

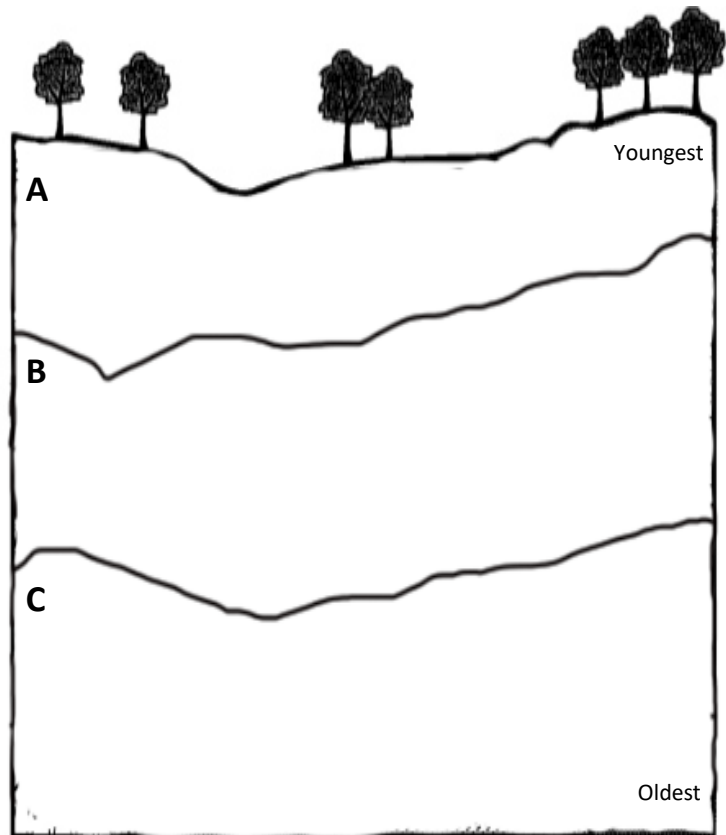
Stratigraphy Mystery

Stratigraphy is the study of the layers of Earth called strata. Each layer is defined by different types of dirt and different periods of time. Archaeologists use stratigraphy to chart where each artifact, or object, is found and then they can find how old it is through relative dating.

When studying stratigraphy, archaeologists use what is called the **Law of Superposition** which says that the older something is, the deeper it will be buried. This makes it easier for archaeologists to put together a timeline of artifacts.

Below, try to place where each of the 12 items would be in each layer, or stratum.

Draw a line from the artifact to its correct stratum and put it back where it belongs!



- **Layer A** is the layer just under our feet and was buried 10-100 years ago including modern artifacts we see every day and might recognize.
- **Layer B** dates back 200- 400 years and includes artifacts from a time when railroads were becoming popular and industry was booming. Also, older artifacts from an age of exploration and colonialism in the Americas.
- **Layers C** is the oldest and deepest layer dating to over 500 years ago when people had to be resourceful in finding and hunting for food and homemade wares were used to store, prepare, and serve food.

Consider what the artifact is used for and its material.

Resources:

Create a Stratigraphy Diagram – inspired by Carmen Sandiego!

<https://www.carmensandiego.com/resource/stratigraphy-diagram/>

Layer Cake Stratigraphy lesson

<https://www.lsu.edu/mns/files/activities/Rocks-and-Minerals-4.pdf>

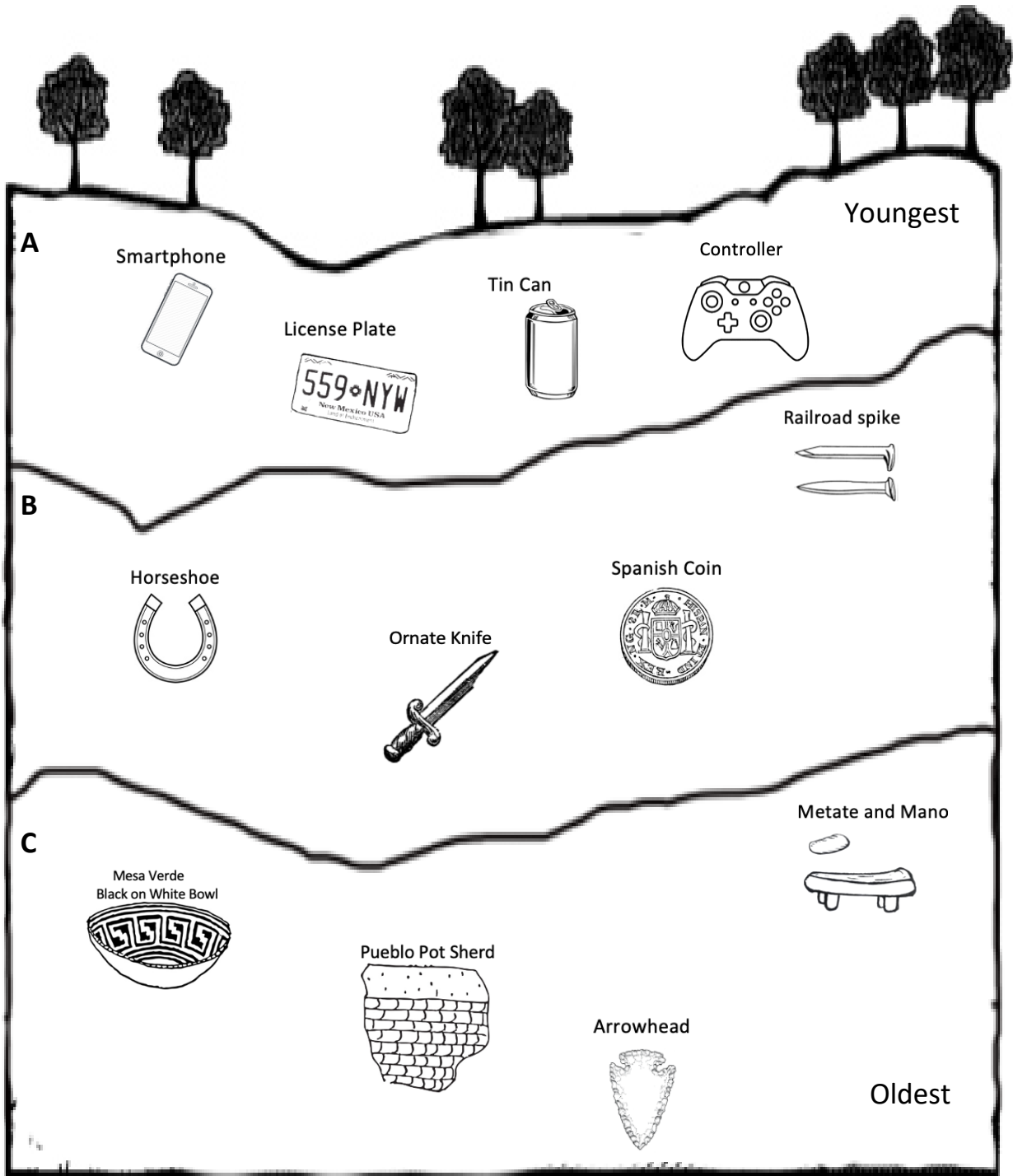
Layers in Time Lesson Plan – National Park Service

<https://www.nps.gov/grca/learn/education/learning/upload/DistanceLearningTeacherLayersInTimeLessonPlan2018.pdf>

Layers of Time – San Diego Archaeological Center

<https://sandiegoarchaeology.org/layers-of-time/>

Answers





Lulu lovin' the look of these layers!