Unit 5 GeoClips: Making a Sand Canyon, Grand Canyon National Park

[MUSIC PLAYING]

If you make a canyon, and you deepen that canyon, the sides fall in. And one can see the sides avalanching in there merrily, eating back over time. See waves of adjustment going on. It's really beautiful to see.

I steepen it, and it steepens at the bottom. And then it eats its way back, and then it eats back at the head, eventually. Well, that's exactly what's going on here.

And so we can see across the river. The river is cut down. And then above it, there's that slope of rocks that have fallen off of the cliff. And as the river cuts down, that slope will be lowered and rocks will fall off of it and come avalanching down in exactly the same way as what we're seeing going on here in a very small scale. And you'd see all these little waves and nick points, and there are quite a number of very exciting things going on here.