Unit 2 GeoClips: Fault Hunters

OK, so we're standing on the Sevier Fault right now. This side over here is basalt. You can see the dark, black color. Over here, again, is the Eocene pink member of the Claron Formation, and it's the red rocks. So right now I'm going to show you exactly what was going on here, what a normal fault means.

So all right, let me figure this out. Richard, how do you think I should do this?

What I would probably do is something like this. I'd do this one's deposited in a lake, later the lava flows came out and they were deposited on top and across in various places. And then after that, the fault broke and this one has dropped down so now that it's next to it rather than being on top of it.

Sounds good.

Something like that.

All right. Maybe I should just use that.

This rock right here is 40 million years old. This is from the Eocene Claron Formation, and it's a lake deposit. This is what we saw earlier. And this right here is a piece of the basalt, which is Miocene, which is 10 million years ago.

And what this would look like in cross section, something like this. The Claron, some more rocks, and then the basalt was deposited on top of it. Now when the fault occurred, these rocks would drop down along it like that. And now they're sitting right next to the Claron Formation, which they really didn't have any association before.

Right now we're on this basalt here. I'm on the south side, and if you can look in the distance there, you can see how this line of this fault moves right along into the distance. So again, the red rocks on that side, and the basalt on that side.

Richard, you, why does the basalt have more trees than the red side?

The soil probably?

It erodes faster on the right.

It will erode faster, and it's probably more minerals and nutrients in it.

In basalt?

Yeah.

Yep, doing great. Just be careful out there.

Then just take a pan from this.