Unit 5 GeoClips:\_Pothole Grinding, Zion National Park

[MUSIC PLAYING]

So the water came along this way and carved out those holes coming around the bend. And then as it started to make the corner, it came down and it swirled around in these big holes. Probably, you can even see down there, there's some pebbles stuck in there and gravel size bits. And in a big flood, it would carry those size rocks and larger, bring them down.

And it's just like my grandmother grinding rice to make dosas and idlis which are these magnificent South Indian dishes, where you take rice, you put them down in a mortar and a pestle, and you just grind them around, add a little bit of water, grind them around. And you get this wonderful flour that comes out of it. That's the exact same thing happening here.

The water comes pounding down, carrying rocks, and it swirls them around because it's making the turn. And it's going fast enough that as it makes a turn it can't just go straight, it's got to curve around. It's just beautiful, it's magnificent. And we can even see some of the rocks left down in there from the last time we have a flood coming through here.