Making Sedimentary Rocks

Title: Making Sedimentary Rocks  
Time: 1 class period  
KERA Goals: 2.4, 2.6  
Conclusion/Discussion: Write or discuss the differences in the rocks that you made.

Objective:

Students should understand that sedimentary rocks like coal are formed by the cementing together of smaller pieces of rocks. Or, like coal, from the accumulation of plant material.

Materials:
plaster  
cement  
milk cartons (pint)  
sand  
soil  
water  
mixing spoon

Activity:

In this activity we will be making three different sedimentary rocks.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sandstone</th>
<th>Coal</th>
<th>Limestone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Cut the top off of a milk carton.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Label the carton &quot;A&quot;.</td>
<td>2. Label the carton &quot;B&quot;.</td>
<td>2. Label the carton &quot;C&quot;.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Mix 3 teaspoons of cement with wet sand in the carton.</td>
<td>3. Mix 3 teaspoons of cement with wet mud and decomposed leaves in the carton.</td>
<td>3. Mix plaster with water in the carton.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Allow to dry.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Remove carton to see the sandstone.</td>
<td>5. Remove carton to see the coal.</td>
<td>5. Remove carton to see the limestone.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>