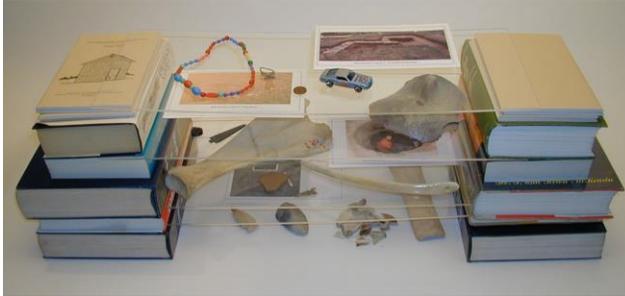


## Directions for Assembling the Stratigraphy Model

### Lesson 4 – Dating: How Archeologists Know What They Know



This is a view of the assembled stratigraphy model. Layer 1 (the oldest layer) is on the bottom. Layer 2 (the second layer from the bottom) is empty; it is a sterile layer. The rectangular cards visible in each layer are site feature cards. One feature card is included in each set of Stratigraphy Cards.

### Using the Stratigraphy Model:

- This model is the focus of the activity in “Lesson 4 – Dating: How Archeologists Know What They Know.”
- Students will be removing and replacing items from the layers of this model.
- Please ask your students to be careful when handling these artifacts. Many of the items in this activity were created as tools to cut or puncture, so students should be careful when handling all items. Some of them have sharp edges such as the pull tab in layer 5 and the metal arrow point in layer 4.

### From the Trunk You Will Need:

#### Stratigraphy Kit

4 plexiglass sheets to use as the layer dividers

4 sets of Stratigraphy and Feature Cards, one each for layers 1, 3, 4, and 5.

#### Objects

For layer 5 (top layer) – Modern era

toy car

beverage container pull tab

penny

plastic jewelry

For layer 4 (second from top) – Historic

Native American

metal arrow point

horn button

glass beads

pottery rim fragment

For layer 3 (center layer) – ceramic period

stone arrow point

grassing needle

bison scapula hoe blade

sherd

For layer 1 (bottom layer) – pre-ceramic

period

digging stick tip

dart point

scraper

bone fragments

## **You Will Also Need:**

Books, reams of paper, pieces of wood, or other objects, to layer between the pieces of plexiglass to create the layers. Layer 2 can be very narrow since it contains no artifacts, but layers 1, 3, and 4 will need to be about 3 to 4 inches deep.

## **Building Your Stratigraphy Model**

*Rectangular cards are visible in the photo in these directions. These are feature cards (one each for layers 1, 3, 4, and 5). These are included with the Stratigraphy Cards set for each layer.*

*You may either unclip them and place them on the correct layer or pass them out to each group with the Stratigraphy Cards. At the end of the lesson, they should be clipped back together with the Stratigraphy Cards.*

1. Choose a solid table surface as students will be removing items from, and replacing items to, the layers.
2. Place artifacts for layer #1 on the table and place the books, or other support for the plexiglass, on each side of these pieces. (Use a piece of plexiglass to determine how far apart the books can be and still support the plexiglass.)
3. Place a sheet of plexiglass on top of the books. Make sure that at least a couple of inches of plexiglass rests on the books to create a firm support.
4. Layer #2 has no artifacts in it so simply stack some more books, or other supporting items, on top of the ends of the first sheet of plexiglass. The space between the pieces of plexiglass will be empty for layer 2.
5. Place the artifacts for layer 3 in the center of the second sheet of plexiglass.
6. Continue layering plexiglass, books or other supports, and artifacts until all five layers are in place.

## **Packing Up the Stratigraphy Model**

When you are finished using the Stratigraphy Model, please return the following to the Stratigraphy Kit bag.

- This set of directions
- 4 sheets of plexiglass
- 4 sets of Stratigraphy and Feature Cards (Each set should have 6 cards – a cover, one feature card, and four artifact cards.)

Please return the artifacts to their appropriate storage location in the trunk.

Thank you!

