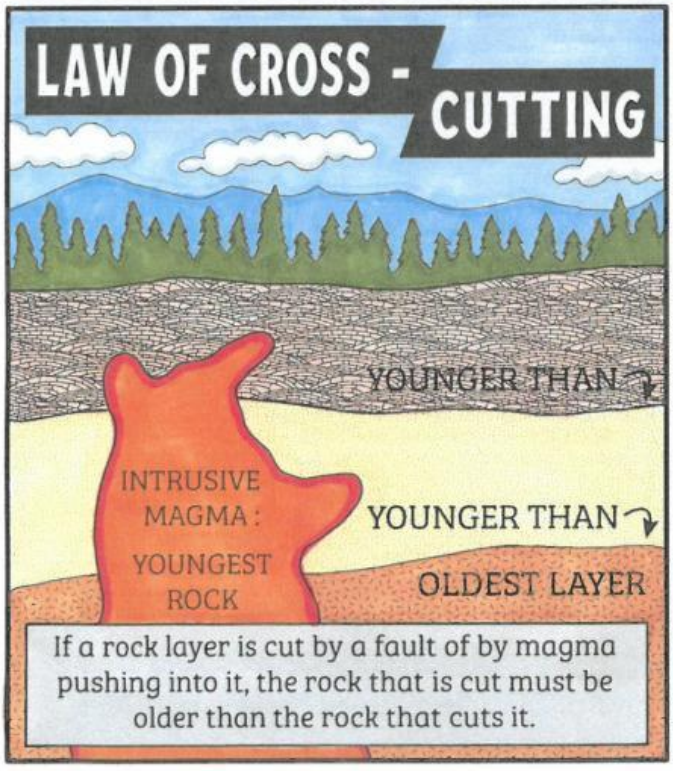


or



have been acted upon by geologic forces.

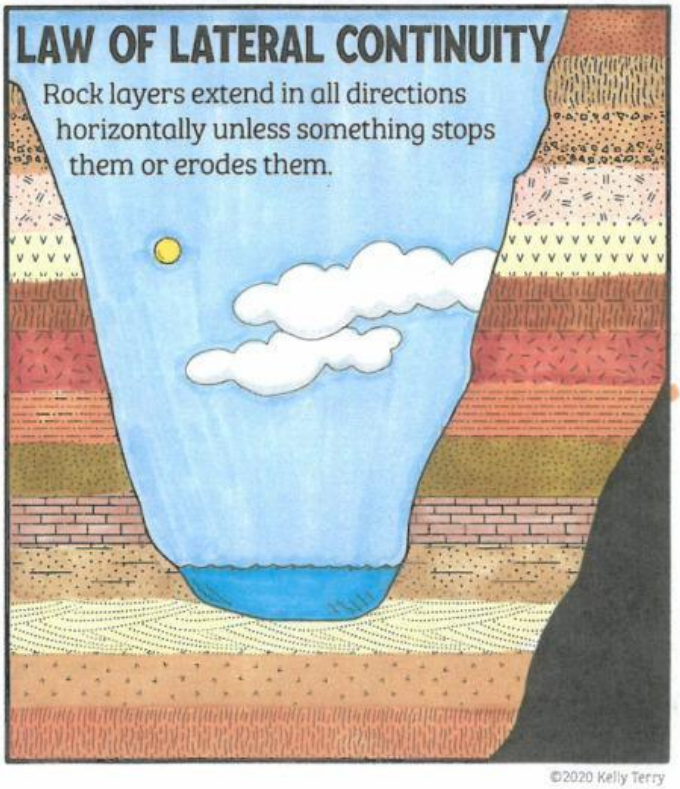
LAW OF CROSS - CUTTING



If a rock layer is cut by a fault of by magma pushing into it, the rock that is cut must be older than the rock that cuts it.

LAW OF LATERAL CONTINUITY

Rock layers extend in all directions horizontally unless something stops them or erodes them.



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LIVEWORKSHEETS